



HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES' UNION

BARGAINING BULLETIN

PLEASE POST

All Community Social Services workers deserve their negotiated pay increase

Some employers, largely in General Services, have not received funds to cover increase

Your multi-union bargaining association is working to ensure that all community social services workers receive the wage increase, which they are entitled to as of April 1, 2013, without any cuts to agency programs or services.

The Community Social Services Bargaining Association (CSSBA) has learned that a small number of employers are not paying the 1.5 per cent wage increase, agreed to in April, because they have not received government funding. Some are deciding to reduce the number of hours of work and/or cut programs and services instead.

The funding issues concern a small number of agencies – largely in the General Services subsector – that have not received sufficient funding from the Ministry of Children and Families (MCFD). Other agencies are not affected.

CSSBA says this is unacceptable and is working to rectify this problem as soon as possible.

Wage increases were negotiated in good faith. Everyone deserves their increase as of April 1, without cuts to programs or services. The pay raises were negotiated and ratified within the government's so-called co-operative gains mandate, which identified cost savings to fund the pay raises.

However, MCFD has failed to provide bridge funding to cover the payroll increase until the identified cost savings can be achieved in the next two to three years.

Our concerns have been communicated to both the Community Social Services Employers' Association (CSSEA) and the B.C. government directly, and we are working to confirm the MCFD funding as soon as possible.

Your bargaining association will also be meeting with CSSEA this week to address this issue.

In the meantime, if you are a community social services worker who has not as yet received your wage increase, please contact HEU immediately so that a grievance can be filed on your behalf.

The Community Social Services Bargaining Association bargains on behalf of 10,000 unionized community social service workers in British Columbia that are represented by BCGEU, CUPE, HEU, HSA and six other unions.

July 9, 2013

