



Newsletter

The Task Force heads to the Kootenays; Northern meetings wrap up

Task Force representatives will be in Grand Forks on October 11 to begin a series of meetings in the Kootenays scheduled throughout the region until October 19 (see attached).

This is the second area of the province to be visited by the Task Force as it works its way around BC over the next several weeks.

The Task Force kicked off its tour in the North on September 19, visiting more than a dozen cities from Fort Nelson to Pouce Coupe to Prince Rupert, to meet with HEU members in small and large groups.

The Task Force noted that while many members hadn't had an opportunity to read the discussion guide, they were interested in the process and offered many ideas for positive change.

And while it was clear that strong feelings remain about the outcome of last year's job action and the government-imposed wage cuts, members strongly supported the need for the union to be united and to move forward. Many said they'll follow the Task Force's progress as well as send in additional suggestions.

Betty Ramos, chairperson of the Ft. St. James local said that she's glad there is a Task Force. "It shows that the union is realizing there are issues within that need to be rectified – and the meeting was also very informative."

A copy of the discussion guide is available from your local's secretary-treasurer or can be downloaded from the union's website. The Task Force regional meeting schedules are also added to the website as the information comes available, so click on the Task Force icon at www.heu.org for this and other information.

The Task Force was formed as a result of a resolution passed at HEU's 2004 biennial convention. Members' ideas for structural change that will strengthen the union will become recommendations to be shared with the membership next year before being finalized for presentation to the union's next biennial convention in October, 2006.

October 5, 2005

