Normanna health care workers join HEU

t's more good news on the organizing front. After many months of waiting for their votes to be counted, Compass workers at Normanna Rest Home in Burnaby have voted 14 to three in favour of joining HEU.

Yesterday ballot boxes were opened up for Compass workers at Evergreen Care Home in White Rock who also voted overwhelmingly in favour of joining HEU.

"We are really pleased that these health care workers, who provide critical dietary and house-keeping services for seniors, have chosen HEU to represent them," says HEU's acting secretary-business manager Zorica Bosancic.

Voting results for nearly 700 employees of Aramark, a US-based corporation contracted to provide hospital cleaning services in the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority, were also revealed early this week. The workers voted by a margin of 84 per cent to join HEU.

In coming weeks new HEU members will be electing site reps and preparing to bargain first collective agreements.

More than 1500 other privatized cleaning and food services workers – employed by Sodexho, U.K.-based Compass Group, and Aramark – are still waiting for their votes to be counted.

February 1, 2005

