

HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES' UNION

PLEASE POST

HEU meets with new health minister

The Hospital Employees' Union met today with B.C.'s newly appointed health minister, Mike de Jong, to raise a number of issues of concern to union members. It was the first opportunity HEU has had to meet with de Jong since he took on the health portfolio last month.

The union reviewed with the minister a number of issues of concern to HEU members including 2012 public sector bargaining, ongoing contract flipping in both long-term care and hospital services and better use of the skills and experience of HEU members in the health care team.

HEU secretary-business manager Judy Darcy says that the union wanted to impress upon the health minister that those who work on the front-line of health care must be part of efforts to strengthen service delivery.

"I believe that the minister was receptive to our message and we will continue to work with him and his ministry to improve working and caring conditions in our health care system," says Darcy.

De Jong represents the riding of Abbotsford-Mount Lehman in the provincial legislature and has held a number of cabinet portfolios including labour and aboriginal relations. He was appointed Minister of Health last month.

Two weeks ago HEU also met with B.C.'s new labour minister, Stephanie Cadieux.

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