



Update for Compass VIHA members

Since our last update on August 11, HEU has been in ongoing discussions with Compass and Marquise regarding job security options for members laid off as a result of changes in the contracting out of housekeeping and food services in VIHA.

Because of the September 16 deadline for layoffs at Royal Jubilee Hospital, HEU has been working to reduce the impact of job loss through an expedited bumping and placement process with Compass.

This process has been particularly complicated due to the awarding of housekeeping and food services to Marquise at Queen Alexandra, Gorge Road, Saanich Peninsula, Priory, Mt. Tolmie, Glengarry and Aberdeen.

Throughout the process, our goal has been to reach an agreement that will provide members with employment options that recognize their seniority and qualifications.

However, as a result of Compass losing their contract with VIHA to Acciona at RJH, there are now fewer Compass jobs available, which means some members will not have a permanent position at the end of this process.

In recent days, some members have been working their last shifts with no certainty about their future.

“Once again, we are witnessing the failure of privatization to protect decent jobs and services in our communities,” says HEU secretary-business manager Bonnie Pearson.

“And once again health care workers are facing an uncertain future for themselves and their families. It’s an unnecessary travesty that not only affects our members, but the continuity of services that is so desperately important to providing safe, quality care.”

As discussions with Compass continue today, securing an agreement that provides impacted members with certainty about their future continues to be union’s highest priority.

Please contact HEU servicing representative Liz Mielke at 250-213-1073 with any questions you may have.

Any new information will be posted on the union website as soon as it becomes available.

September 16, 2011

