



Transfer of Lower Mainland pharmacy services to Fraser Health planned for the spring

Health employers are moving ahead with plans to consolidate pharmacy services in the Lower Mainland with a target date of March 2, 2012.

It's part of a massive reorganization of various health service across a number of Lower Mainland health authorities. In this case, health employers will transfer responsibility for the management of pharmacy services in Providence Healthcare, the Provincial Health Services Authority and the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority to the Fraser Health Authority.

Notice of the transfer was provided to the union earlier this month under the provisions of *B.C.'s Labour Code* and will give both sides an opportunity to discuss labour adjustment measures.

Employers had provided similar notice last fall but had later withdrawn it and put the process of restructuring this service on hold.

A committee of HEU pharmacy members and staff has held one meeting with employers and has established the following:

- Commitment to an open, transparent process
- Adherence to the revised standard template agreement and the settlement agreement of August 2011
- Tentative transfer date of March 2, 2012

Health employers have told the union that the notice is only for the transfer of employers and that a new notice would be issued for any further re-organization or restructuring. The union is meeting with employers again on October 13 to continue these discussions.

As part of the 2010 – 2012 Facilities Collective Agreement, HEU negotiated provisions that protect members' rights in the event of transfers and restructuring. You can read about the Standard Template Transfer Agreement [here](#).

The union is committed to keeping members up-to-date on any developments and will post these on the website.

In the meantime, if you have any questions about changes to pharmacy services, please contact your HEU shop steward.

September 28, 2011

