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HEU celebrates World Day for Decent Work with labour allies – October 7

The Hospital Employees' Union will join in solidarity with our international trade union sisters and brothers on October 7 – World Day for Decent Work – to speak out against low wages and poor working conditions.

The awareness campaign, organized by the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), is an opportunity for workers to mobilize around issues such as child labour, sweatshops, treatment of immigrant workers (particularly women and young girls), draconian government labour laws, workers' health and safety, and global financial regulations.

"Working people, having already bailed out the banks, are now paying for the crisis again as public sector cuts reduce or eliminate crucial services and benefits," said ITUC general secretary Sharan Burrow. "Business, supported by some governments, has also launched a relentless attack on wages and job security."

In 2007, HEU and our community partners launched the award-winning Living Wage Campaign as a bargaining initiative for our members working for the "Big 3" multinational conglomerates Aramark, Sodexo and Compass.

"Our campaign was revitalized this year as an anti-poverty crusade fighting for decent, family-supporting wages for all workers in British Columbia, not just health care workers," said secretary-business manager Bonnie Pearson. "It's important to be united with other trade unions to push the labour movement forward with positive gains for everyone."

Please wear your HEU-produced sticker on October 7 to mark 2011 World Day for Decent Work.

For more information, visit <www.wddw.org>.

October 7, 2011