



LPN representation vote wraps up today

Votes resulting from BCNU's raid on LPNs wrapped up June 25, although B.C.'s Employment Standards Branch will continue to receive post-marked ballots until July 3.

LPNs have been voting by mail-in ballot since May 28 on the question of their future union representation.

On Friday, the Branch reported that more than 4,500 ballots had been cast by LPNs during the voting period.

The timing and process for counting the votes is now in the hands of the Labour Relations Board, and results are expected in the coming weeks.

"I can't say enough about how proud I am of the campaign we've run in defense of our LPN members and their independent nursing profession," says HEU secretary-business manager Bonnie Pearson.

"And I want to thank all who participated – our local executive members, our CUPE sisters and brothers, HEU executive and staff, and especially our LPN advisory committee and volunteers. The energy and commitment shown by everyone involved has been truly inspiring."

Pearson says as LPNs continue to grow in numbers and influence throughout the health care system they are helping to improve the quality of care for all British Columbians.

This is the second time in the past three years that BCNU has attempted to raid LPNs represented by HEU and other unions. The first raid attempt failed when they were unable to secure enough signed cards province-wide or in any single health authority.

This time, however, BCNU abandoned a province-wide application and instead filed six separate raid applications which excluded more than 1,200 LPNs working in affiliated long-term care homes.

June 25, 2012

