

**CUPE Health Care Council Bargaining Update #14 – August 21/09**

Your bargaining committee has just concluded two solid weeks of negotiations with SAHO. We can report that health care workers' displeasure with the lagging process of negotiating a new collective agreement has been noticed. Our 88% strike mandate has assisted at the table and with our preliminary plans to publically demonstrate our discontent.

Movement that occurred during the week of August 10-14 includes:

- SAHO's agreement to 4 of your proposals and withdrawal of 3 of their proposals.
- Lengthy discussion about maintaining the re-employment list.
- Discussion on an agreement between SAHO and the provider unions (CUPE, SEIU and SGEU) to meet jointly on September 1<sup>st</sup> for the purposes of determining protocol at the coalition table.

Progress made this week includes:

- Communication from SAHO to all three provider unions on an actual date to meet and table the monetary package and begin discussions on issues common to all three unions. This date is September 15<sup>th</sup>. We have requested that SAHO table the monetary information on September 1<sup>st</sup>.
- We finally have some agreement and protection for members on immunization and quarantine.

Employer concessions that still remain on the table include:

- Multi site language, Home Care hours of work, lay off by facility, elimination of 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend premium and retroactivity, no penalty for failure to assign overtime by seniority, no penalty for the employer's failure to properly assign relief, among others.

Hearing the employer announce their intention to table the initial monetary offer by mid September is a step forward and a direct result of the support you have shown your bargaining committee.

Continued pressure on your MLAs is still necessary. Our next bargaining dates are August 31<sup>st</sup> to September 4<sup>th</sup>.

**In Solidarity,**

**Your CUPE Health Care Bargaining Committee**