

CUPE HEALTH CARE COUNCIL



BARGAINING COMMUNIQUÉ # 12 **April 8, 2005**

Your bargaining committee met in Regina on April 5th, 6th and 7th and dealt with Article 15 (Occupational Health and Safety), Article 23 (Employment Strategy, which includes Workplace Reorganization and Technological Change) and Article 24 (Layoff and Re-employment).

We are pleased to report that we have reached agreement on provisions for training of workers in occupational health and safety hazards, policies and procedures related to the work they do. However, SAHO has tabled extremely regressive language regarding workload initiatives and has removed any ability for the parties to deal with these very serious issues on the shop floor. In addition, SAHO has rejected our language to eliminate or remove known carcinogens from the workplace.

Despite our frustration at the lack of progress on the second day of negotiations (in fact SAHO spent the entire day preparing their response to Article 23 and 24), on the third day we did make some progress in the areas of employment strategy, workplace reorganization, technological change and layoff and re-employment.

We provided SAHO with a list of articles in which we require a total of 53 responses dealing with all areas of the collective agreement. In addition, SAHO has still not addressed the letters of understanding.

Next bargaining dates are April 19th, 20th and 21st in Saskatoon.

If you require more information, visit our website at www.cupesaskhcc.ca or check your Local Union bulletin board.