

BARGAINING COMMUNIQUE #9
February 17, 2005

CUPE and SAHO continued negotiations this week in Regina. While bargaining dates were originally scheduled for Feb. 14th – 16th, the parties met on the 14th and the morning of the 15th, and put bargaining on hold in the afternoon to allow talks to continue around the critical issue of extended health and dental benefits.

With the February 15th deadline imposed by SAHO at hand, representatives from CUPE, SEIU, SGEU and RWDSU health provider unions met with SAHO in order to achieve a resolve that would ensure equity for all health care staff. An update specific to benefits will be released at a later date by the Health Care Provider Unions.

Minimal progress was made during this time with talks continuing in key areas of the agreement. The bargaining committee continues to provide examples of problem areas in the employer's interpretation and suggest solutions to SAHO, especially in relation to workload, healthy workplaces, contracting out, vacation, and relief language.

Be assured we will continue to update our members on these and other vital issues as information becomes available.

The next bargaining session is scheduled for March 7 and 8 in Regina.

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