

## COALITION BARGAINING COMMUNIQUE #2



**SASKATOON** – The three Health Provider Unions continued to meet with representatives of SAHO, the Regional Health Authorities and the Government on November 26 and 27 in Saskatoon.

On the 26<sup>th</sup>, SAHO indicated that they would be prepared to respond to our Tri-Union proposal later in the day. SAHO returned to the table at 2:35 p.m. and provided an amendment to their October 16 proposal document. The **single** change to SAHO's initial general wage increase offer is a meager 0.15% increase in the fourth year **only**. Their document included certain amendments to each Union in respect to individual language related issues and primarily in respect to their 'rollbacks'.

Once again, SAHO has **ignored/dismissed** entirely the Unions proposed improvements to parity items: including shift/weekend premiums, professional fees, transportation allowance among other items. They continue to focus on concessions.

The Unions indicated that the SAHO proposal remains wholly unacceptable. The Unions identified that the goals that SAHO has publicized through their radio & newspaper ads will not be achieved with such an unacceptable proposal. The lack of commitment demonstrated by the SAHO bargaining committee is a huge barrier to health care providers gaining a fair collective agreement.

We asked that they deliver our message of discontent back to the Sask Party government:  
***How is it that patients will come first when you continue to put health care providers last?***

On the 27<sup>th</sup>, SAHO provided their response. The lead negotiator for SAHO stated "**Our proposal is not about valuing our employees**". That becomes obvious when you understand that the amendment to the SAHO initial wage offer of 0.15% is equivalent to 3 cents per hour on a \$20.00 hour wage in 2011. **We find SAHO's proposals and their attitude to be disrespectful and an insult to our members.**

Thank you for your continued support and interest in this process. Please watch for further updates.

In Solidarity,

On Behalf of the Coalition Bargaining Committee (SGEU, CUPE and SEIU-West)

