



For Immediate Release

December 17, 2005

Gesture of Good Faith Offered by Health Provider Unions

The Health Provider union coalition, SEIU, CUPE and SGEU, has been meeting with SAHO and the Employers this past week in Saskatoon.

While the parties are still apart on workplace equity issues, on Saturday, December 17th, in the spirit of good will, the Health Provider unions have promised not to conduct any strike action over the Christmas holidays, in order that public health services will be maintained over the festive season.

This gesture of good faith was offered by the Health Provider unions to ensure that the services of our 25,000 members, which include special care aides, medical technicians, laboratory technologists, licensed practical nurses, clerical, activity, laundry and maintenance staff, dietary aides and housekeepers will not be disrupted over the holiday period.

SAHO and the Employers have committed to the Provider Unions that they will meet with their principles over the course of the next two weeks. The Health Provider unions strongly encourage Government to provide the resources necessary to address workplace equity in Saskatchewan Health Care facilities and agencies.

We are hopeful that we may conclude negotiations on the basis of a fair and equitable settlement as soon as possible in the New Year. Dates have been confirmed in early January.

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