# BARGAINING



### Saskatchewan Government and General Employees' Union

October 3, 2019

### **SGEU Health Providers Bargaining Committee Update**

1011 Devonshire Drive North Regina, SK S4X 2X4 (p) 522.8571 1.800.667.5221 (f) 352.1969

1114-22nd Street West Saskatoon, SK S7M OS5 (p) 652.1811 1.800.667.9791 (f) 664.7134

33-11th Street West Prince Albert, SK S6V 3A8 (p) 764.5201 1.800.667.9355 (f) 763.4763

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Your SGEU Health Providers Bargaining Committee, along with CUPE and SEIU-West, met with Minister Jim Reiter, Minister of Health, and Minister Don Morgan, Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety, on August 26, 2019, regarding the Health Care Provider Bargaining Association Constitution.

The Provider Unions continue to work together toward their commitment to one another and their members. We are seeking government cooperation and partnership through the introduction of a legislative amendment to the Saskatchewan Employment Act (SEA) that allows for the inclusion of the Health Care Provider Bargaining Association.

On September 23, 2019, representatives of the three provider unions met with representatives from the Saskatchewan Association of Health Organizations (SAHO) and the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) to discuss transition issues such as portability of seniority, eligibility for postings, transfer of benefits and other terms and conditions of employment among the three provider unions for members employed by the SHA.

SAHO opposed the active participation of SEIU-West during these discussions and refused to enter into discussions regarding these issues if SEIU-West remained at the meeting with voice. The coalition of SGEU, CUPE and SEIU-West remained firm that, as these issues affect members of all three unions, we would not enter into negotiations if one partner was excluded.

At the end of the day, SAHO's adamant refusal to have joint discussions with the inclusion of SEIU-West, meant we did not reach any agreement on these issues. What came out of the meeting was a stronger and firmer commitment of the Health Provider Unions to show solidarity and commitment to all Health Providers as a whole.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Bonnie Erickson, SGEU Health Providers Bargaining Committee Chair, on her retirement. Bonnie's last day of work was August 30, 2019. On behalf of the Bargaining Committee and all of the Health Providers, we want to wish Bonnie a welldeserved retirement and say thank you for all of her work, friendship and the passion she brought to the labour movement.

Tracey Sauer will be replacing Bonnie as the SGEU Health Provider Bargaining Committee Chair. You may reach her at (639) 328-7229 or tsauer@sgeu.org.

Diane Ralph is the SGEU Health Provider Bargaining Committee Vice-Chair. You may reach her at (306) 920-7561 or dralph@sgeu.org.

We would also like to thank Sherri Hanson for her time spent as the Bargaining Committee Representative for Local 3354-2. We appreciated Sherri's knowledge and input and wish her well.

# REPORT ON

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We welcome Jolean Brochu to the Bargaining Committee. Jolean comes from Arborfeild and is an excellent addition to our team.

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In Solidarity:

Tracey Sauer, SGEU Health Providers Bargaining Chair
Diane Ralph, SGEU Health Providers Bargaining Vice-Chair
Jolean Brochu, SGEU Health Providers Bargaining Committee KTHR
Ryan Favel, SGEU Health Providers Bargaining Committee KYRHA
Wendy McPhail, SGEU Health Providers Bargaining Committee MCRRHA
Danny Hind, LRO and Kim Nordmarken, LRO