



WORKING
TOGETHER FOR
SASKATCHEWAN

Saskatchewan Government and General Employees' Union

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SGEU Health Providers COVID-19 Pandemic Update March 26, 2020

SGEU Health Provider Bargaining Committee wishes to extend sincere gratitude to all the Health Care Providers and all Health Care Workers as well as all the Critical Public Service Workers who are at work so that the rest of us can stay home.

These services include; pharmacy, EMS, gas stations, public utilities, RCMP, Fire Department, Liquor Stores, Grocery stores, Protection Services, Highway Workers, Correctional Services and more. Thank you all very much for continuing to do the work that you do. For those that do not have to leave their homes to go to work – don't – stay home. For those of you that are leaving for work – take care and stay safe.

There are a lot of fears right now, so we thought, let's see if we can put a new view and description on COVID-19. What are your positive words to help us through this time? You can share your words on the SGEU Health Provider Website in the comment section under this post.

C- compassionate

O- optimistic

V-victorious

I-invincible

D- dedicated

Communication

The Saskatchewan Health Authority (SAHA) is expanding their Broadcast System to the entire Province. Its purpose is to convey urgent messaging and updates on COVID-19 to SHA staff, physicians and affiliates. They tested this system on March 25, 2020. If you did not receive the test, please go to www.mygatewayonline.com and go to my profile to update your phone information.

SGEU Health Providers Bargaining Committee will continue to also communicate with you. If you are not receiving communications from us please download our SGEU Health Sector App or go to www.sgeu.org go to the quick links drop down and to update member info. You may also be receiving a call from SGEU to verify your information that is in our system.

If you have Union related questions please contact Tracey Sauer at tsauer@sgeu.org or Diane Ralph at dralph@sgeu.org. We will answer your questions or refer you to the appropriate party.

questions regarding COVID-19, we ask that you use the Saskatchewan.ca website for up to date specifics and for the self monitoring tools providing by the provincial government. Please only all 811 if you have symptoms of COVID-19, in Emergency and medical distress call 911, for all other nonmedical questions call 1-855-559-5502.

Child Care Inquiries

We received this information to share with you;

“We thank the child care providers in schools for working with us during this extraordinary time to provide this essential service for our health care and other pandemic response service employees,” Deputy Premier and Education Minister Gordon Wyant said. “We know the impact this change has on families but during these times we are looking for everyone to contribute to the support for the broad community response to the COVID-19 virus.”

Priority for these spaces will be given to staff in health care and other pandemic response workers for infant, toddler, preschool or school age children, that require care as those individuals continue to provide support in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The list of eligible people for the emergency and pandemic response child care spaces includes:

- Employees directly related to providing essential services in health care including employees working in hospitals, long-term care facilities, community and primary health, home care, personal care homes, labs, pharmacies, COVID-19 assessment and testing sites, scheduling departments, and payroll departments including nurses, physicians and physician clinic staff, emergency medical services staff, and other staff essential to the operations of these facilities/departments.
- Employees working directly in child protection, income assistance, and community living connected to the Ministry of Social Services
- Employees working directly in residential services connected to the Ministry of Social Services
- Child care centre employees of licensed child care facilities
- Employees directly related to providing essential services in SaskPower, SaskEnergy, SaskTel, water and wastewater management
- Employees directly related to providing essential services for police and fire.

Note: This is subject to change.

Employers are being notified today to provide information to those workers related to the pandemic. An application and information about the process for those who are delivering services related to the pandemic response is available on www.saskatchewan.ca/coronavirus.

We continue to be asking the Question regarding what resources do we have for Rural and Remote Saskatchewan Health Providers as we matter too and our access to daycare as above is not as readily available. At this time if you are struggling to find childcare, first of all, do not resign! There is a variety of Leave requests in your collective bargaining agreement, including but not limited to Family Leave. Please continue to contact your Bargaining Committee Members if you have more questions.

Please go to the www.saskatchewan.ca website for the most up to date help and information

3. Other Resources

[Questions and Answers COVID-19 Leaves in the Workplace](#)

[211 Saskatchewan](#) is a free, confidential information and referral system for thousands of community services available across Saskatchewan.

[WorkSafe Saskatchewan – What workers should do](#)

[Staying Safe at Work](#)

[WCB – Information for workers on COVID-19](#)

[Ergonomic Safety at Home](#)

[WorkSafe Saskatchewan – Managing your mental health through COVID-19](#)

[Tips for Individuals and Teams Working Remotely](#)

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/health-care-administration-and-provider-resources/treatment-procedures-and-guidelines/emerging-public-health-issues/2019-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-information-for-businesses-and-workers/support-for-workers>

SGEU Health Provider/SHA Discussions Regarding Emergency Alteration of Collective Bargaining Agreement Language

To allow for rapid responses to changing situations, your Bargaining Committee will be entering into discussions with the Employer around temporary modifications to current language in your CBA. These talks are expected to include, but not be limited to, the timelines currently in place for various articles such as job postings. We do not take this decision lightly, but in the best interest of our members' health and safety as well as that of the patients, residents, and clients that we serve. We feel this is vital to do in this emergency situation. We advise Members to log in to your Gateway account daily to review job postings. We will provide updates on these and other changes as we become aware.

SGEU Long Term Disability

In response to questions regarding the SGEU LTD Plan; Presently our VRC's are working from home. They are contacting members by phone to gather the information needed as well as assessment information. They will continue to be in contact with the employers to discuss and RTW options.

Their plan is to continue to work in this way until such time they cannot do it any longer.

In Solidarity,

SGEU Health Providers Bargaining Committee

Tracey Sauer, Chair

Diane Ralph, Vice-Chair

Jolean Brochu, Member, KTHR

Ryan Favel, Member, KYRHA

Wendy McPhail, Member, MCRRHA

Danny Hind and Kim Nordmarken, Labour Relations Officers