

## **PLEASE POST**

September 23, 2005

### **PUBLIC SERVICE CONTRACT RATIFICATION VOTE**

It has been brought to our attention that due to incomplete information regarding our membership not all Public Service members were given a vote on the 12<sup>th</sup> Master Agreement. We are, therefore, conducting a second vote on the Proposed 12<sup>th</sup> Master Agreement.

### **JOB ACTION NOTICE**

#### **Telus**

As you may already be aware, Telus has locked out its TWU employees throughout the province. In light of this, the Telecommunications Workers Union may set up picket lines at various health care facilities in the coming days.

The TWU is prepared to take this action because Telus management is using scab labour to do non-emergent work in these facilities. The company, which locked out its workers earlier this summer, has rejected attempts by the TWU to resolve these situations.

If a picket line is set up, UPN members are requested to abide by UPN and BC Federation of Labour policies and respect the picket line.

If you are on shift, please remain on duty until you are contacted by a UPN steward who will organize a transition to essential service levels.

If you are coming on shift, do not cross the line unless directed by a UPN steward as part of an essential services designation.

#### **Sodexho**

In addition to this, HEU is currently in a legal strike against Sodexho Corporation, which provides housekeeping, food service and other health support services at health care facilities throughout the Lower Mainland. They have been in negotiations to develop a first collective agreement with this employer for many months and are still stalled on all monetary issues. The employer will not budge from its position to offer wages that would leave workers at or below the poverty line. The Union is seeking a four year contract that would raise wages to \$14.90 an hour.

Job action is taking place at several facilities within Vancouver Coastal Health Authority, including Providence sites. Also affected are MSA, Eagle Ridge and Mission Memorial hospitals in the Fraser Health Authority, and German-Canadian, Foyer Maillard and Rosewood care homes in the Lower Mainland and Central Care Home in Victoria. UPN has no members working directly for any of these facilities however; Community Mental Health workers may need to enter them in the course of their duties.

The HEU and the Health Employers' Association of B.C. have worked out a consent order with the Labour Relations Board which provides that if picket lines are set up, nurses and other health care employees will gain access to the worksites through designated entrances. If you are required to go to these worksites, please contact the Union office for further information.

Finally, the UPN would ask that all members support the workers affected by these disputes. Join them on the picket line in your spare time. Attend any rallies that are organized on their behalf. They are part of the labour family, lend them your support.

Douglas McLaren  
Director, Operations & Member Services