



PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Yukon Hospital Workers vote overwhelmingly to strike

Talks between the Yukon Hospital Corp and their workers have stalled, and the Government appointed conciliator has formally declared an impasse. Subsequent to this declaration, a strike vote was held. Yukon Hospital Corporation's workers have provided their bargaining team with a clear strike mandate over pension protection and a concession free contract.

Hospital employees represented by PSAC came out in extraordinarily high numbers to strike vote meetings held simultaneously in Watson Lake, Dawson City and Whitehorse last week. These meetings provided an opportunity for the membership to hear the latest from their bargaining team and decide how they wished to proceed. Members were very clear; 87% voted to support their bargaining team and they are ready to strike if necessary.

The Union team has requested an immediate return to the bargaining table in order to try and reach a tentative agreement.

YEU President Steve Geick said "I hope the Hospital Corporation will accept the Union's invitation to meet again at the bargaining table. The workers' pension request is non-monetary, and should be an easy fix for the employer."

"Workers are simply asking for reasonable protection for their pensions", said Jack Bourassa, Regional Executive Vice President North for the Public Service Alliance of Canada. "Members still hope to reach a fair deal at the table before they are forced to go on strike."

Steve Geick
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