



Joint Bargaining Update: Bargaining resumes with SAHO, but regressive mandate remains

September 12, 2017

Dear Health Care Member:

Your CUPE, SEIU-West and SGEU bargaining committees resumed bargaining with SAHO September 5 to September 7 in Regina.

In the most recent bargaining session, SAHO put forward several questions regarding the Provider Unions' creation of a bargaining association. The parties also discussed the forthcoming transition to the Saskatchewan Health Authority. SAHO indicated that the launch of the SHA will now be sometime in the late fall but said no date has been determined.

On September 7, CUPE, SEIU-West and SGEU presented SAHO with a revised comprehensive proposal package that maintains our wage increase proposal, as well as, key priorities such as ensuring current levels of benefits and joint trusteeship of all benefit plans. Your union bargaining committees are standing united in their opposition to SAHO's numerous concessions and rollbacks. We strongly urged SAHO to push government principals to remove the concessions and rollbacks from their mandate. Your bargaining committees indicated to SAHO their proposed concessions which amount to a total reduction in compensation of 3.8% need to be withdrawn as our members have told us resoundingly they will not accept rollbacks or cuts.

There was no immediate response from SAHO to the Provider Unions' revised proposal package. However, SAHO did provide CUPE, SEIU-West and SGEU with a draft LOU that would commit the parties to meet to discuss how several provisions of the three collective agreements will be applied within the transition to the new SHA.

We would like to thank all health services providers for your ongoing solidarity and support for the work of the bargaining committees. Your support is making a difference, but we need to keep up the pressure on MLAs in the lead up to our next bargaining dates, which are scheduled for September 14 to 24 in Saskatoon. Please make another call to your MLA or send another email and schedule a follow up meeting with your MLA — and bring your co-workers!

In solidarity,

CUPE, SGEU, and SEIU-West bargaining committees