



## HOME CARE PROJECT

### **Public Inquiry - Report to be released soon....**

Public hearings sponsored by SEIU Local 1Canada and held the first week of June in Toronto, Sarnia, Ottawa, Peterborough, and Thunder Bay resulted in over seventy submissions from agencies, organizations, coalitions, providers, clients and workers. A panel of three academics will write a report on the state of home care in Ontario from the submissions received. The report will be released publicly in September at a press conference with the Ontario Health Coalition.

Once the report is released we may be calling you to take some type of action at MPP offices across the province to heighten awareness about home care in your community. This will also fit into what is happening at the bargaining table. Pressure the government on the importance of home care issues. Call your MPP.

**For more info on the  
SEIU Local 1Canada  
Home Care Project  
Go to - [www.seiulocal1.org](http://www.seiulocal1.org)**

## LABOUR DAY THEME HOMECARE

SEIU Local 1Canada is making home care our theme for the Labour Day parade in Toronto this year.

This is the largest Labour Day gathering in Ontario and we are putting home care in the forefront.

Other Labour Day events are being planned in many communities throughout Ontario.

Check the SEIU Local 1Canada website or your local union office at the end of August for information on events in your area.

*Continuity of care must remain the key issue.*

*That can only be attained if there is a stable and adequately compensated workforce.*

*SEIU Local 1.on Submission to  
The Honourable Elinor Caplan*

## SEIU IN THE NEWS

The media in many areas of the province printed articles on the results of the strike vote and the Red Cross bargaining. Enclosed with this mailing are a couple of examples.

## ONTARIO HEALTH COALITION CALLS FOR MASS RALLIES ON HEALTH CARE

SEIU Local 1 Canada will be participating with the Ontario Health Coalition, community groups and other unions in rallies on September 27<sup>th</sup> to highlight various health care issues.

The McGuinty government is ignoring the voice of the public interest in health care, opting instead for:

- Closed-door meetings with private interests on the future of homecare; no public consultations.
- Broken promise on minimum care standard in long term care homes.
- More privatized P3 hospitals despite extraordinary higher costs.
- Serious hospital cuts and movements of services out of local communities

It is time to push the McGuinty government to **LISTEN UP** for positive change in the public interest.

### HOME CARE THEME – STOP THE COMPETITIVE BIDDING Plan to participate in on September 27th

**Toronto:** Gather at Metro Hall Square (Wellington and John St.)  
Protest culminates at Queen's Park.

**Windsor:** Gather at Dieppe Park (Riverside Drive and Ferry Street)  
Protest culminates at Dwight Duncan's office.

**Kingston:** Gather at McBurney Park (Ordinance Street and Alma Street)

**Sudbury:** Gather at Tom Davies Square (Brady and Minto Street)

For more information contact Sonia Reynolds Special Projects Representative at 1-800-267-7348 Extension 311.



### WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Below is a sample letter to the editor of your community newspaper.. We must continue our efforts to have your voices as home care workers heard. If your editorial is published please forward a copy to our office by fax or email. Keep the message going.

### SAMPLE LETTER TO THE EDITOR

*I am a Red Cross home care worker. My union, SEIU Local 1 Canada is in bargaining for a new contract. Media attention has focused on a possible strike. I am not deemed to be an essential worker like other health care workers. I am not paid for the time it takes to travel between my clients. I receive a mere 32 cents per kilometer for the use of my vehicle. With high gas prices and the amount of time I spend on the road I am subsidizing my own wages. Home care workers must be adequately compensated for the job we do. Is this an unreasonable request? In a society where more seniors want to remain at home, home care must be the first choice rather than institutionalized care. Home care workers are not asking for much, just some respect for the job we do.*

*Sincerely*

