



Bargaining Update

13 Aug. 09

SEIU Local 1 Canada

SEIU negotiations focusing on clerical and service workers issues

TORONTO, 13 Aug. 2009 – As contract negotiations continued on Wednesday between the Service Employees International Union Local 1 Canada and the Ontario Hospital Association, the SEIU Bargaining Committee remain optimistic despite a hardening of positions on both sides.

“We have run into some road blocks because the hospitals are trying to balance their budgets while we are trying to achieve the needs of our members,” said SEIU Belleville-based hospital Union Representative Martin Parker.

“Our sleeves are rolled up,” said SEIU Local 1 Canada President Sharleen Stewart, “and we are into it. But we have the best people here to help get us to some resolutions.”

The threat of job outsourcing was among Wednesday’s detailed discussions.

Part of that discussion was reminding the OHA’s bargaining committee representatives of the important and specialized skills that clerical and service workers provide in their hospitals.

“The contribution that so many of our members make for pa-

tients, like housekeepers, environmental services and dietary employees, always seem to be underappreciated. So I asked them, ‘is housekeeping and dietary not part of patient care?’” SEIU Chief Negotiator Brad Philp explained.

“I think we made our point,” Philp confirmed.

Carol McDowell, SEIU Hospital Workers Council Chair and RPN Division Vice President, reported at SEIU’s morning caucus meeting that the RPN Table discussions were productive.

Negotiations today begin at 9:00 a.m. in Toronto

Daily bargaining updates appear on the SEIU Local 1 Canada website (www.seiulocal1.org). Bargaining bulletins are distributed by noon each day of bargaining, and an automated telephone call to members homes from President Stewart is scheduled for Mon. Aug. 17 to summarize bargaining’s progress.

In attendance at bargaining is senior SEIU staff, HWC Servicing staff and representatives of SEIU’s RPN Division, Research and Communications departments, as well as the elected Bargaining Committee members from the SEIU Executive Board and members-at-large from SEIU’s seven provincial regions.

SEIU represents 17,000 hospital workers, and 46,000 health care members throughout Ontario.



“Outsourcing is a huge issue for clerical and service workers. In my hospital, we already have an agency that can step into our jobs, get paid half the wage, receive no benefits, and has no experience in our hospital. We are dedicated to our hospital community.”

Nancy Barrett,
Humber River Regional Hospital



Marcelle Goldenberg, EVP. Sharleen Stewart, President. Cathy Carroll, Secretary Treasurer

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Member Resource Centre - 1-877-MRC-SEIU

Bargaining underway

Your hospital and SEIU along with 36 other hospitals began bargaining on Monday 10 August 2009.

Priorities are: **Job security, No contracting out, Scheduling Workload Wage increase**



Provincial Hospital Bargaining Committee Members 2009

SEIU hospital members were elected on May 19 at the HWC Bargaining Conference. These Committee Members, along with SEIU Local 1 Canada's executive team and hospital sector staff will meet with the OHA beginning Aug. 10 to begin negotiations on a provincial contract.

(Elected Committee Member, Representing SEIU Region, Home Workplace)

Thunder Bay & Algonquin, Jean England, Thunder Bay Reg. Health Sciences
 Northumberland, Margaret Bourgoïn, Quinte Health Care Corp
 Northumberland, Betty Fraser, Lennox & Addington County Hospital,
 Georgian Bay, Jim Andriano, Royal Victoria Hospital
 Georgian Bay, Gregory Garratt, North Simcoe Hospital
 Greater Toronto Area, Juanita Barrett, Toronto East General Hospital
 Greater Toronto Area, Nancy Barrett, Humber River Regional Hospital
 Hamilton/Halton, Diane Gray, Headwaters Health Care Centre
 Hamilton/Halton, Piera Naddeo, William Osler Health Care
 Norfolk/Niagara, Theresa Vaccaro, Niagara Health System
 Norfolk/Niagara, Wanda White, Niagara Health System
 London & Southern Ontario, Claudette Drapeau, Bluewater Health
 London & Southern Ontario, Elizabeth Lannin, Listowel Memorial Hospital

Hospitals included in Provincial ('central') Hospital Bargaining are: Alexandra Marine and General Hospital, Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, Bluewater Health, Brant Community Healthcare System, Cambridge Memorial Hospital, Collingwood General and Marine Hospital, Haliburton Highlands Health Services, Halton Healthcare Services, Headwaters Health Care Centre, Hotel Dieu Shaver Health & Rehabilitation, Humber River Regional Hospital, Kirkland and District Hospital, Lennox and Addington County General Hospital, Listowel Memorial Hospital, MICs Group of Health Services, Mount Sinai Hospital, Muskoka-East Parry Sound Health Services, Niagara Health System, North Bay General Hospital (St. Joseph's Treatment Centre, Nipissing Detox Centre, Crisis Intervention Centre) North Simcoe Hospital Alliance (Huron District Hospital, Penetanguishene Hospital), North York General Hospital, Orillia Soldiers' Memorial Hospital, Quinte Healthcare Corporation, Runnymede Healthcare Centre, Sensenbrenner Hospital, Southlake Regional Health Centre, St. Joseph's Care Group, Sunnyside Health Sciences Centre, The McCausland Hospital, The Royal Victoria Hospital, Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre, Toronto East General Hospital, West Haldimand General Hospital, West Park Healthcare Centre, West Parry Sound Health Centre, William Osler Health Centre, and Women's College Hospital.

Check our website at www.seiulocal1.org for daily updates. Watch your union board for regular Bargaining Updates. Stay tuned for a phone message from Sharleen Stewart, your SEIU Local 1 Canada president, starting Mon. Aug. 17 for a report on our first week of bargaining. We are **Stronger Together**.

Member Resource Centre - 1-877-MRC-SEIU

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