

Home Care



Advocate

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SPECIAL BULLETIN

THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW!

Help your SEIU sisters and brothers fight for a contract for Comcare workers in Sudbury!

They are front line health care workers who deserve a collective agreement with decent wages, fair benefits and travel time.

SEIU's bargaining committee is not backing down. Help put the heat on Comcare to deliver a contract your co-workers deserve:

- Talk to your bargaining committee to learn more about the issues and demand Comcare delivers a new contract
- Sign a postcard demanding a fair contract
- Join SEIU's Facebook page



ATTENTION COMCARE

Quit stalling negotiations and deliver a REAL contract for SEIU members

In Nov. 2008 Comcare workers in Sudbury voted to join SEIU. But Comcare has dragged contract negotiations for over a year. SEIU members want a contract NOW and they want the delays to STOP!

"Scheduling bargaining dates with Comcare is next to impossible," said David Cheslock, a Service Rep with SEIU. "When we do schedule dates, they show up late and leave early. I have never had this kind of problem before with other employers."

This leaves many issues unad-

dressed. A top priority is **mileage**. Comcare workers in Sudbury only receive mileage (20 cents per km) when they drive over 20 km from one client to another. Unfortunately, this rarely happens. Even if an employee drives over 20 km, they will only get paid for each km over 20 km. This is unfair to workers and needs to be changed NOW! Red Cross workers receive 32 cents per km between clients. Comcare workers deserve just as much as Red Cross workers are making.

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David Cheslock
SEIU Service Rep

“Comcare’s mileage plan needs an overhaul. If a worker drives an average of 15 km between 10 clients - a total 150 km a day - none of their travel expenses will be covered. Comcare workers deserve a better deal.”

Comcare’s poor travel policies is starting to hurt patient care. Staff shortages are common. Many Comcare employees are forced to find new jobs with better pay and benefits. It has gotten so bad that Red Cross has been called to service Comcare’s clients!

But Comcare employees stay because they find their jobs fulfilling. They enjoy helping their clients and believe they are making a difference and SEIU is there to support them and give them a contract.

Negotiations for Comcare in Thunder Bay have also begun and SEIU members need these negotiations to move at a faster pace. Even though they have scheduled dates, little progress has been made.

“Mileage is also a big issue in Thunder Bay,” said Union Rep Barb

Rankin. “PSWs are paid \$1 between clients in the city and \$2 between clients in rural areas. We told Comcare this doesn’t cover gas, insurance or car depreciation.

Negotiations with other Comcare units in Toronto, Sault Ste Marie and Sarnia will begin in 2010. SEIU

is encouraging Comcare to centralize bargaining. Central bargaining allows SEIU and Comcare to negotiate a collective agreement for all SEIU members who work for Comcare across Ontario.

Instead of flying negotiators 5-6 times a year to dif-

ferent cities across Ontario, central bargaining can be done in one city in a week. Most employers, once they start central bargaining, never look back. Comcare could use this saved money for mileage and other worker benefits.

“Homecare workers are paid much less than other health care workers. It’s time to treat them the same with fair wages and a decent contract.”

- Barb Rankin
Service Rep

Take action against Comcare! Talk to your bargaining team and find out how you can help SEIU pressure Comcare to deliver a contract you deserve!

Helping improve the lives of working people and their families and leading the way to a more just society.



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