



BULLETIN

## **Community Social Services: Talks break down in bargaining, strike vote begins next week | UPDATE: meeting dates**

June 8, 2012

Talks broke down yesterday between the provincial government, employers and the ten unions representing BC's 15,000 community social services workers. As a result, there will be a strike vote for all unionized workers in the sector.

Outstanding issues include: wages, benefits, sick leave, reimbursable expenses and concessionary demands by the employer, including revisiting improvements gained in the last round of bargaining.

-Our members in this sector are asking for a fair and reasonable deal," said HSA President Reid Johnson. -We are asking members to support collective bargaining demands with a strike vote," he said.

-Please attend your strike vote meeting, and vote. HSAs Board of Directors strongly urges HSAs community social services workers to vote in favour of a strike. We need your voice to be heard by the provincial government.

-Workers in this sector are among the lowest paid in the public service. These are the professionals who care for BC's most vulnerable people. Community social service workers deserve fairness and respect," he said.

In light of the breakdown in talks, the unions involved in the talks have organized strike votes at worksites around the province. Strike vote meetings will begin next week, and meeting notices will be sent by separate notice. Information regarding the telephone town halls will follow.

The schedule of information briefings and balloting information will be posted on your union website. For more information and resources regarding Community Social Services bargaining, please visit [www.cssfairdeal.ca](http://www.cssfairdeal.ca)

The Community Social Services Bargaining Association (CSSBA) is the multi-union bargaining committee for BC's unionized community social service workers. The CSSBA includes ten unions with a combined membership of about 15,000. HSA members are represented at the negotiating table by Jody Moore (parent support counsellor, Cameray Counselling Centre) and Sharon Geoghegan (labour relations officer).

The BCGEU is the largest union in the community social services sector. The bargaining association also includes HSA, CUPE, HEU, UFCW, and other unions.

The provincial government's Community Social Services Employers Association (CSSEA) represents 220 agencies in the sector.

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| DATE               | WORKSITE  | COMMUNITY                                   | LOCATION   | MEETING TIMES                     | POLLS OPEN    |
|--------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Tuesday, June 12   | SHARE Family & Community Services                     | Tri Cities (Port Coq/ Port Moody/Coquitlam) | Best Western 319 North Road Coquitlam                    | 1:30pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm            | 11AM - 8PM    |
| Wednesday, June 13 | South Okanagan Women In Need Society                  | Penticton                                   | Penticton Lakeside Resort 12 Lakeshore Drive W           | 11:00am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:00pm       | 11AM - 8PM    |
| Thursday, June 14  | Central Okanagan Child Development Association        | Kelowna                                     | Delta Grand Hotel 1310 Water Street, Kelowna             | 11:00am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:00pm       | 11AM - 8PM    |
| Friday, June 15    | Langley CDC   | Langley                                     | Sheraton Guilford 15269 - 104th Avenue Surrey            | 11:00am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:00pm       | 11AM - 8PM    |
| Monday, June 18    | Cameray Counselling                                   | New Westminster                             | Centennial Community Ctr 65 East 6th Ave New Westminster | 11:00am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:00pm       | 11AM - 8PM    |
| Monday, June 18    | Deltassist / Sources                                  | Surrey / North Delta                        | Compass Point Inn 9850 King George Hwy Surrey            | 11:00am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:00pm       | 11AM - 8PM    |
| Tuesday, June 19   | Cameray Counselling                                   | Burnaby                                     | Holiday Inn 4405 Central Blvd Burnaby                    | 11:00am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:00pm       | 11AM - 8PM    |
| Wednesday, June 20 | Sources   | Ladner / South Delta                        | Delta Town & Country Highway 17 & 99 Delta               | 11:00am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:00pm       | 11AM - 8PM    |
| Monday, June 25    | John Howard FutureFocus Family Services Transition CR | Campbell River                              | Coast Discovery Inn 975 Shoppers Row                     | 12:00noon, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm | 12AM - 8PM    |
| Tuesday, June 26   | John Howard FutureFocus CV Transition                 | Courtenay                                   | Westerly Hotel 1590 Cliffe Ave Courtenay                 | 12:00noon, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm | 12AM - 8PM    |
| Wednesday, June 27 | Haven Society John Howard                             | Nanaimo                                     | Beban Park Community 2300 Bowen Road Nanaimo             | 11:00am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:00pm       | 11AM - 8PM    |
| Thursday, June 28  | Victoria Women's Transition                           | Victoria                                    | St. Joseph's Hall 753 Burnside Rd. W                     | 11:00am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:00pm       | 11AM - 8PM    |
| Friday, June 29    | Powell River Transition                               | Powell River                                | Town Centre Inn 4660 Joyce Street Powell River           | 12noon & 3pm                      | 12 NOON - 4PM |
| TBA                | Robson Valley Home Support                            | McBride                                     | TBA  | TBA                               | TBA           |
| TBA                | Nechako Valley Family Svcs                            | Vanderhoof                                  | TBA  | TBA                               | TBA           |

HSA's Community Social Service members are encouraged to contact the office by email at [contract@hsabc.org](mailto:contract@hsabc.org) if you have any questions or difficulty getting to the polls.

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