

HEALTH CARE 2008 BARGAINING

Canadian Union of Public Employees

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COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT RATIFIED

With reports in from all locals, members ratified a new collective agreement yesterday. Eighty-five per cent of you voted in favour of the proposed agreement.

It was difficult but the bargaining team put in the effort to get the best deal possible. We are really pleased that you considered all the gains we were able to get, and agreed that this was the best deal we could achieve. We know that economic conditions are not going to be good for us, and this agreement should get us through this period.

We really appreciated everyone's patience – the process of getting this agreement was a long one – but we stood together and no one was left behind.

The vote in support of the agreement was consistent across different work locations – hospitals, personal care homes, rural and urban facilities. Ten locals voted for unanimous acceptance, and the lowest acceptance vote was 63% of the members who voted.

One local did not accept the offer. The members of Nine Circles Community Health Centre (Local 2348) voted to reject the offer. They will continue bargaining. Their main issue was the reclassification of positions that could not be resolved before the vote was taken. We will go back to bargaining with them as soon as possible.

Over 53 percent of the members turned out to vote, which is better than the average percentage.

Darrin Cook
Chair of the
Provincial Health Care Council

Nicole Campbell
National Representative
Health Care Coordinator