

SUN NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE

Prep For Bargaining Underway

SUN's Negotiations Committee, elected at the 2013 Annual Meeting, has started doing their work to achieve a new Collective Agreement for SUN members in 2014. The Committee has met twice this month, having four days of formal orientation in early June, which included one day with the SUN Board of Directors. The Committee met again at the end of June, continuing to gather and review information which will be pertinent to this round of bargaining.

The Negotiations Committee was presented with an environmental scan identifying the very challenging circumstances that SUN members, along with all unionized workers, will be facing as they proceed in the next few years.

The environmental scan shows the new labour legislation will create an entirely new milieu in which unions will be required to operate. While some house amendments to *The Saskatchewan Employment Act* (Bill 85) have removed some of the threats originally thought to affect SUN, until the *Act* is proclaimed (fall 2013 sitting of the legislature) and the regulations created, SUN has no way of knowing the exact impact this new labour will have on members or the Union.

The changing climate created in collective bargaining due to the inclusion of Essential Services legislation will also have a huge impact on how SUN's negotiations will proceed.

Government initiatives and Employer practices supporting the transformation of the healthcare system play a key role in how, when, and where SUN members conduct their work.

We must all be prepared to react to a fast paced and ever-changing climate within labour relations and healthcare delivery. SUN's website has in depth information on labour legislation and new initiatives in healthcare which will be invaluable in keeping everyone current and up to date in this rapidly changing environment.

SUN's annual Membership Issues Survey identified to the organization the issues most important to its members this year. With that information in mind the priorities set for collective bargaining are:

- Workload;
- Safe staffing levels;
- Maintenance of competitive wages and premiums; and
- Solutions to healthcare delivery challenges.

Anticipating the Bargaining Conference, scheduled for November 13 and 14, 2013, will be paramount in connecting with SUN members to assist them in becoming engaged in the collective bargaining process, the SUN Board of Directors will be increasing the number of funded seats to the conference. In addition, the SUN Board of Directors has approved additional funded seats for members to attend

the first day of the 2013 Education Conference (October 8 and 9, 2013), which will focus on key issues facing SUN members provincially, federally and professionally.

Keep tuned to the website, SUN's Facebook page, and your e-mails for further information regarding the Education Conference and the Bargaining Conference.

The SUN Bargaining Committee resumes their work in the fall to begin the work of preparing for the Bargaining Conference.



*The Committee
(left to right; top to bottom)*

*Row 1 : Louise Wilk, Don Yates,
Lenore McMillan*

*Row 2: Pamela Todd, Charlene
Falkiner, Paul Kuling*

*Row 3: Elaine Jansen, Cheryl
Whitehead, Yvonne Hotzak*

*Row 4: Tracy Zambory, Warren
Koch, Jan Dziadyk*

*Missing: Leanne Potetz-Moore
and Patricia Chubb*

MEET YOUR 2014 NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

Tracy Zambory	SUN President
Paul Kuling	Committee Chair & Second Vice-President
Charlene Falkiner	Community Based Facilities Representative
Cheryl Whitehead	Extendicare Representative
Don Yates	Mental Health Representative
Elaine Janzen	Integrated Facilities Representative
Janet Dziadyk	Saskatoon Base Hospitals Representative
Leeann Potetz-Moore	Public Health Representative
Lenore McMillan	Home Care Representative
Louise Wilk	Canadian Blood Services Representative
Pamela Todd	Regina Base Hospitals Representative
Patricia Chubb	Regional Hospitals Representative
Warren Koch	Northern Representative
Yvonne Hotzak	Long Term Care Representative

The 2014 Committee is supported by:

Kelly Miner	Chief Negotiator & SUN Director, Labour Relations
Donna Ottenson	Employment Relations Officer
Colin Hein	Nurse Research and Practice Advisor
Touly Katsiris	Office Assistant