



Health Care Bargaining Update, May 17, 2021

On Wednesday, May 12th, we sent an update informing you that your employer had cancelled the final two remaining days of bargaining due to the current pressures of the pandemic and that the Health Care Bargaining Council of Unions was filing for conciliation.

Now, we have received word that a Conciliation Officer has been appointed. The Conciliation officer set Conciliation dates for June 28th, 29th and 30th. The Conciliator has also asked the parties to identify dates for regular bargaining to resume prior to the conciliation dates. All this is contingent on the pandemic conditions and so could be subject to change.

In the meantime, on May 14th, the NSHA provided the Council of Health Care Unions with part of its Essential Services staffing plan. The Employer will table the remainder of the plan on May 28th. The pandemic delayed the tabling of the full plan by two weeks. The parties now have dates in June to negotiate the level of essential services that would need to be provided in the event of a strike. If we cannot reach agreement the outstanding differences may be referred to the Labour Board for resolution.

Your bargaining council representatives will continue their work to achieve a fair collective agreement for Nova Scotia's Health Care workers. We will keep you updated as events unfold.

As always, your elected bargaining committee members appreciate your patience and support, particularly during this very stressful time.