



Health Care Council of Unions
Bargaining Update: Government Shows No Signs of Concluding Deal

Dear CUPE member,

Since we last met with employer representatives on June 19th (more than three weeks ago), we have received no confirmed dates for conciliation for either the bargaining or essential services process.

While your Council of Union representatives have made it clear that they will be available to meet at any point this summer to conclude a collective agreement on behalf of the members as soon as possible, your employers and the government that is driving bargaining behind the scenes have shown no such willingness.

Your Council representatives have clearly demonstrated at the table that most classifications within the Health Care bargaining unit are now amongst the lowest paid in Canada. Those low wages have contributed significantly to your employers' inability to attract and retain workers, which in turn, has exacerbated staffing shortages, making your working lives more difficult, and jeopardizing patient care.

We are deeply distressed that government does not seem to understand the value of your work, and the necessity of concluding a fair deal as quickly as possible.

We have been hearing many stories about the impact of staff shortages and the desperate situation it is creating, both for patients and the workers faced with the moral distress of trying to deliver care under these untenable circumstances. We plan to begin sharing these stories to help government understand the critical nature of the work being done by you and your colleagues in the Health Care bargaining unit.

If you are upset about your working conditions and the government's approach to bargaining, please reach out to your MLA and tell them to tell the Premier he needs to get back to the table ASAP: <https://nslegislature.ca/members/profiles/contact>.

In the meantime, we remain committed to achieving the best possible deal on your behalf. We will update you as soon as we have received confirmed dates for conciliation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your Area VP.