

OPSEU



SEFPO

Winter 2000

Community Health Care Professionals Division

Sector 17 - Broader Public Sector

Volume 1 Issue 2

Local 274 settles after 70 day strike!

Local 274 (Hamilton-Wentworth CCAC) ratified a new collective agreement on December 14 after a 70 day strike. The new three year collective agreement expires in 27 months.

Improvements include:

- 18.2% wage increase for professional staff
- 15% wage increase for support staff
- Improvements to the dental plan, shift premium and relief staff scheduling

- Vision care goes from \$150 every two years to \$250
- Hours of work reduced from 37.5 to 35
- Improvements in vacation for support staff

The settlement of the strike will now allow our members working for the Hamilton-Wentworth Victorian Order of Nurses (OPSEU Local 269) to receive full referrals from the CCAC.

The VON local was facing the possibility of 30% of their staff being laid off before the new year because of the strike.

Our congratulations to the members of Local 274 for holding the line over this long and difficult strike. The experience of Locals 269 and 274 will be invaluable to other locals within our sector as they begin demand setting and mobilizing for their next collective agreements.

Who does the Community Health Care Professionals Division represent?

There are many different community agencies represented in our Division. Over the coming year we will be highlighting issues from each area. Please keep us informed about changes or policy initiatives that affect you or your area.

Here are a few of the groups that are members of the Division:

- **Health Units**
- **Community Health Centres**

- **ABI Programs**
- **Muscular Dystrophy Youth Centre**
- **Home Support/ Nursing Agencies**
- **Addiction Services**
- **Private Therapy Agencies**
- **Community Mental Health Agencies**
- **Community Care Access Centres**

Keep in touch!

We are always interested in hearing news about what is happening in your workplace.

You can e mail us at skmcs@renfrew.net or through the web page, or call Sue McSheffrey (Sector Chair) at (613) 432-7208.

Our web page has an e-mail link and is an easy way to reach us.

Have you seen the ***Take Action on Community Health*** bulletin produced by Barb Linds in OPSEU's Campaigns Unit. This is helping everyone stay informed about the changes happening in our CCAC sector. It is available on OPSEU's web page and by e-mail and fax to interested members. Please contact Barb Linds at OPSEU head office to get on the distribution list. (1-800-268-7376 ext. 203 or blinds@opseu.org)

Keep up to date

This newsletter is being sent to all 2,000 members in our sector. Future mailings will go to your Local Executive Committee or Chief Steward. Make sure to ask them for a copy. The newsletter will also be posted on the OPSEU web site at www.opseu.org.

Our division is part of the Broader Public Sector (BPS), and one of the five sectors in OPSEU's Health Care Divisional Council. You can get further information about the BPS, the Health Care Divisional

Council and our sector by choosing health care under BPS Sectors on our web page.

Members of regulated health professions may be interested in information found on the Hospital Health Care Professionals page of the OPSEU web site. It includes the newsletter "*Medline*" and information about the recent challenge against the College of Respiratory Therapists. Let us know if you are having problems with your colleges.

Watch for BPS Conference and Sector Elections

Your sector executive is half-way through its two year term of office. Sector elections will be held following the BPS conference in November. We will be highlighting some of the positions in the next edition of the newsletter. Please

think about running for a position. The BPS conference is a time for us to share experiences and strategies with others in the health care divisions and to spend time on sector business.

Those important Dues!

Feedback from some member locals shows some confusion about the dues. These dues are paid to the sector from your local rebate. It is a very reasonable amount of \$2 per individual member per year. **There is no additional cost to anyone** since the rebate is a portion of your payroll deductions returned to your local to use for local business. As a sector executive we are funded by OPSEU to meet four times a year. The dues money (about \$3,000 if everyone pays up!) will be

used to improve communications within the sector. Any further questions about the dues can be directed to our treasurer Dave Carmichael at dcarmichael@sympatico.ca

Remember if your local or unit has not paid its dues, it will not have voting privileges at sector meetings nor be allowed to have its members run for office within the sector.

Your Chance to win \$100 of OPSEU merchandise

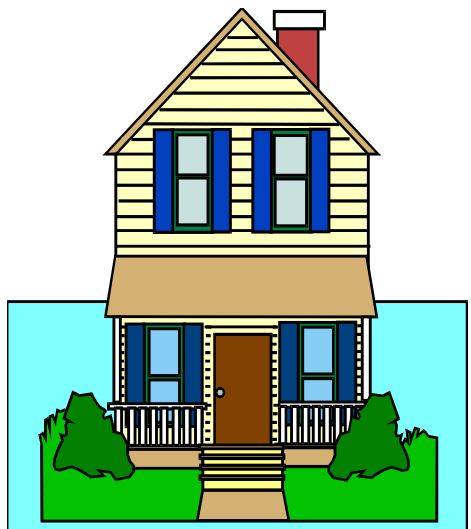
Design a logo for OPSEU's *Community Health Care Professionals Division* and win a gift certificate for \$100 of great OPSEU stuff. (You can see the great variety of OPSEU Stuff on the OPSEU web site!)

Designs should be submitted on Letter size paper and reflect the nature of our division: Health Care professional and paramedical workers in a community setting.

The logo will be used as a letter heading, as well as on pins and clothing.

Please submit designs by January 31st to:

**Sector 17 Design Contest
c/o Moya Beall
100 Lesmill Road,
Toronto, Ontario
M3B 3P8**



A Happy Holiday Season to all of you from the Sector Executive



Authorized for distribution:

Leah Casselman, President