

Sector 8 Newsletter

Long Term Care and Related Facilities



May 2003

BPS Conference & Sector Divisionals approaching fast

Important reminder: Make sure your unit has registered for the BPS conference, June 6, 7, 8, 2003. Send in your applications ASAP.

If you have not received your package please contact your regional office or the President of your local. The conference this year is being held at the Regal Constellation Hotel in Toronto.

At the conference, you will meet members of our sector who are facing the same problems as you do. The agenda for the conference shows it will be a full and rewarding experience. On the Saturday we will be holding a sector specific workshop. If we have a large turnout from the sector it will be an all day workshop. If there aren't a lot of us, we'll be able to attend exciting and informative workshops in the afternoon on issues including health and safety, facing management, and workplace accommodation issues.

The delegate entitlement for Sector 8 is as follows:

1-100 members: 2 delegates
100+ members: 3 delegates

The local President or Unit Steward shall be the

first automatic delegate to the conference and sector divisional.

The sector divisional meeting is on Sunday, June 8, 2003. We really hope to see you there. All positions for the sector executive are up for election. Your unit's sector dues must be paid up in order for you to vote. Last December, notices were sent out for 2002 & 2003 dues. As of yet very few locals have paid their dues. You can bring a cheque with you to the divisional on Sunday, made out to Sector 8, Long Term Care.

The dues structure is as follows:

25 members or less: \$15.00 per year
26-100 members: \$30.00 per year
101 + members: \$60.00 per year

Please try and make it. We would love to see you and have a chance to talk with you. Not only is it a learning experience but it is also a great way to meet and socialize with new people.

See you at the Conference!

Preliminary Survey Results

We would like to thank everyone who took the time to answer our survey. We are still working on tabulating the results. A final report on all the questions will be available at the BPS conference. For all members who are not attending we will be mailing you out a copy. Here are some of our first findings:

The top 5 issues are:

1. Wages
2. Workload
3. Equal treatment for full/part-time workers
4. Health & Safety
5. Communication

We received 62 replies. 12 units out of 17 replied. 53 replies were from the rank and file members (members who hold no executive position in their union local).

We are still in the process of analyzing your surveys and have enjoyed and learned much from your comments. It provided us with important information as to what our key issues are as a sector, which will help us, your sector executive, determine priorities for our work in addressing your issues. Once again the Sector Executive would like to thank all those who took the time out to answer the survey. Your input and answers are important to us.

Congratulations to Local 262, March of Dimes, Villa Verdi

Congratulations to Local 262. This local took on management in a two day strike. During very cold weather they stuck to their guns, walked the line and got a contract.

Their # 1 issue was money but also they wanted management to treat them with respect. No members crossed the picket line and they now have a 21 month contract that expires March 31, 2004. Members are now closer and learned from this experience that together they can make a difference. Villa Verdi has about 30 members and they take care of clients with a variety of handicaps in an apartment building setting. Their clients often abuse these workers and management does little or nothing to back up its staff. Many unresolved issues forced members to take to the street. In preparing for the strike, management relocated some of the more difficult clients so they, management, wouldn't have to look after

them, obviously indicating they know how hard our work is to do on a day to day basis. Things are starting to improve and now management appears to be making more of an effort to work with staff in a positive and respectful manner.

Once again congratulations to Local 262 for a job well done! It just goes to show that a small group can be just as mighty as a large group.

How to Contact your Executive

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Vice-Chair—Pat Heroux, Local 261 Home: (905) 335-2649

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Secretary/Treasurer—Debbie MacDonald, Local 439 177 Church St.

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Authorized for distribution:



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