

MEMBER UPDATE



ALL AHS NC STAFF

Statement in Response to AHS Message to All Staff

Alberta Health Services' recent and very public response to the state of negotiations with AUPE's Nursing Care members shows how challenging this round of bargaining is. This is not news to the elected representatives at the bargaining table or the thousands of dedicated Licensed Practical Nurses and Health Care Aides who work tirelessly as the pillar of frontline healthcare delivery every single day.

We are determined to work hard for new collective agreements at the bargaining table that recognize the value and the professionalism of the tens of thousands of AUPE healthcare workers, the backbone of AHS, in Nursing Care and General Support Services.

While it is unfortunate that a major employer such as AHS feels it is necessary to resort to inflammatory tactics, all AUPE members can be reassured that we will not be distracted from the ultimate goal of reaching the collective agreement and pay increases our members need and deserve.

We will also not allow AHS to divide our membership or undermine the strong relationships and solidarity that AUPE has with other healthcare unions and the broader Labour movement. In fact, AHS' actions have galvanized AUPE members and support from other unions.

We know the government is watching very closely the state of bargaining across the province at many public sector tables and should be concerned that AHS' actions do nothing to mitigate labour unrest. In fact, it may have the very opposite effect. This is both unfortunate and unnecessary.

Despite the turmoil created by AHS, AUPE will persist in working professionally and determinedly towards a successful conclusion to bargaining and continue to strengthen the solidarity between AUPE members and with other unions.