

Bill 37 a shocking betrayal of health careworkers

Posted by

Thursday, 29 April 2004 01:34 - Last Updated Thursday, 29 April 2004 01:34

Hospital Employees Union: Legislation introduced today by the Gordon Campbell government that would impose massive wage rollbacks on 43,000 hospital and long-term care staff while allowing for the continued privatization of health services is a shocking betrayal of workers, say health unions.

Back-to-work legislation may be brought in against the HEU strike by Wednesday afternoon! The union is widely expected to defy such a law, but to succeed they will need MASSIVE, IMMEDIATE, AND DURABLE SUPPORT from everyone who values unionism, public health care, and/or fairness.

From: [HEU CUPE 6142 - Pacific Rim Local](#)

To: [HEU CUPE 6142 Pacific Rim](#)

Sent: Wednesday, April 28, 2004 9:20 PM

Subject: Fw: [seniorsnetwork-bc] Fw: Massive, Immediate, Durable Support for HEU

Back-to-work legislation may be brought in against the HEU strike by Wednesday afternoon! The union is widely expected to defy such a law, but to succeed they will need MASSIVE, IMMEDIATE, AND DURABLE SUPPORT from everyone who values unionism, public health care, and/or fairness.

If you are one of those people, please

- 1) plan to spend as much time as you can on the HEU lines over the coming week,
- 2) flood call-in radio shows with calls supporting health care workers,
- 3) get friends and family to do both 1) and 2),
- 4) talk to fellow workers about whether they would be willing to launch a sympathy strike if the government starts jailing HEU leaders/members and using other methods to crush the strike.

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Check out www.generalstrikenews.ca

From: "HEU List Moderator" <moderator@lists.heu.org>

To: <heu-update@lists.heu.org>

Sent: Wednesday, April 28, 2004 8:26 PM

Subject: [heu-update] HEU News Release: Bill 37 a shocking betrayal of health care workers

> News Releases

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> April 28, 2004

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> Bill 37 a shocking betrayal of health care workers

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> Go to http://www.legis.gov.bc.ca/37th5th/1st_read/gov37-1.htm to read

> Bill 37.

>

> Go to <http://www.heu.org/2004/nr-04-28-04-betrayal.pdf> for the Printer

> Friendly Version

>

> Legislation introduced today by the Gordon Campbell government that would

> impose massive wage rollbacks on 43,000 hospital and long-term care staff

> while allowing for the continued privatization of health services is a

> shocking betrayal of workers, say health unions.

>

> "The Campbell Liberals continue to demonstrate nothing but disdain for

> the women and men working on health care's front lines," says HEU

> secretary-business manager Chris Allnutt.

>

> "Once again, this premier and his government have callously rewritten the

> law to suit their privatization agenda in health care and violated the

> legal rights of tens of thousands of workers in the process.

>

> "Bill 37 is nothing short of a stinging indictment of this government's

> failure to deal honestly, openly and cooperatively with those who deliver

> health care to British Columbians," adds Allnutt who also speaks for the

> multi-union bargaining association.

>

> Since their election in 2001, the government has used legislation to

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> impose agreements on doctors, nurses and paramedical professionals and to
> rip up the last collective agreement negotiated by this group of health
> care workers.

>
> But Bill 37 is the first time the Campbell Liberals have imposed wage and
> benefit cuts on a group of workers through legislation.

>
> "This is a dangerous piece of legislation which puts the rights of all
> workers at risk and will further deepen the chaos this government has
> inflicted on health care over the last three years," says Allnutt.

>
> HEU represents 40,000 workers affected by the contract talks. Ten other
> unions in the bargaining association including the B.C. Government and
> Service Employees' Union and the International Union of Operating
> Engineers represent the remaining 3,000 workers.

>
> Workers covered by the contract talks include hundreds of job
> classifications including LPNs and care aides, lab assistants, x-ray and
> ECG technicians, biomedical engineers, trades, cleaners, dietary workers
> and clerical staff like medical transcriptionists, OR booking clerks and
> unit coordinators.

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