

BARGAINING UPDATE

UNION FILES FOR CONCILIATION

After trying for more than a year to negotiate a renewal Collective Agreement with the Hay River Health and Social Services Agency, your Union has declared impasse at the bargaining table and asked for the assistance of a federal conciliator.

The Public Service Alliance of Canada filed an application for conciliation with Federal Mediation and Conciliation Services on July 31, 2018, after receiving counter-proposals from the Employer in a bargaining meeting convened by conference call the previous day

The Employer said NO outright to most of the Union's proposals, without even offering counterproposals.

In addition, it has rejected Union proposals on important matters such as mental health in the workplace; psychological counselling; improved dental care; hours of work for midwives; and protective clothing for some outdoor workers.

It has also said NO to the Union's proposal for a Fuel and Utilities Allowance and has maintained its position on a four-year contract with 0% in the first two years and 1% in the second two years, which is well below inflation in the Northwest Territories and average settlements across Canada in those years.

We anticipate being contacted by a federal mediator within the next couple of weeks and will keep you posted on developments.

Meanwhile, your Union is in mediation with the GNWT in mid-October and with Northwest Territories Power Corp in November.

Your Bargaining Team asks you to join us in thanking Becky Boden for her commitment to the Public Service Alliance of Canada and the Union of Northern Workers. Becky has made an important contributions to the Bargaining Team with her insight and analysis. We will miss her! But we wish her the best of luck in her future endeavours.

YOUR BARGAINING TEAM

Heather Coakwell, President, Local 21

Becky Boden

Barb Holland

Ann Schreuders

Anne Marie Thistle, Membership Co-ordinator, UNW

Gail Lem, Negotiator, PSAC