

Your Bargaining Update ***September 25, 2026***

Dear Members,

On September 17 and 18, your bargaining committee met with the Saskatchewan Association of Health Organizations (SAHO) to continue negotiations. The parties had positive and productive conversations, and the committee made meaningful progress on a number of priority issues.

Discussions resulted in gains related to parental and maternity leave top-up provisions, weekend differentials, shift differentials, transportation allowances and Northern provisions.

Several matters remain under discussion, including provisions related to the allocation of work and the movement of employees between work sites and communities. Your bargaining committee is seeking further clarification from SAHO to better understand the employer's position and to assess the potential impact on members.

CUPE strike vote

You may have heard that CUPE has taken a strike vote and wondered why SGEU has not done the same. Health-care bargaining in Saskatchewan is governed by essential services rules. Before a legal strike can occur, the union and employer must have an essential services agreement in place. A successful strike vote alone does not mean a strike can begin immediately.

Each union determines its bargaining strategy and timing based on its own bargaining circumstances, priorities and internal processes. CUPE has decided that a strike vote is appropriate at this stage of its negotiations. SGEU has not made that determination and remains focused on making progress at the bargaining table while keeping all available options under review.

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Member engagement sessions

As negotiations continue, your bargaining committee is expanding opportunities for members to receive updates, ask questions and share their perspectives on bargaining priorities and workplace issues.

The following engagement activities are being planned:

- **Worksite visits:** Bargaining Council representatives will visit worksites to connect directly with members. Dates, locations and visit schedules will be shared once confirmed.
- **Virtual town halls:** We are planning virtual town hall sessions to outline the key issues under discussion and give members an opportunity to ask questions and share their concerns. Meeting dates, times and connection details will be circulated once they are confirmed.

We continue to bargain into late evenings and on weekends to secure a fair deal as soon as possible. Your committee remains focused on securing an agreement that protects our collective agreement, respects the work healthcare workers perform and supports a stable, sustainable healthcare workforce.

Upcoming bargaining dates are:

- September 25, 26 and 27, 2026
- October 1 and 2, 2026

We will keep members informed as bargaining moves forward.

In solidarity,

Your bargaining committee:

Sharri Laczko, Bargaining Chair
Jackie McChesney, Bargaining Vice-Chair
Joe Leger
Jolean Brochu
Anne Basaraba-Pedersen
Eric Davis, SGEU Labour Relations Officer