

the PS/GE

# bargaining

report

February 2022

pg.3 Health plan update

pg.6 Creating a respectful workplace

pg.8 In the community

Important form inside!



# IN THIS ISSUE

- 3 PS/GE health plan update
- 5 Bargaining update
- 6 What constitutes a respectful workplace?
- 7 Call for Amendments to 2021 PS/GE Bargaining Guidelines
- 8 Benefits coverage while on a leave of absence
- 8 In the community
- 10 Pharmacy dispensing fees
- 11 Designated holidays

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**1107 Hudson Bay**  
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306.775.7206)

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306.240.7426

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306.485.9868

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Missinipe**  
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306.688.0135

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## SGEU offices

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3-11th St. W.  
Prince Albert, SK S6V 3A8

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## Keep in touch

If your contact information has changed, please let us know so we can keep you up to date on important union issues. Send an email to [mis@sgeu.org](mailto:mis@sgeu.org) with your updated information and include your:

- home mailing address
- home phone number
- personal cell phone number
- personal email address
- any other important contact information

**Going paperless?** If you prefer to receive future copies of this publication via email, please let us know by contacting us at [mis@sgeu.org](mailto:mis@sgeu.org).

# PS/GE health plan update

**D**ue to the financial benefit to the PS/GE health plan, it's been renewed for a one year term instead of two years. By opting for the one year renewal the rate dropped to 1.24% from the proposed 7.35% for a two year renewal.

The PS/GE Board of Trustees presented plan enhancements to the board for consideration — a number were approved and took effect on January 1, 2022. These enhancements are as follows:

## Massage Therapy

Coverage increased from \$200.00 per year to \$400.00 per year.

## Chiropractor

There is no longer a per visit maximum.

## Diabetic Supplies

The \$1000 calendar year maximum for test strips, lancets, syringes, etc. was removed.

The plan added the Flash Glucose Monitor in 2019 and the sensors for that equipment are handled under Canada Life's standard practice. The plan also added Continuous Glucose Monitors.

## Eye Glasses

Increased the coverage from \$300.00 every two calendar years to \$400.00.

The increase will be as follows:

If a plan member spent \$300 in 2021, they would have \$100 remaining in 2022.

If the plan member made their claim in 2020, they would get the full \$400 starting in 2022 since the 24 month benefit period is based on calendar year.

## Non-essential travel coverage

A travel advisory remains for non-essential travel.

If an employee elects to travel internationally any emergencies will be covered. If they develop symptoms of COVID-19, any expenses following a positive COVID-19 test will be covered. Positive testing related to asymptomatic cases is *not* covered.

Retirees are covered for the first month of travel *only*. If they develop symptoms of COVID-19, any expenses following a positive COVID-19 test will be covered. Positive testing related to asymptomatic cases is *not* covered.

Canada Life will adjudicate any expenses on a case by case basis. They can be reached at 1.800.957.9777 (select the out-of-country prompt).

## Pharmacy Dispensing Fees

In order to keep the costs to our extended Health Plan to a minimum, we encourage members to fill prescriptions at pharmacies with lower dispensing fees. See page 10 for more details.



# Bargaining update

## **PS/GE Proposals Conference**

**T**he process of gathering proposals for changes to our collective agreement began with proposal gathering meetings held across the province from November 2021 to January 2022. The meetings resulted in the submission of hundreds of proposals.

The proposals submitted were sent to the bargaining council with a recommendation for each proposal – accepted, rejected, referred, or redundant. Conference delegates could be debating hundreds of proposals when they gather to determine the priorities for the upcoming round of bargaining. Delegates will also deal with amendments to the PS/GE Bargaining Guidelines.

The Conference will be held on May 25 – 27, 2022 in North Battleford.

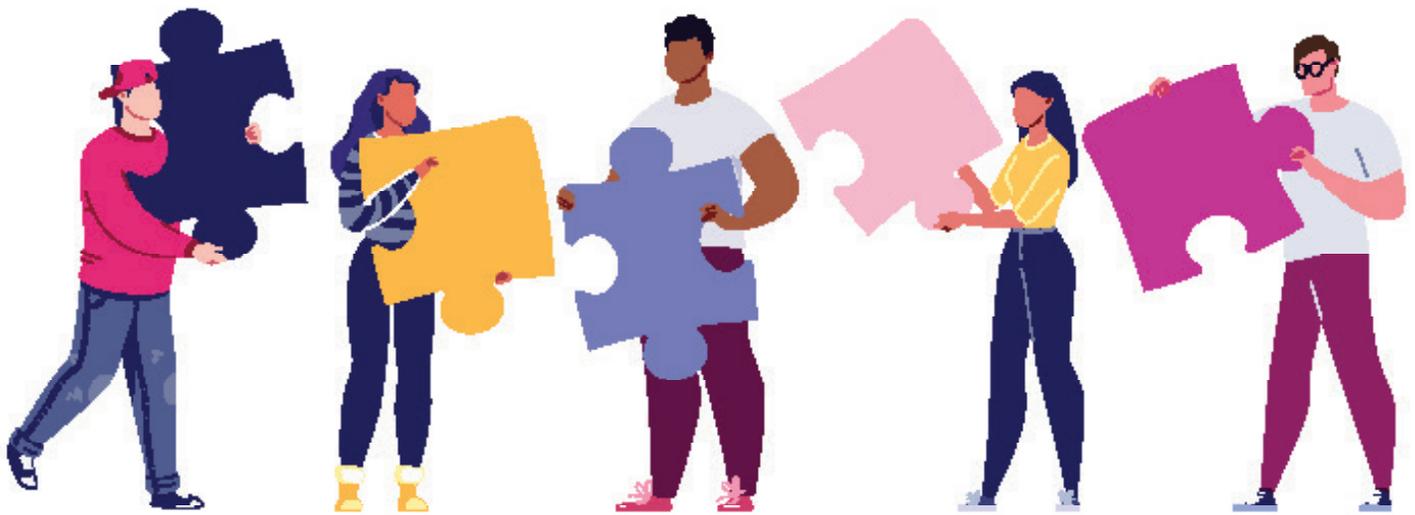
## **Biennial General Meeting**

The Public Service Sector Biennial General meeting will be held in North Battleford on May 28, 2022 convening at 10:00 a.m. at the Western Development Museum. Any member of the Public Service Sector is eligible to attend.

The meeting will focus on changes to sector bylaws along with elections for the sector table officers and committee representatives.

If you require any further information, please contact your local representative (see page 2 for contact information).

# What constitutes a respectful workplace?



**A** respectful workplace supports the physical, psychological and social well-being of all employees. In a respectful workplace:

- Employees are valued
- Communication is polite and courteous
- People are treated as they wish to be treated
- Conflict is addressed in a positive and respectful manner
- Disrespectful behaviour and harassment are addressed

We all deserve a respectful workplace. When people at work offend, embarrass, or humiliate

us, it hurts our dignity and well-being. It also hurts our working relationships and can lower our productivity. Over time, disrespect in the workplace can lead to an unhealthy work environment and a high rate of employee turnover.

Remember, everyone has a responsibility to prevent harassment.

**... everyone has a responsibility to prevent harassment.**

# Call for Amendments to 2021 PS/GE Bargaining Guidelines

**Note: This does NOT relate to changes to the Collective Agreement, but to amendments to the PS/GE Bargaining Guidelines.**

**DEADLINE: MARCH 20, 2022**

Guidelines can be found at: [sgeu.org/about-us/sectors-and-locals/public-service-sector](https://sgeu.org/about-us/sectors-and-locals/public-service-sector)

Please submit one amendment per form.

Briefly outline your amendment. Identify the Article # in the bargaining guidelines you are proposing to change.

**Please PRINT (this portion must be completed or your amendment will not be accepted)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Personal email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Submit completed form to: Bev Radons, SGEU  
1011 Devonshire Drive  
Regina, SK S4X 4X4

or by email to [bradons@sgeu.org](mailto:bradons@sgeu.org)

# benefits coverage while on a leave of absence

## Long Term Disability (LTD)

While on definite or indefinite leave of absence without pay, you are required to pay SGEU LTD premiums.

## Group Life Insurance

Payment of group life insurance premiums is optional during a definite or indefinite leave of absence. If you are on a leave of absence for up to one year and wish to continue your group life insurance coverage, you may do so by providing post-dated cheques to PEBA. PEBA will also accept post-dated cheques for approved leaves longer than one year, up to a maximum of three years.

## LTD dues refund upon retirement

We would like to remind members who retire with unused sick leave that they may request a refund of LTD dues payable on the excess sick leave. Members may apply for this refund on retirement, and within one year after their retirement date.

## WCB and SGI claimants can apply for LTD too!

Members are advised to apply for LTD when receiving benefits from SGI or WCB. If funding from those claims is terminated, you will be able to more quickly access LTD.

# in the community

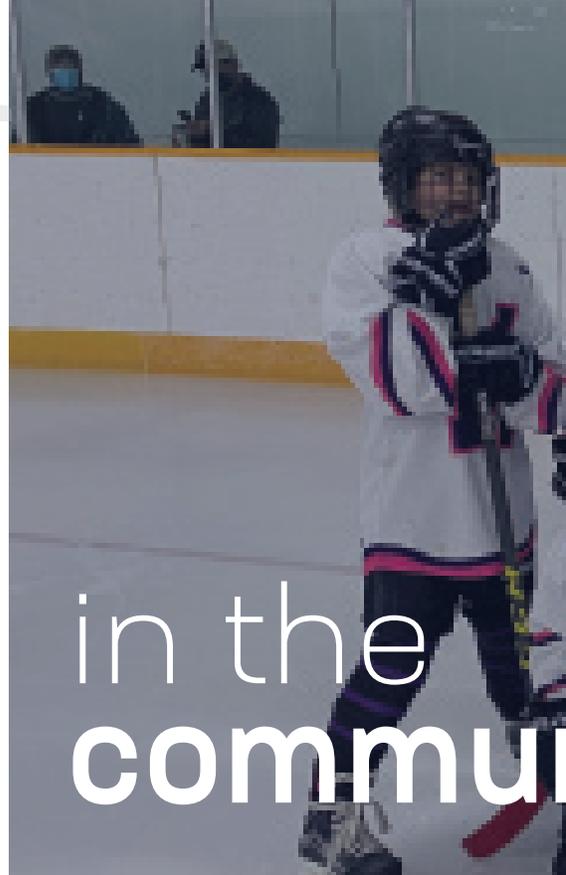
## Local 1104 supports Saskatchewan youth

PS/GE Local 1104 is proud to donate masks, water bottles, and sport bags to three youth hockey teams in the Weyburn area — the U15 Creekside Gold Wings, U11 Radville Nats, and the U13 Radville Huskies.

"We're proud to support the future leaders of Saskatchewan," said 1104 bargaining chair Alan Erickson. "It's important to give back to the community."

## Local 1110 awards scholarship

Each year PS/GE locals distribute scholarships to successful applicants across the province. Local 1110 awards \$650 to a local





member, their spouse, or child who has attended at least two local meetings in the year the application is submitted. Applicants must provide a copy of the letter of acceptance from a post-secondary institution or confirmation of registration along with a 250 – 500-word essay on an aspect of the Saskatchewan labour movement.

In 2021, the scholarship was awarded to Jacob Voit. Jacob is the son of Connie Voit, a community youth worker with the Ministry of Corrections, Policing, and Public Safety.

Jacob is a power engineering student at Medicine Hat College. In his essay, he wrote about how COVID-19 has affected the work force and how being a member of SGEU allowed his mother to continue to work and receive benefits during the pandemic.

“Friends and extended family talked about deferring payments, hoping to be eligible for financial aid, and looking for any kind of employment that offered some protection from the unprecedented effects of COVID-19 ... Mom said her seniority and benefits remained in place ...

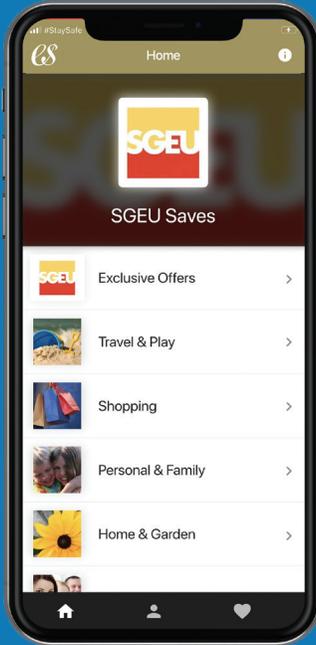
Not once was I concerned about my family experiencing the overwhelming reality of drowning in debt and depression as a result of job loss. Not once was I told to stop planning for post-secondary education as I watched friends reconsider plans as parents struggled to make ends meet.

This was Unionism at its best. Protecting the rights of its members and loved ones.”

Jacob is excited to look for future employment in Saskatchewan when he has completed his education.

Congratulations, Jacob!

**This was  
Unionism  
at its best.  
Protecting  
the rights of  
its members  
and loved  
ones.**



## Download the Endless Savings & More App today!

As a member of the PS/GE Bargaining Unit, you get savings at hundreds of stores across Canada through our app.

To download, search for Endless Savings & More in the app store or Google Play. The organization code is: SGEU

Enjoy exclusive offers from: **CAT Footwear, GhostBed, Indigo.ca, RW&CO, Loblaw Optical, Lordco Auto Parts, HelloFresh, TurboTax, 1-800-GOT-JUNK? and Choice Hotels!**



## Did you know some pharmacies charge lower dispensing fees for prescriptions?

<b>Estevan</b>					
Henders Drug	306.634.3666	\$11.85			
Pharmasave	306.637.3802	\$11.85			
Sobeys	306.637.2580	\$11.85			
<b>Hudson Bay</b>					
Pharmasave	306.865.2663	\$11.85			
<b>Kelvington</b>					
PharmaChoice	306.327.4662	\$11.85			
<b>Kindersley</b>					
Pharmasave	306.463.1655	\$11.85			
<b>La Ronge</b>					
La Ronge Drug Store	306.425.2252	\$11.85			
<b>Meadow Lake</b>					
DRUGstore Pharmacy	306.236.8330	\$11.85			
Co-op	306.236.6366	\$11.85			
Madill's Drugs	306.236.5210	\$11.85			
<b>Moose Jaw</b>					
Pharmasave					
Main St. N	306.692.6433	\$11.85			
Superstore	306.691.6035	\$11.85			
<b>Rexall</b>	<b>306.694.5556</b>	<b>\$11.15</b>			
Safeway	306.693.8033	\$11.85			
<b>Nipawin</b>					
Davis Rexall	306.862.3141	\$11.85			
<b>North Battleford</b>					
Fisher's Drug Store	306.445.6153	\$11.85			
Co-op Pharmacy	306.445.9800	\$11.85			
Shoppers Drug Mart	306.445.6253	\$11.85			
Pharmasave	306.446.0022	\$11.85			
Battleford Remedy's RX	306.937.2600	\$11.85			
<b>Prince Albert</b>					
Superstore	306.953.8120	\$11.85			
Safeway					
South Hill Mall	306.922.1242	\$11.85			
<b>Shoppers</b>					
<b>South Hill Mall</b>	<b>306.922.6144</b>	<b>\$11.00</b>			
<b>Regina</b>					
Sherwood Co-op	306.791.9301	\$11.85			
<b>Costco</b>	<b>306.271.0922</b>	<b>\$4.49</b>			
<b>London Drugs</b>					
<b>Prince of Wales</b>	<b>306.546.1600</b>	<b>\$11.49</b>			
Pharmasave					
University Park	306.791.9780	\$11.85			
Rexall	306.543.1446	\$11.85			
Safeway Southland	306.586.5140	\$11.85			
Shoppers Landmark	306.777.8040	\$11.85			
Superstore					
Prince of Wales	306.546.6500	\$11.85			
Sobeys Rochdale	306.546.5881	\$11.85			
<b>Saskatoon</b>					
<b>Costco North</b>	<b>306.933.4262</b>	<b>\$4.99</b>			
<b>Costco South</b>	<b>306.700.2883</b>	<b>\$4.99</b>			
Safeway					
Lawson Heights	306.934.8185	\$11.85			
(up to a three month supply)					
Superstore, 8th St E	306.956.1631	\$11.85			
Shoppers					
Midtown Plaza	306.653.4866	\$11.85			
<b>London Drugs, 8 St. E</b>	<b>306.664.9521</b>	<b>\$11.49</b>			
<b>Swift Current</b>					
Pharmasave	306.778.5362	\$11.85			
Rexall	306.773.4633	\$11.85			
Co-op Home Centre	306.778.8800	\$11.85			
Shoppers	306.773.5301	\$11.85			
<b>Weyburn</b>					
Prairie Sky Co-op	306.848.3663	\$11.85			
DRUGstore Pharmacy	306.848.3407	\$11.85			
Price Rite Drugs	306.842.4221	\$11.85			
Pharmasave	306.848.3850	\$11.85			
<b>Yorkton</b>					
Hearn's					
Westview Pharmacy	306.783.4331	\$11.85			
Shoppers	306.783.9796	\$11.85			
Superstore	306.786.4035	\$11.85			



# designated holidays

## 2022

## 2023

### HOLIDAY

### ACTUAL DAY OBSERVED ON

### ACTUAL DAY OBSERVED ON

**New Year's Day**

Jan 1 Jan 3

Jan 1 Jan 2

**Family Day**

Feb 21 Feb 21

Feb 20 Feb 20

**Good Friday**

Apr 15 Apr 15

Apr 7 Apr 7

**Victoria Day**

May 23 May 23

May 22 May 22

**Canada Day**

July 1 July 1

July 1 July 3

**Floating Holiday**

July 29 July 29

Aug 4 Aug 4

**Saskatchewan Day**

Aug 1 Aug 1

Aug 7 Aug 7

**Labour Day**

Sept 5 Sept 5

Sept 4 Sept 4

**Thanksgiving Day**

Oct 10 Oct 10

Oct 9 Oct 9

**Remembrance Day**

Nov 11 Nov 11

Nov 11 Nov 13

**Christmas Day**

Dec 25 Dec 23

Dec 25 Dec 25

**Boxing Day**

Dec 26 Dec 26

Dec 26 Dec 26

SGEU PS/GE

SASKATCHEWAN CHILDREN'S WISH FOUNDATION

# GOLF TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 2022

MELFORT GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

SHOTGUN START 11:00 A.M.

4 HOLE-IN-ONE PRIZES

sponsored by RBC (Keith Pavo)



**\$150/player (includes golf cart and supper)**

**Register with payment before May 28, 2022 by contacting  
George at 306.402.7141 (first 100 golfers accepted)**

ALL PROCEEDS DONATED TO THE SASKATCHEWAN CHAPTER OF THE CHILDREN'S WISH FOUNDATION