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**SAHO and health care employers ratify collective agreement with Health Sciences**

The Board of the Saskatchewan Association of Health Organizations (SAHO), on behalf of health care employers, has ratified the tentative agreement reached with the Health Sciences Association of Saskatchewan (HSAS). The union announced their ratification last week. Both parties are expected to meet later this week to sign the collective agreement.

The agreement provides for general wage increases of 7.5% over the four year agreement (April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2013). Market adjusted rates will be applied to many of the classifications effective the date of signing of the collective agreement. Enhancements to benefits, weekend premiums, evening shift premiums and standby rates for some emergency medical services workers are also included in the new agreement.

Retroactive pay for the general wage increases will be calculated based on hours worked since April 1, 2009 and is expected to be paid to employees in 12 to 16 weeks.

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*SAHO represents more than 40 health care employers in the province.*

*[www.working-together.info](http://www.working-together.info)*

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