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SAHO tables additional offer to HSAS union

The Saskatchewan Association of Health Organizations (SAHO) met with Health Sciences Association of Saskatchewan (HSAS) this morning and tabled a revised proposal package to the union.

In addition to the most recent proposal package tabled by the employers, SAHO has proposed a market adjusted wage rate of almost 9% to emergency services (EMS) workers overall. This is on top of the general wage increases of 7.5% over four years. The market adjusted rate would take effect on the date of signing the new agreement, as would the proposed market adjusted rates for other classifications.

“The proposals tabled by SAHO offer fair, reasonable and competitive wages through general wage increases for all workers, and market adjusted rates for almost half of the full time equivalent (FTE) positions,” stated Susan Antosh, President and CEO of SAHO. The employers have only four proposals for language changes in the agreement left on the table.

SAHO states that the revised package represents a significant move from the employers. SAHO believes that the average wage rate of EMS workers, as increased by the proposed market adjustment, is a significant improvement for this group.

Payroll records confirm that there are 25% more emergency services workers than four years ago, including a 45% increase in paramedics. Overall the number of HSAS workers has increased by almost 20% in the same time period.

SAHO has indicated to HSAS that the employers are willing to continue to meet to conclude a collective agreement. SAHO is waiting for the union to make a significant move in demonstrating they have the same objective. Meetings have been scheduled for Wednesday, and SAHO is expecting a response from the union today or tomorrow.

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

For more information, contact:
Marj Gavigan,
Director, Member Relations
SAHO
306-347-5558 (office) or 306-529-6211 (cell)