

LOCAL 229 UPDATE

September 11, 2002

Hopefully this will be my last version of a local 229 update, soon to be replaced by a real newsletter; we have two new volunteers for the communications committee; Kelly Goad and Lorraine Wardle both from George Jeffrey Childrens Centre who will join Heather Oram. Sister Oram has been working diligently on the web site and it should be up and running soon. The Communication Committee will be meeting on Tuesday September 24, at 7pm at the local office if anyone else is interested.

Mark October 2, 7pm on your calendar. As part of the Save Medicare Campaign Maude Barlow, Chair of the Council of Canadians will be coming to Thunder Bay to speak on the campaign against for-profit healthcare. She will be joined by one of the authors of the McMaster study on deaths in for-profit hospitals; a study that will convince anyone that for-profit health care is in no one's best interest. Location to be announced.

The Local 229 Health Care Committee held a very successful information picket at City Hall to kick off the Long Term Care Campaign this Monday. Over 100 229 members were joined by many of our brothers and sisters in CAW Local 1075 from the Bombardier Plant who came to support our cause, as well as Labour Council Chair Evelina Pan. Sister McEvoy has told me that the city homes have announced increases of RPN staff of 3.5 FTE's for each home. Brother Savela did a great live interview for the 6pm news. Thanks to everyone who came out.

Brother Armstrong has resigned his position as Local 229 delegate to Thunder Bay Labour Council. If anyone is interested in this position please let the local office know. The Labour Council meets the fourth Thursday of every month.

Sister McEvoy and Sister Pulice reported that the CAW Women's Conference in Port Elgin was fantastic. They will provide us with all the details soon.

Sister's Rubino and McAlpin completed their educational week at Port Elgin and are now qualified instructors for CAW. They will be called upon to provide course instruction by the National as needed. Congratulations Sisters!

The general meeting approved policies on parking, anonymous correspondence, grievances and credit card use. They will be mailed to unit chairs shortly. National Constitutions were also approved for order; it is available on the CAW web site (www.caw.ca)

One last plug for the Romanow Commission; The final report will be coming out in November, and its not to late to complete the workbooks on the internet; www.healthcarecommission.ca

In solidarity, Katha Fortier

