

Canadian Health Professionals Secretariat (CHPS) Report
February 26 & 27, 2007

The Canadian Health Professionals Secretariat (CHPS) was formed by the National Union of Public and General Employees (NUPGE) to raise the profile of health care professionals and to work cooperatively to advocate for the interests of our co-workers across Canada. HSAS has been a member of CHPS since its inception as an independent union, not affiliated with NUPGE, and meets with the representatives of other unions which represent over 60,000 health care professionals to share ideas and initiate action in order to better represent our members.

Mary Spurr and Chris Driol represented HSAS at the CHPS semi-annual meeting held in Vancouver, BC on February 26 and 27, 2007. Discussions were wide-ranging during the two days. We started off with planning to ensure that the SOS Medicare 2 Conference in Regina on May 3 and 4 was well attended by CHPS members from across the country and that the issues and needs of health care professionals were well represented at this national conference hosted by the Canadian Health Coalition. HSAS provided sponsorship for this event, sent four representatives to attend and joined other health care professionals in raising our profile and awareness of the issues we face both provincially and nationally.

Also, during the CHPS meeting, we discussed workplace safety issues, workloads, pension and benefit plans, Market Supplement Programs, public awareness campaigns and newly settled Collective Agreements.

Through engaging in these on-going meetings and sharing of ideas with other unions from across the country which represent health care professionals, HSAS is benefiting from the successful initiatives used by these other unions in our common advocacy for the interests of our members.

- Chris Driol
President