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# HEALTH CARE UPDATE

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## UPDATE ON WRHA CHANGES August 2017

CUPE Health Care Members,

Health Sciences Centre, Seven Oaks General Hospital, and Grace Hospital have recently provided CUPE with an “Employment Security” notice, outlining plans to make major changes to the rotations and structure of health care support positions at Health Sciences Centre (HSC) and Seven Oaks General Hospital (SOGH).

HSC, SOGH, and Grace Hospital have asked CUPE to meet in the coming weeks to discuss these changes. First and foremost, we will ensure that the collective agreements at HSC, SOGH, Grace Hospital and all other CUPE facilities are followed and honoured. CUPE has been very clear that we disagree with the government’s overall plan to restructure health care.

The WRHA has met only a few times with CUPE and other health care unions and has consistently announced major changes with very little notice to unions and very few details. **This is unacceptable.**

All health care unions, including Manitoba Association of Health Care Professionals (MAHCP), United Food and Commercial Workers Union (UFCW) and the Manitoba Nurses Union (MNU) have expressed similar frustration with the lack of detail provided by the employer to date. CUPE’s position is that we cannot support the WRHA’s “Healing Our Health System” or “Manage to Budget” projects when we are provided with so few details on how the changes will affect our members.

CUPE members across Manitoba, including CUPE members at HSC, SOGH and Grace Hospital have held information pickets and rallies against the government’s health care restructuring and we will continue to do so to raise awareness in the public that these cuts will hurt, not heal the health care system.

Rest assured that CUPE is doing everything possible to protect members’ jobs, and we are doing everything possible to protect the health care services you provide.

As mentioned, the WRHA will be meeting with us in the coming weeks, and we will do everything we can to ensure CUPE members are being treated fairly. While we expect the conversation will continue to be a one-way street, we will make it clear that we cannot accept job losses or cuts.

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Please do not hesitate to contact us if you hear rumours or if you feel like you are being treated unfairly by your employer. Rest assured, you are CUPE's #1 priority.

If you would like to take immediate action, please contact the Minister of Health and your local Member of the Legislative Assembly and express your disappointment with the way the government has implemented their health care restructuring, and your fears on how it will impact the important services you provide to Manitobans.

You can contact your MLA on the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba website:  
[http://www.gov.mb.ca/legislature/members/mla\\_list\\_constituency.html](http://www.gov.mb.ca/legislature/members/mla_list_constituency.html)

We will provide further information as we receive it.

In solidarity,

**SHANNON McATEER**  
**CUPE HEALTH CARE COORDINATOR**

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