

ONA Local 70

December 2009

Early Retirement Offer

TELUS has sent letters to ONA nurses who are or will be 55 years of age between Jan 26, 2009 and Jan 2, 2011. These letters are an **Expression of Interest** and not a guarantee to receive the package.

- To qualify for the package there must be an affect of layoff in your area
- The package will be offered to the most senior nurse who qualifies to retire (55 yrs)
- If you fill in the papers - there is NO obligation to take the package if you find that your circumstances at the time of the offer are not appropriate for you to retire. So, we encourage you to consider the offer and get your application back by **DEC 9th**
- The letters should have gone to anyone who was employed at the time HHS made cuts Jan 26, 2009 even if they have already retired
- You may want to consult a financial advisor if you are considering taking a package if offered so you will be prepared to know what to do

The ONA Collective Agreement provides for Early Retirement Packages to be offered before nurses are laid off and if no one takes it in the unit affected, the package is offered for 2 more displacements (bumps).

If a nurse who is laid off chooses to bump into an area, the most senior nurse eligible to retire on that unit is offered the package and if she accepts it—the junior nurse is not affected and bumping ends.

This is happening now, because we won our arbitration against HHS for chosing to ignore our contract and by improperly reassinging nurses this year—that was a layoff and now their process must be reversed.

The date applicable for this expression of interest to Jan 2, 2011 takes into account the fact that the hospital is anticipating further cuts because of financial restraints in the coming year. It was agreed that the offer would be extended to include those potential packages and avoid having to mail a second offer in 2010.

CENSURE Update

We are working on finding dates to meet with Murray Martin and Louise Taylor-Green to discuss the reasons for you voting to censure the HHS and to begin working on the issues. Linda Haslam-Stroud will be attending with me (Pat MacDonald) and other ONA staff. We will keep you informed as we work on the identified issues and what the HHS response is.

The Local 70 Executive would like to wish you and your families a Happy Holiday Season! It has been a rough year at HHS—Enjoy some good times with family and friends during the holidays! C Hoping that 2010 will be a spectacular year for all!

Local 70 Executive,

Pat MacDonald

President/Local Coordinator