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The Ambulance Paramedics and Emergency Dispatchers of BC are honoured to deliver care and services on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the 198 First Nations and 38 chartered Métis communities across British Columbia.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As you know, voting officially ended on February 14th at 12 noon. Once again, on behalf of the Negotiations Committee and the Provincial Executive Board, we wish to thank each of you who took the time to register, read, ask questions, and attend the ratification tour, either in person or online. I also want to express our sincere appreciation to all of you who took time to vote on this contract. I can say that this is one of the highest voter turnouts we as a union have ever witnessed. We are overwhelmed at the faith you have placed in us and are proud to have brought, what we believe, is one of the most significant gains in the history of this union and profession.

With 3,334 registered voters, we had a 96.1% Yes vote. This is a huge number for our local, and we are very proud that we have communicated this tentative agreement throughout the province with a full ratification tour, using face-to-face and online options, with the negotiations committee answering questions in person and virtually

at every venue. This number is a testament to what your representatives have accomplished. We are happy to have worked with the government to achieve a monumental contract that we can use as a foundation for our service and profession moving forward.

I want to highlight and thank the negotiations committee, our Lead, Jason Jackson, Chair, Kelly Budway, and all the other vital members- Ted Harrison, Warren Leeder, Ian Johnston, Christine Baxter, and Katelyn Braaten. In conjunction with Cupe Staff Rep Sherman Hillier, your executive committee and various other lawyers, experts and specialists, their tireless work has delivered a collective agreement that you, the membership, can genuinely be proud of; they deserve our highest praise and gratitude for their tenacity and sacrifices on our behalf.

We also wish to thank HEABC, and its bargaining team, including representatives from BCEHS, as well as their Senior Leadership. Lastly, we would also like to acknowledge and thank Vince Ready for his presence throughout the final weeks of this process and for all that he has done and continues to do for not only workers in this province but also the citizens of BC.

Their success is now our success. It's hard to dispute that this is one of the most significant advancements in the history of this Local.

We don't often talk about our wins. As you know, we have always been the quiet, reserved portion of emergency services and public safety. Still, we need to acknowledge this monumental win for what it is- a significant move forward for our service, profession, patients, and membership.

As we move forward with this new collective agreement and set dates for implementing all the various changes, I want to make it clear that we are not done working. We still have a long way to go with addressing many of our challenges and solutions, from improving Mental Health and Wellness supports, service levels, and improving staffing and deployment models. I continue to reach out to the government and stakeholders to schedule meetings in the near future as we continue to press for improvements in all the areas listed above.

Now is a time to reflect on what we accomplished. While we believe this new contract is the most significant gain in our union's history, we will continue to push for improvements wherever we identify them.

I am dedicated to keeping paramedic services at the forefront of solution-based conversations and advocating even more as we move into our next chapter. On behalf of your provincial executive, the negotiations committee, and the entire board, we thank you for helping make this agreement possible.

In Solidarity,

Troy Clifford
President
Ambulance Paramedics of BC



RESOURCES



Did you know that you don't have to wait until mid-March 2023 to start panicking about CME credits? There are multiple courses available now on the [PHSA Learning Hub!](#)



Paramedic Liability Insurance through our partner at EQUA! Use the code "APBC" when you go to the checkout. We are seeing more and more litigation in our field and cannot recommend insurance more to our members. Please research your options by clicking the link in the picture.



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Paramedic Association of Canada
Association des paramédics du Canada

Did you know that APBC also represents us as the BC Chapter of the Paramedic Association of Canada (PAC)? Click on the picture for more information.

The Code 3 Newsletter is now completely digital!

To do our part for the environment and be more cognizant of the time and cost of mailing out dozens and dozens of copies throughout the province, we will no longer be sending paper copies out to individual stations.

Please distribute the newsletter throughout your station and region as you see fit!

SUBMISSIONS

We are always looking for insights, ideas, and stories.
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