



# To All Employees of the Community Living Society

June 12, 2006

## Update on Wages for Non-union Support Workers

**Many of you know that employees working for unionized agencies in Community Living were successful in negotiating a four-year contract effective April 1, 2006. This contract includes wage increases over 4 years and each employee received a one-time bonus because the agreement was signed before the end of March.**

Community Living British Columbia (CLBC), the new corporation responsible for Community Living is now committed to negotiating with the Ministry for Children and Families to obtain funding for non-union workers. The information received from them to date indicates that the negotiations are well under way and a request for additional funds has been made to the Treasury Board. They have requested funding to cover ongoing wage increases as well as a bonus.

Carole Taylor, the Minister of Finance has indicated that she wants to see non-union workers treated equitably. In some of the union agencies, there are also non-union workers. These people have all received wage increases as well as a bonus. Therefore, it is only fair that so should all other non-union workers in Community Living.

We want to let government know how important it is for them to compensate all workers in Community Living fairly and equitably. This week Todd Stewart, Chair of the CLS Board of Directors wrote to Minister Hagen to advocate on your behalf. The letter was copied to Carole Taylor and to Rick Mowles, Executive Director of CLBC.

We encourage all of you to telephone, email or write to your MLA asking for their support on your behalf. We have provided documentation on our website for your information as well as to help you if you would like to contact your MLA. Our website is [www.cls-bc.org](http://www.cls-bc.org) where you will find a copy of Todd's letter to the Minister, a letter template and a link to the government site. Take a look at the letter template that is in a format you can copy and edit. You can also write your own letter; you can even write a letter from your team and all sign it. You can find the information you need to contact your MLA by clicking on the government site link.

I am confident that we will hear good news very soon and I think it's important to keep this on top of the agenda for the Treasury Board. We just need to encourage them to bring this to a conclusion so that you can be compensated fairly and in a timely manner.

If you have any questions please call me or send me an email.

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