

POLITICAL ROUND-UP

The arbitrator assigned to the GoA and AHS tables makes a decision

On Jan. 31 the following wage increases were issued for AHS and GoA members:

- [A one-per-cent pay raise](#) for GoA members for 2019.
- [A one-per-cent pay raise](#) for AHS GSS members retroactive to April 1, 2019.
- [A wage freeze](#) for AHS nursing care members for 2019.

UNA, ATA and HSAA issued Zeros from Arbitrator

On Jan. 10, the United Nurses of Alberta and the Alberta Teachers Association were issued no wage increases in arbitration. While the UCP and AHS were pushing for wage rollbacks (as they are at our tables), the decision came down to the independent arbitrator.

On Feb. 5 HSAA members were issued zeros in their wage reopener.

Government Confirms New Session will begin February 25

MLAs will return to the Legislature on February 25. This new session will begin with a Speech from the Throne, which means old Bills that did not pass during the last session are dead.

AHS Review Delivered

The government contracted Ernst and Young review the organization, services and programs of Alberta Health Services (AHS) and make recommendations for plans the party already has up their sleeve. On Feb. 3, the company's \$2-million report was delivered.

[It recommends](#) up to \$1.9-billion in cuts to health care and massive privatization of services, including surgeries, non-clinical support services that our GSS members deliver and all long-term care (LTC) services provided by Capital Care and Carewest where just over 3,000 AUPE members work, among a number of recommendations to rollback the working conditions and staffing levels of of frontline health-care employees.

UCP to review continuing care legislation

Health Minister Shandro has asked [has asked](#) the Calgary Fish-Creek MLA to take the lead on a review of the province's continuing-care legislation.

GoA Bargaining

[GoA bargaining begins with the employer seeking rollbacks including pay cuts](#)

AHS GSS Bargaining Begins

[AHS GSS bargaining begins with the employer tabling rollbacks.](#)

Potential Laundry Privatization

On Monday Feb. 3, AHS [sent out later](#) stating they were considering selling off the remainder of Alberta's in-house laundry services for health facilities. The move would affect 75 workers in 54 communities. An "anticipated timeframe" included sending out a Request for Proposals (RFP) in May and the awarding of a contract for November 2020. AUPE is looking into this issue further.

JOB LOSSES

As of February 7, 2020, we have been notified of the following job losses. Since February 7, 2020, we have been notified of 240 new potential job losses for members*.

University of Lethbridge

Four vacant AUPE positions eliminated: maintenance worker III, systems support specialist II, technical specialist I, fine arts technician IIII.

Alberta Innovates

Last year, 48 members at Alberta Innovates received layoff notices. AUPE agreed at the employer's request to extend the notice period so that the members wouldn't be getting layoff notices just prior to Christmas; their final day worked will be Jan. 23.

University of Calgary

In early November, the Board announced they were cutting 250 positions (150 FTEs, of which 100 are expected to be AUPE members).

One temporary term position in Finance/Research Accounting.

Last week: Forty-four Permanent FTE reductions.

Government of Alberta

Employer informed AUPE that 2,500 bargaining unit positions will be eliminated between April, 2020 and April, 2023.

Week of Jan. 31 – Feb. 7: Termination of two temporary term positions in Cochrane Environment & Parks.

***This week:**

- Termination of nine temporary term positions in Children's Services (two positions confirmed).
- 223 other positions in Comms & Social Services (107 positions confirmed).

Alberta Health Services

Employer informed AUPE that they intend to cut 2,000 to 3,000 GSS FTEs between April, 2020 and April, 2023 and up to 400 Nursing Care FTEs beginning April 1, 2020.

Reduction of 4 Permanent FTEs in the Food Production Centre (054/009)

Bow Valley College

Reduction of three permanent FTEs in Learner Success Services.

Alberta Treasury Board

Week of Jan. 31 – Feb. 7: Reduction of five permanent FTEs in Calgary.

Legal Aid Alberta

***This week:** Reduction of two permanent FTEs.

Alberta Pension Services

This week: Termination of six temporary term positions.

WAGE ROLLBACKS- THIRD YEAR OF EXISTING AGREEMENTS

Bargaining tables where the employer is or will consider tabling wage rollbacks of -2%:

University of Lethbridge
Athabasca University
Alberta University of the Arts
Lethbridge College
Carewest Nursing Care
Carewest General Support Staff
Alberta Pension Services Corporation (APS)
Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT)
Medicine Hat College
Covenant Health – St. Therese Villa
Canterbury Foundation
SAIT
AGLC
Bow Valley College
Fairview College

EVENT ROUND-UP

Rallies and events you don't want to miss! (February 14 – February 21)

Ally Events

ChildcareForAllAB Family Art Build

February 17

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

For more information: <https://www.facebook.com/events/612872872836978/>

CHECK OUT

Fill out AUPE's working short [survey](#).

[Report rumours or signs of privatization on your worksite.](#)

Nominations for the Rolyn Sumlak award open until March 1

[AUPE members stand in solidarity with UNA at their province-wide Feb. 13 rallies](#)