

January 12, 2012

The Health Employer Association of British Columbia (HEABC) served notice last week that it plans to eliminate a market adjustment for pharmacists effective April 1, 2012. Under the current Health Science Professionals Bargaining Association (HSPBA) collective agreement Pharmacists receive a nine to 14 percent market adjustment.

The announcement from HEABC came without notice. The HSPBA is not in agreement with this change and will continue to advocate preserving the fair and reasonable wage rate afforded through the market adjustment.

The market adjustment, introduced to address chronic issues of recruitment and retention, has effectively stemmed the flow of pharmacists away from health facilities in British Columbia since 2006.

HSPBA pharmacists are urged to share information about continued issues related to recruitment and retention, including vacancy rates at their facilities with their respective union.

It should be noted that Northern Health Authority has opted out of the decision to cut pharmacists wages.

Please contact Labour Relations Officer Rhiannon Bray with any questions or concerns.

Email: rbray@pea.org

Telephone: 1-800-779-7736 or 250-385-8791 ext. 204