Message from Kathy MacNeil – February 15, 2012

I am disappointed to tell you that talks with Local 42, which represents our colleagues in the Healthcare bargaining unit, ended today with no sign of a settlement. After three days of talks this week, the union has applied for conciliation, in order to assist it and Capital Health to come to an agreement. The union has also indicated that it will be conducting a strike vote.

We have made a wage offer for an increase of three per cent over three years. As the employer, we are committed to working towards a settlement that balances the needs of our employees with the needs of our patients and clients, all the while trying to ensure that we are creating a more affordable health system for the taxpayers of Nova Scotia.

Our hope is to enter into the conciliation process and be successful in reaching a settlement that benefits all parties.

I will send a further update once conciliation dates have been selected.

Kind regards, Kathy