

# Health Unit Media Release



Contact: Joanne Pearce, Director of Corporate Services 613-345-5685 or 1-800-660-5853

## **CONTRACT RATIFIED BY LOCAL HEALTH UNIT CUPE EMPLOYEES AND BOARD OF HEALTH**

**At a special meeting on June 2, 2005, the Board of Health ratified an agreement with CUPE Local 1559. The term of the agreement will be April 1, 2005 until March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008.**

The agreement awards CUPE members a cost of living adjustment of 3% in each of the 3 years of the Collective Agreement.

Reimbursement for business travel has increased from 37 cents per kilometre to 40 cents per kilometre. Routine eye examinations that were recently delisted by OHIP will now become part of the benefit package.

As part of the agency infection control strategy, full-time permanent CUPE members with less than 3 months of service will be entitled to full pay for the first 5 days of illness. Previously, salary had been reduced to 60% for these individuals.

The Employee Assistance Program has been extended to include part time permanent CUPE employees.

In addition to the above, there were several articles that required language changes in an ongoing effort to encourage consistent interpretation of the contract and support stability and harmony in the workplace.

**Management and CUPE executive are pleased to have reached this agreement in only 2.5 days of negotiations.**

The settlement permits the agency and its CUPE members to continue to provide the best possible public health services to our communities.

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