



DISTRICT of HOUSTON MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release
March 1, 2010

HOUSTON, BC - CUPE Local 2086 represents 44 District of Houston unionized employees responsible for a broad range of services from garbage pick-up and snow clearing to pool supervision and arena maintenance.

The collective agreement expired at the end of 2009. On February 10th the Labour Relations Board conduct a "last offer vote". The union members rejected Council's offer.

The union has not yet served its 72-hour strike notice, however when it does, services affected by job action will be determined by the union executive. They have already indicated that events such as the upcoming figure skating competition might be targeted.

"We're disappointed that the union has put the District and its residents in this position," stated Mayor Bill Holmberg. "We've met several times with the union to discuss the issues; we've made a comprehensive offer for settlement that recognizes the local economy and reflects the consumer price index. We've worked hard to avoid a strike and we're anxious for the union to come back to the table."

In the event of job action, plans will be in place to provide essential services to protect the health and safety of residents. The District will provide information to residents via the District's website. The District will also provide frequent operational briefings to the public via the media.

- 30 -

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