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**For Immediate Release**

## UPSE Health Negotiations move to Conciliation

The President of the Union of Public Sector Employees, Shelley Ward, says that “negotiations between the union and the department of health are moving to conciliation. Negotiating teams have worked hard to reach an agreement since talks began in April 2009, but there are a number of outstanding issues that require resolution.”

“I am hopeful that a tentative agreement can be reached through the conciliation process,” said Ward. “Our members provide vital health services to Islanders and they deserve a fair and competitive collective agreement.”

UPSE represents 1250 members in the department of health whose collective agreement expired on March 31, 2009. Members include Licensed Practical Nurses, Resident Care Workers and other professional categories.

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Please contact Mark Barrett at 892-5335 (or toll-free at 1-800- 897-8773) to arrange an interview.