



DSM Hopes to Reach Agreement with Westman Laboratory Professional Technical Staff

For Immediate Release: September 22, 2011

Approximately 120 technical laboratory staff of Diagnostic Services of Manitoba (DSM) at Westman Laboratory in Brandon have voted to strike. Westman Lab provides laboratory services in Brandon.

Westman Laboratory technical employees are represented by the Manitoba Government Employees Union (MGEU) and are part of a larger group of health care professionals in the province. Collective Agreements have been concluded with many in the larger group. The same offer has been made to Westman employees, however, they have rejected that offer. The alternative of arbitration has been offered to Westman employees, which unfortunately they have also rejected.

"DSM is hopeful that an agreement can still be reached to avoid a strike," said Reg Toews, Acting Chief Executive Officer.

Terms of an Essential Services Agreement are being finalized which will outline the level of laboratory services which will be provided at Westman Lab in the event of a strike.

Once the agreement is finalized, the union will be required to provide two weeks notice of their intent to take strike action.

For more information contact:

Krista Sinaisky

Diagnostic Services of Manitoba

Tele: (204) 926.7194

ksinaisky@dsmanitoba.ca