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2014 HSA Convention

January 13, 2014

Dear HSA Chiefs, Assistants & General Stewards:

Re: Chapter delegates to the 2014 Annual Convention: April 10-12, 2014 Fairmont Hotel Vancouver, 900 West Georgia Street, Vancouver

The 43rd Annual HSA Convention will be held at the **Fairmont Hotel Vancouver** beginning at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 10th through to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 12th.

The Convention is an important opportunity for delegates to debate the policies that will help guide the union in the years ahead.

Out-of-town delegates should make arrangements to travel during the morning of Thursday, April 10th, arriving in time for the pre-convention plenary at 1:00 p.m. First time delegates should make arrangements to arrive for the New Delegate Luncheon which will take place at 12:00 noon on April 10th in the Saturna Room. There will be open registration for convention starting at 9:00 am at the top of the Grand Staircase on the Conference Floor level.

We have provided you with the following:

- → Delegate Entitlement

- → HSA Convention 2014 Online Registration Instructions

IMPORTANT DEADLINE INFORMATION

The deadline for Convention Registration is midnight Friday, March 7th 2014.

HSA is unable to guarantee hotel accommodations after this date.

Note that your registration <u>must</u> be approved by the Chief Steward or designate at your facility

Online Registration

Convention registration is online only. To register, click here: <u>Convention Registration</u> If you do not have access to online resources, contact Wendy Scarrett at the HSA office <u>wscarrett@hsabc.org</u>

Education Workshops

Delegates who register for convention by Friday, March 7th may be eligible to apply for education workshops on April 9th and the morning of April 10th immediately preceding convention. In-town delegates who are participating in an education workshop are entitled to accommodation at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver for the night of Wednesday, April 19th.

The workshops topics are:

- 1. Grievance Handling (*Pre-requisite Basic Steward Training*)
- 2. Building Leadership through Diversity Level 1
- 3. Public Speaking: How to Make Your Butterflies Fly in Formation

Workshop participants: Please review details of your online registration on Monday, March 9th to confirm acceptance into a pre-convention workshop **before booking travel**. HSA will not be responsible for expenses incurred for travel booked before confirmation of pre-convention workshop attendance.

Regional Basket Raffle: Regions 2, 4, 6, 8 10

Members in even-numbered regions are invited to donate items for inclusion in this year's regional baskets. Basket contents typically feature regional, non-perishable delicacies or specialties (e.g. ice wine, vacation packages). The baskets will be raffled at convention, with proceeds to be donated to a community organization. If you would like to contribute, please contact Bill Hannah at the HSA office (bhannah@hsabc.org).

Convention Delegate Entitlement

As the elected HSA Chief Steward in your Chapter, you will represent the interests of your membership at the annual convention. Assistant, General, or Site Stewards should replace Chief Stewards who are unable to attend the convention.

For Chapters with up to and including 49 members, the HSA Chief Steward or designate is automatically the delegate. This is the only chapter member allowed to vote at the convention and the only member reimbursed for expenses related to attendance at the convention.

Chapters with over 49 members are entitled to elect an additional delegate for every 50 members (or portion thereof), as per Article 7, Section 5 of the Constitution.

An accompanying list specifies the number of delegates our records indicate each chapter is entitled to send. If you have any questions about these figures, please contact Wendy Scarrett at the HSA office.

These additional delegates must be:

- 1. Employed in the chapter they seek to represent.
- 2. A member of HSA as per Article 5, Section 1(a) of the HSA Constitution.
- 3. Nominated and elected at chapter meeting to elect delegates.

In addition, all Members-at-Large and Regional Directors are automatic delegates to the convention. Please also note that if an HSA Labour Council Delegate's chapter allotment is met, but they wish to attend convention, they are eligible to apply to attend as wage and expense reimbursed participants without voting status. HSA reimburses one delegate per Labour Council.

We urge you to have your special chapter meeting to elect convention delegates and to vote on resolutions to convention as soon as possible.

Online registration must be completed by midnight, March 7th, 2014. HSA is unable to guarantee accommodation for any registrations received after this date. In the event that a delegate has to make alternate accommodation arrangements, HSA will only reimburse such delegates up to the cost that would have been incurred had the delegate registered by March 7th, 2013 at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver.

Please ensure that each delegate is provided with a copy of the HSA Convention 2014 Online Registration Instructions and Education Workshop notice.

Your co-operation is appreciated to ensure that your chapter is properly represented at these very important functions. For further information, please contact Wendy Scarrett at the HSA Office. We look forward to seeing you at the 43rd Annual Convention!

In solidarity,

Rebecca Maurer

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Director of Human Resources & Operations

**HEALTH SCIENCES ASSOCIATION OF BC

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