

Nurses won't be silenced.

Nurses and health-care professionals care and advocate for individual patients every day. And collectively, we push for an effective and compassionate health-care system. No matter which political party is in power, we're a prominent voice in discussions about health care in this province.

New government legislation - Bill 254 - tried to suppress our voice at a time when it's vital to hear what nurses have to say. For a whole year in advance of the next election, any message from us about health care could count as political advertising, and we could be heavily fined.

This is clearly an intimidation tactic to shield the government from criticism and accountability. It's a further disrespect of nurses and the essential work we've devoted our lives to. It's an affront we couldn't ignore. So nurses and others took the government to court, and together we won. The court ruled the new law unconstitutional, a violation of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

In a blatant abuse of power, Doug Ford and his government called back the legislature to invoke the notwithstanding clause, to overturn the court's decision. Clearly Doug Ford believes his government is above the law. He will do anything he can to silence those who oppose his policies and actions.

We'll continue to speak out against poor quality health care and the unjust treatment of our profession. In the courts, in the media, whatever it takes.

Nurses will not be silent.

Neither should you.

#NoSilence

