



Board Highlights

Making Important Decisions for You!

A summary of discussions and decisions from the ONA Board of Directors meeting | April 8-9, 2019

COMPRESSING THEIR APRIL MEETING INTO TWO DAYS because of Local Health Integration Network group bargaining the same week, the ONA Board of Directors covered much ground, ensuring our members are supported with the challenges they face in the current political climate.

POLICY CHANGES

Amendments were approved to the following:

- ▶ The mandate of the Hospital Central Negotiating Team, which spells out that the ONA First Vice-President will be an ex-officio member, and that ticket of nominations will be made available to every hospital sector member with entitlements and posted on the ONA website, with voting information provided to those same members.
- ▶ The ONA Group/Central Negotiation Team Election Policy, to make it consistent with amendments previously approved for the *Provincial Election Policy*, including that nomination forms must be signed and dated by five members with entitlements from the relevant sector in the region (or group, as applicable).
- ▶ The Board discussed amendments to the *Local and Bargaining Unit Election Policy* based on feedback from the last round of Local elections. Policy will be finalized at the June Board meeting.
- ▶ The Board continued its housekeeping review of the member *Policy Manual*. Details on the amendments will be emailed to Local leaders.

KEY MOTIONS

- ▶ The *Report to the Board: Audit Strategy and Results* for the year ended December

31, 2018, from auditor Grant Thornton, was accepted.

- ▶ Local 214 has been removed from oversight, while Local 82 was removed from Administration and moved to oversight.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

- ▶ The Board discussed possible Constitutional Amendments for the upcoming Biennial Convention, which will be formally presented at the June Provincial Coordinators Meeting.

ONA BURSARIES

ONA bursaries were awarded by the Board to the following members:

- ▶ **Glenna Rowsell** (labour relations education): Andrea Fagan from Local 21, South West Local Health Integration Network; Jane Penciner from Local 6, North York General Hospital; Steven Hunt from Local 14, Nipigon District Memorial Hospital; and Marina Vujcic, Local 139 from Grand River Hospital.
- ▶ **Human Rights and Equity:** Michael Schroder from Local 3, Extencicare Kawartha Lakes.
- ▶ **Occupational Health and Safety:** Kim Gray, Local 8 from FCA Canada.

For information on ONA bursaries, see www.ona.org/bursaries.

REGIONAL REPORTS

- ▶ **Region 1:** Health Sciences North Paramedical Bargaining Unit President Michelle Beaudry spoke at a recent Sudbury town hall, which focused on health-care professional and RN cuts at the hospital, and the government's transformation of our health-care system.
- ▶ **Region 2:** Registered nurses with the Leeds and Grenville Community Family Health Team reached a settlement during conciliation. The 10 RNs – just one of whom is full-time, with the balance part-time and casual – had been in negotiations since last June.
- ▶ **Region 3:** ONA members joined Region 3 Vice-President Andy Summers for the International Women's Day March in downtown Toronto on March 9 under the international theme of #BalanceforBetter, which is a call to action to work together towards a more gender balanced world.
- ▶ **Region 4:** While Grand River Hospital had agreed to apply to merge with the Healthcare of Ontario Pension Plan (HOOPP), it is now appealing the application and seeking instead a hearing before the Financial Services Tribunal. The effect of not signing will be to delay the regulatory approval of the merger until after the tribunal

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

The full minutes from the April Board of Directors meeting will be available on the Executive Members' section of our website (www.ona.org) following approval at the next Board meeting.

proceeding is completed. By not having regulatory approval 60 days prior to the effective date of the merger (June 1), the agreement to merge will terminate without preconditions being met. ONA will have standing at this hearing.

- **Region 5:** The Board of Directors approved an additional donation of \$9,000 to the hardship fund for the Windsor-Essex County Public Health strike, bringing the total to \$10,000. After rejecting the "final offer" from the employer on April 10, which did not offer any meaningful improvements, more than 80 nurse practitioners, public health nurses and registered practical nurses remain on the picket line heading into the seventh week. Your moral and financial support is needed more than ever. Find out more at www.ona.org/windsor.

PORTFOLIO REPORTS

- **Communications:** Please encourage your members to tune into ONA President Vicki McKenna's regular podcasts, *Forward Together with ONA*, where union priorities are discussed. Learn more at www.ona.org/podcast.
- **Government Relations:** Three priority strategies were approved: Provincial health-care reform, the long-term care inquiry, and the federal election.
- **Student Liaison:** Victoria Marchand, the new Canadian Nursing Students' Association President, attended ONA's Joint Sector Meeting last week to meet the Board of Directors, Local leaders and staff. Marchand is from the University of Ottawa.
- **Political Action:** Locals can access their *Policy 26.11* political action funds to

bring members to the mass Ontario Health Coalition rally at Queen's Park on April 30 to hold the government accountable for public health care. As a lead-in to this event, ONA participated in Sticker Day of Action on April 23 to raise awareness about privatization. Stickers and leaflets, which describe the campaign, were sent to our larger hospital Bargaining Units. Read more at www.ontariohealthcoalition.ca.

- **Professional Practice:** Nursing Week is just a few weeks away (May 6-13) and the Board of Directors is looking forward to celebrating with many of you. Under the theme, *Healing Hands, Caring Hearts*, we hope that you will take time to celebrate all you do for the patients of this province. Please send your Nursing Week photos and stories to cgrintake@ona.org.
- **Human Rights and Equity:** Planning is underway for the Toronto Pride Parade, which takes place on Sunday, June 23 and, as usual, ONA will have a strong presence. If you are interested in helping plan this fun event, contact Region 3 Vice-President Andy Summers at asummers@ona.org. Pride events are taking place throughout the summer across the province. Read more in the coming weeks at www.ona.org/pride.
- **Labour Relations:** ONA's Nursing Homes Central Negotiating Team reached a tentative settlement with the employer group during mediation at the end of March. The settlement was

The Next Board of Directors meeting will be held on June 10-13 at ONA's provincial office.

detailed during a sector meeting on April 15 for Local Coordinators and nursing home Bargaining Unit Presidents, who will take the information back to their members for ratification. Voting takes place from April 23 to May 1.

- **Health and Safety:** We encourage you to participate in National Day of Mourning events in your community to commemorate those who have been injured, made ill or killed while on the job. While April 28 is officially the Day of Mourning, some events, including the one at Larry Sefton Park in downtown Toronto, will take place the following day. Please send photos from your event to cgrintake@ona.org.
- **Local Finance:** The next Treasurers' webinar takes place on April 24 from 16:30 to 18:00 to discuss the month-end routine process, including monthly meeting journal entries, tips on unallocated amounts, bank reconciliation and more. Information from the teleconnect will be posted on the Executive section of our website about a week later.
- **Member Education:** Going forward, the Advanced stream at ONA's Leadership Summit, held each fall, will focus on building participants' skill set in labour relations, identifying best practices for challenges encountered in their Bargaining Units.

If you have any questions about this Board meeting, please contact ONA President Vicki McKenna, First Vice-President Cathryn Hoy or your regional Vice-President (contact information below).

Board members for 2019: Vicki McKenna, President, Communications and Government Relations/Student Liaison (#2314); Cathryn Hoy, First Vice-President, Political Action and Professional Issues (#7755); Pam Mancuso, Region 1, Human Rights and Equity (#7703); Bernadette Robinson, Region 2, Education (#7756); Andy Summers, Region 3, Labour Relations (#7754); Laurie Brown, Region 4, Occupational Health and Safety (#7753); Karen Bertrand, Region 5, Local Finance (#7702). **To contact a Board member during regular business hours,** call (416) 964-8833 (Toronto) or toll-free 1-800-387-5580, hit "0" and ask the receptionist to put you through to the appropriate voicemail box (in brackets). **To leave a message for a Board member after hours,** call (416) 964-8833 (Toronto) or toll-free 1-800-387-5580 (if using the toll-free number, hit "0" immediately after dialing the number to be connected to the Toronto office), then dial her or his voicemail box. The Board also has an intake box for emergencies, monitored twice daily. To reach it, call the above numbers and dial voicemail box #7775.