



## Ontario Nurses' Association

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**To:** Bargaining Unit Presidents, Hospital Sector  
**From:** Vicki McKenna, President  
**Date:** June 14, 2021  
**Re:** **Update – Hospital Central Bargaining**  
**C:** Board of Directors, Local Coordinators, HCNT, Staff

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ONA continues to await an arbitration award from Arbitrator Eli Gedalof. The interest arbitration between ONA and the Ontario Hospital Association (OHA) concluded on Wednesday, April 21, 2021. Arbitrator Gedalof and nominees Kate Hughes (ONA) and Brian O'Byrne (OHA), continue to have executive sessions and we do not know the date that the decision will be released. ONA will notify members as soon as it is released and will hold information sessions via Zoom.

At the hearing, ONA argued against the principles of Bill 124, which limits total compensation increases to one per cent per year. We argued that because ONA has filed a Charter Challenge, requested government exemption from Bill 124, and given that Premier Ford said on March 30, 2020 and continues to say that nurses are worth so much more than one per cent, our members should have a proper general wage increase.

Such an increase should at least match gains we made for RNs in our nursing homes and Local Health Integrated Network (LHIN) sectors, and as enjoyed by male-dominated professionals in Ontario, such as police and fire services, which would keep pace with escalating inflation.

We ask Bargaining Unit Presidents to provide this update to your members via Local website and/or social media; and to provide hard copies where members do not have access to ONA's website.

If you have any questions, please send them to [vickim@ona.org](mailto:vickim@ona.org).