



## Ontario Nurses' Association

85 Grenville Street, Suite 400, Toronto, Ontario M5S 3A2

TEL: (416) 964-8833 FAX: (416) 964-8864

**To:** Bargaining Unit Presidents, Hospital Sector

**From:** Rachel Muir, RN, Chair, Hospital Central Negotiating Team

**Date:** February 3, 2023

**Re:** **Hospital Central Negotiating Team (HCNT) Update**

**C:** Board of Directors, Local Coordinators, HCNT, Staff

---

The HCNT completed its first week of bargaining with the Participating Hospitals from January 30 to February 3, 2023. We have signed the Memorandum of Conditions for Joint Bargaining with the Participating Hospitals. It is attached for your information.

The team has put forward proposals that address your priorities, as identified in ONA's Have Your Say bargaining survey. Your team made it very clear that nurses have seen their real wage steadily reduced over the last 10 years. Full-time RNs stuck at the Year 8 step since 2010 have seen their real base salary erode by \$12,790. Bill 124 has exacerbated this along with the rising cost of living. Our agenda does not include "concessions," neither are we interested in providing the employer with "flexible and agile" language that will further erode member's rights.

Wages are our top priority and we emphasized that this must be addressed in a meaningful way. We have had a challenging week of bargaining and will continue to focus on our members' priorities. We remain hopeful of reaching a negotiated settlement that reflects the needs of our members.

Discussions regarding the Bill 124 re-opener will occur on February 27, 2023. Bargaining will resume on February 27-28, 2023. Mediation will take place with Mediator Colin Johnston from March 1-2, 2023.

We will be communicating on our progress and upcoming planned action for members related to bargaining through email, social media and on ONA's website at [www.ona.org/bargaining](http://www.ona.org/bargaining).

**Thank you for your supportive action on February 2 with our Sticker Up day. We received many photos, which energized your team. The next planned actions for you to support bargaining will occur on February 23 and March 2. Contact your Bargaining Unit President or go to <https://www.ona.org/bettercare/> for more information on what these actions are and how you can participate.**

Provincial Office: Toronto

Regional Offices: Ottawa • Hamilton • Kingston • London

Orillia • Sudbury • Thunder Bay • Timmins • Windsor

To assist the HCNT in communicating to ONA members on our progress, we ask Bargaining Unit Presidents to add HCNT updates to their meeting agendas, to post them on their worksite bulletin boards, 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 for the HCNT, please contact ONA Interim President, Bernie Robinson at [bernier@ona.org](mailto:bernier@ona.org), who will see that any questions are brought to my attention.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Bernie Robinson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.