

# ONA WINS



SUMMARY OF ANOTHER SUCCESS AS YOUR UNION STRIVES TO IMPROVE YOUR WORKING CONDITIONS

## **ONA Successfully Lobbies Against Posting CNO Committee Decisions of “No Findings”**

ONA’s fight against parts of Bill 87, an omnibus health bill that included proposed changes to the Regulated Health Professions Act, has resulted in significant amendments for our members.

The government proposed a change in the bill that would require regulatory colleges to post on their public registers results of all decisions of the Discipline Committee and Fitness to Practice Committee, including decisions where there were “no findings” (i.e. Discipline Committee decisions that a member was not guilty of misconduct, and decisions of the Fitness to Practice Committee that a member was not incapacitated.)

Through meetings with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and a presentation to the Provincial Standing Committee, ONA President Vicki McKenna argued that posting this type of information would taint members’ reputations because people might believe there is some truth to the allegations, and the only way to avoid that was to have nothing on the register if there was no support for the allegations.

We also argued that, given the stigma around mental illness and addiction, posting a finding that a member was “not incapacitated” violated our members’ human rights with respect to disability.

As a result, the government made some concessions to these “not guilty” findings. The legislation that passed, the Putting Patients First Act, makes two important improvements on what was proposed in Bill 87:

- 1.) When the Discipline Committee makes a ruling that there is “no finding” against a member, that decision will be posted on the register, but removed automatically after 90 days.
- 2.) When the Fitness to Practice Committee makes a ruling that a member is not incapacitated, that decision will not be posted on the register at all.

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