



Date

AMO Board Member

Name, Address

Dear _____,

Workers in designated public safety occupations have difficult, demanding jobs. When a citizen in our community has to call 911, paramedics, firefighters and police are ready to respond.

Deservedly, police and firefighters in Ontario have a normal retirement age of 60. But paramedics do not. Paramedics are the only employees of the three designated public safety occupations who have to wait until age 65 to retire with full pension.

As senior elected leaders representing more than 5,000 Ontario paramedics, we believe this must change. The women and men - our members - who provide emergency services should all have the right to retire at age 60 with an unreduced pension. Paramedics deserve equity with police and firefighters. They want to move towards this goal now.

There are three steps in this process:

- **The first step** has been accomplished. In 2005, the federal government designated paramedics as a Public Safety Occupation alongside police and firefighters. The government recognized that, like police and firefighters, paramedics provide a public service often under hazardous, high stress conditions.
- We need your help to complete the **second step**. We're asking AMO to direct its representatives on the Sponsors Corporation of OMERS to support changes to the OMERS pension allowing paramedics to retire at 60 with a full pension.
- This would allow union locals representing paramedics, and their employers, the right to bargain the **third step**, a normal retirement age of 60 (NRA 60) in their workplaces.

Police and firefighters share the cost to retire at age 60 and paramedics are also willing to pay their fair share. As well, given the toll the job takes, municipalities may pay more medical and wage loss costs among paramedics aged 60 and over.

We ask AMO to request that its representatives on the OMERS Sponsors Corporation make the needed changes to support a normal retirement age of 60 for Ontario's hardworking paramedics.

Local paramedics will be contacting you and would be pleased to meet with you to discuss this important issue.

The paramedics committed to serving our communities are counting on you: Please help make it happen.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sharlene Stewart". The script is fluid and cursive.

Sharlene Stewart, President, SEIU Local 1.org,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sid Ryan". The script is bold and cursive.

Sid Ryan, President, CUPE Ontario,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Warren Thomas". The script is bold and cursive.

Warren (Smokey) Thomas, President, OPSEU,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Chernecki". The script is cursive.

Bob Chernecki, Assistant to the President, Canadian Auto Workers