

**(Date)**

Hon. Tony Clement  
Minister of Health and Long Term Care  
10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Hepburn Block  
Queen's Park, ON  
M7A 2C4

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Dear Minister:

I am a hospital professional and an OPSEU member. I am fed up with the terrible working conditions in our hospitals, poor wages, and staff shortages.

I am writing to inform you of the urgent need for improved hospital funding, targeted to properly compensate hospital staff, which make up about 80 per cent of the cost of running a hospital.

OPSEU health science professionals are an essential part of the health care team in our hospitals. We work with patients both directly and behind the scenes. We provide important rehabilitative and diagnostic and therapeutic services, and include MRI and CT Technologists, Mammography Technologists, EEG Technicians, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, X-Ray and Lab Technologists, Social Workers, Pharmacists, Psychologists and Respiratory Therapists.

Without us the system would fall apart. Without us, doctors are only guessing!

We are tired of the long hours, the poor pay, the miserable working conditions, lack of respect, and the problems with workplace health and safety. People are working double shifts; they're on standby. We can't get any time to spend with our families.

We are now bargaining a central contract with the Ontario Hospital Association. We're hoping to reach an agreement that provides us with substantial improvements to our wages and our working conditions.

Unless conditions improve, more of us will leave. It will be harder to attract people to our professions. Our hospitals will be faced with more shortages. A more competitive wage scale would be a good start towards attracting young people into our professions.

I support my central bargaining team. We need to negotiate a competitive contract that improves wages and working conditions for our members, who are such an important part of the team in our local hospital. We deserve the same level of respect in bargaining that other health professionals receive. Instead of adapting our demands to fit a limited budget, that budget must be expanded to give us a competitive wage rate.

Please be a part of the solution and provide the proper funding and support to our public hospitals so they can provide the diagnostic and rehabilitative care that people need.

Sincerely,

Name, Address, Local Number

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