Happy Holidays and Seasons

 greetings

With the Holiday Season upon us I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for everything you do every time you don your scrubs and show up for a shift. I am proud to be able to represent and fight for you each and every day.

As you all know ONA’s Charter Challenge of Bill 124 was successful and on November 29 the bill was repealed. What you may not be aware of is that the Ford Government has until December 28 to file an appeal. In anticipation of this ONA, along with CUPE, OPSUE, SEIU and UNIFOR have launched a no appeal campaign.

We need each an everyone of you to support this campaign which starts with a sticker campaign. Your Site VP’s will be coming round with Bill 124 ~~NO MORE~~ stickers. Please wear them at every opportunity. The repeal of Bill 128 and it’s odious not withstanding clause on November 7 has shown Ford just how powerful workers are when they stand together with a common cause. Lets show him this power again as we fight to keep Bill 124 off the books.

In 2023 we will be renegotiating our Central and Local Collective agreements. The Central “Have a Say” survey that went out in October finished on November 17. All the responses are now being looked at. Your priorities will be the priorities we take to the negotiating table in February.

Local 83 will be sending out our own ‘Have a Say’ survey in January. This will be your opportunity to tell us what your priorities on a local level, so make sure you fill it out.

January will also see the start of regular Town Hall meetings. These meetings will all be virtual and will be on the 4th Tuesday of every month from 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm. Reminders will go out with instructions on how to join.

Now that we are well into the Christmas schedule, I want to remind you that usual scheduling regulations are waived, however scheduling premiums attached are still applicable.

And a reminder that if you have to float off your unit you have to go. However, if you do not have the skill set needed to practice safely you should let your manager or CAoS know. When you get to the unit you are sent to let the nurse in charge know and advise that you will do tasks but are unable to take an assignment. You can not refuse to go as that could be seen a patient abandonment.

Article 14.06 in our Central Collective Agreement states you are to be paid double time if you are called back to work within 24 hours of the start of your last shift. This applies to part time and full-time staff. You have to have left the unit when the shift is booked.

We continue to have a differing interpretation to that of TOH and as a result continue to grieve non-payment of double time for hours worked under these circumstances. If you are not paid double time when you are called back to work, please contact us and we will file a grievance on your behalf.

With that, on behalf of your ONA team here at Local 83, I would like to wish you all a happy, healthy holiday season. 2022 has been a year to remember. Lets make 2023 the year we continue to demonstrate the power of nurses as we stand strong and demand the respect we deserve, the salary we are entitled to and a Government that recognises the value of well trained, skilled and knowledgeable nurses who are the backbone of public healthcare throughout Ontario.

In Solidarity,

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