

Ontario Nurses' Association
Weekly Media Scan & Media Release Summary

March 18 to 28, 2024

ONA coverage:

Panel to investigate staffing, patient safety concerns at BCHS

Brantford Expositor, Norfolk & Tillsonburg News, March 18, 2024

[Panel to investigate issues of staffing levels, patient safety at BCHS | Brantford Expositor](#)

Patient safety and staffing concerns at Brantford General Hospital subject of hearing

Hamilton Spectator, March 22, 2024

[Patient safety and staffing concerns at Brantford Hospital \(thespec.com\)](#)

Panel investigate patient safety, staffing levels at Brantford Hospital

CHCH News, March 24, 2024

[Panel investigate patient safety, staffing levels at Brantford Hospital \(chch.com\)](#)

Nurses Know Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare Cuts Must Be Stopped, Vow To Continue To Fight Alongside Residents

Muskoka 411, March 26, 2024

[Nurses Know Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare Cuts Must Be Stopped, Vow To Continue To Fight Alongside Residents - muskoka411.com](#)

Ford's budget promises cannot be trusted to improve care in the public system, says Ontario Nurses' Association

The Globe and Mail, Yahoo Finance, March 26, 2024

[Ford's budget promises cannot be trusted to improve care in the public system, says Ontario Nurses' Association - The Globe and Mail](#)

Panel investigates patient safety, staffing levels at Brantford Hospital

Brant Beacon, March 26, 2024

[Panel investigates patient safety, staffing levels at Brantford Hospital | BrantBeacon](#)

Ontario nursing unions want staffing agencies phased out after fake nurse worked for 7 months

CBC News, March 28, 2024

[Ontario nursing unions want staffing agencies phased out after fake nurse worked for 7 months | CBC News](#)

Public sector unions say Ontario budget fails to deliver for workers

Rabble.ca, March 27, 2024

[Public sector unions say Ontario budget fails to deliver for workers - rabble.ca](#)

Nurses rally against for-profit seniors care			
Program:	CityNews at Six	Air Time: 18:00 PM - 18:59 PM	Date: 2024-Mar-27 18:10 PM
Station:	CITY TV (CityTV)	Network: Rogers Media Inc.	City: Toronto
Reporter:	Announcer Copy	Length: 01:00	Province: Ontario
Interview:	Erin Ariss, President, Ontario Nurses' Association [clip]		
Note:	Nurses rallied today in Markham against for-profit seniors care. President of the Ontario Nurses' Association Erin Ariss says care should never come at the expense of stakeholders or shareholders' money. The demonstration comes as contract talks are about to begin.		
Log ID:	20240327T-0049		

Experts and officials weighing the pros and cons of 2024 provincial budget			
Program:	Newswatch @ 6	Air Time: 18:00 PM - 19:00 PM	Date: 2024-Mar-27 18:04 PM
Station:	CHEX TV	Network: Corus Entertainment Inc.	City: Peterborough
Reporter:	Tricia Mason	Length: 02:30	Province: Ontario
Interview:	Dave Smith, Peterborough Kawartha MPP [clip]; Joel Wiebe, Peterborough & Kawarthas Chamber of Commerce Government Relations [clip]; David Sheinin, Political Analyst [clip]; Angela Preocanin, Ontario Nurses' Association 1st VP [clip]		
Note:	The Ontario provincial budget was released Tuesday afternoon. Now, local experts and officials are weighing in on the pros and cons. The province is investing in training for workers in forestry and construction. The budget is also providing resources for post secondary schools when it comes to enrollment funding in healthcare programs. The Ontario Nurses' Association calls the overall plan insufficient. 1st VP Angela Preocanin says it fails to address the commitment to publicly funded healthcare.		
Log ID:	20240327T-0047		

Nurses rally against for-profit seniors care			
Program:	CityNews at 5	Air Time: 17:00 PM - 18:00 PM	Date: 2024-Mar-27 17:09 PM

Station: CITY TV (CityTV) **Network:** Rogers Media Inc. **City:** Toronto

Reporter: Announcer Copy **Length:** 1:00 **Province:** Ontario

Interview: Erin Ariss, President of Ontario Nurses Association;

Note: To mark the start of Ontario Nurses' Association collective bargaining with 194 participating Ontario for-profit nursing homes, close to 200 nurses and health-care professionals held an early-morning picket outside Extencicare Canada's corporate headquarters in Markham today.

Log ID: 20240327T-0048

Interview with Elder Rights Lawyer Melissa Miller

Program: The Social **Air Time:** 13:00 PM - 14:00 PM **Date:** 2024-Mar-27 13:50 PM

Station: CFTO TV (CTV) **Network:** Bell Media Television **City:** Toronto

Reporter: Elaine Lui, Jessica Allen, Andrea Bain **Length:** 9:00 **Province:** Ontario

Interview: Melissa Miller, Elder Rights Lawyer;

Note: Stolen Time is writer-director Helene Klodawsky's riveting feature documentary about charismatic elder rights lawyer Melissa Miller and her mission to take on the opaque for-profit nursing-home industry. Elder Rights Lawyer Melissa Miller joins the show to provide more details on this topic. Mentions Ontario Nurses Association.

Log ID: 20240327T-0023

ONA members hold protest outside Extencicare Canada office

Program: Breakfast Television **Air Time:** 08:00 AM - 09:00 AM **Date:** 2024-Mar-27 08:05 AM

Station: CITY TV (CityTV) **Network:** Rogers Media Inc. **City:** Toronto

Reporter: Announce r Copy **Length:** 00:30 **Province:** Ontario

Interview: none

Note: Members of the Ontario Nurses' Association are holding a protest this morning ahead of the start of collective bargaining with the province's nursing homes. They are in Markham outside the head office of Extencicare Canada.

Log ID: 20240327T-0020

Program: CityNews at Six **DATE:** Wed 27 Mar 2024 **Time:** 18:00 PM - 18:59 PM
Station: CITY TV (CityTV) **Network:** Rogers Media Inc. **City:** Toronto

HEADLINE: Nurses rally against for-profit seniors care
REPORTER: As though seniors search for a new home, workers in long term care homes are calling on the government to stop the privatization of the sector.

PROTESTING NURSES: Care, not profit! Care, not profit!

ERIN ARISS (President of Ontario Nurses' Association): Nurses across Ontario believe that care should never come at the expense of, of stakeholders or shareholders' monies. We want to provide the very best care, and that does not involve profit.

REPORTER: Association ... Members of the Ontario Nurses' Association rallied in Markham this morning outside of the head office of Extendicare, a company that offers for-profit housing and services for seniors. Demonstration comes as contract talks are about to begin between the government and unionized employees at public long term care homes.

- 30 -

Program: Newswatch @ 6 **DATE:** Wed 27 Mar 2024 **Time:** 18:00 PM - 19:00 PM
Station: CHEX TV **Network:** Corus Entertainment Inc. **City:** Peterborough

HEADLINE: Experts and officials weighing the pros and cons of 2024 provincial budget
REPORTER: Locally, experts and officials are weighing the pros and cons of the 2024 provincial budget. Tricia Mason has what you need to know.

TRICIA MASON (Reporter): A new year also marks a new budget. The provincial plan was released late Tuesday afternoon. Peterborough Kawartha MPP Dave Smith calling it "excellent".

DAVID SMITH (Peterborough): And that's reflected in what I think our priorities are on this. So I'm very pleased with the budget.

**Kawartha
MPP):**

MASON: For one, the province is investing in training for workers in sectors such as forestry and construction, the local chamber calling it a pro for the region.

JOEL WIEBE (Peterborough & Kawartha Chamber of Commerce Government Relations): So any time we see investments around youth apprenticeships and further investments in skilled trades training, you know, those are all really good things for us. When we talk about issues around housing and development, this is one barrier along the way.

MASON: The budget is providing resources for post-secondary schools when it comes to enrolment funding in healthcare programs.

SMITH: Both Trent and Fleming have nursing programs and this will be a great benefit for us. What we know is that when someone goes to school in a community, they tend to stay in that community.

MASON: Though, there has been some criticism towards the financial reports, the budget lacking a plan around affordability. Political analyst David Sheinin says Premier Doug Ford learned from the pandemic and has taken what he calls a fiscal conservative approach.

DAVID SHEININ (Political Analyst): Prospects for the economy, he argues, and a lot of economists agree, are not great. So, we're not going to see an end to our economic problems to relatively high interest rates for a long time.

MASON: Sheinin goes on to say healthcare is the biggest challenge both locally and provincially. **SHEININ:** Minden lost its emergency room and has not been able to get it back. That is a Progressive Conservative seat in the provincial legislature.

MASON: The Ontario Nurses' Association calls the overall plan "insufficient".

ANGELA PREOCANIN It fails to address the commitments to publicly funded healthcare. The hospitals are on what we have now deemed banker's hours in their

(Ontario Nurses' Association 1st VP):	emergency departments because they don't have the staff, which relates to the retention piece. And so it's been really hard to watch this happen.
MASON:	Experts are describing this year's budget as a way to navigate the challenging economic climate after the \$9.8 billion deficit was announced.
SMITH:	A short term debt that we have as a result of it will actually pay a long term dividend for everyone in the province of Ontario. So, we're going to stay the course.
MASON:	Tricia Mason, Global New, Peterborough.

- 30 -

Nursing coverage:

'When do we get the money?': Bill 124 back-payments could soon come to local teachers and nurses

CTV News, March 15, 2024

[Bill 124 back-payments coming to local teachers and nurses | CTV News](#)

Newfoundland, eager to shed dependency on expensive travel nurses, launches program for rural communities

The Globe and Mail, March 18, 2024

[Newfoundland, eager to shed dependency on expensive travel nurses, launches program for rural communities - The Globe and Mail](#)

Health Sciences North holds online nursing job fair next week

Sudbury.com, March 18, 2024

[Health Sciences North holds online nursing job fair next week - Sudbury News](#)

Why nurse practitioners are in the spotlight

Cornwall Standard-Freeholder, March 21, 2024

[Cornwall Standard-Freeholder \(Print Edition\)](#)

Long-term care homes and agency didn't properly check fake nurse's credentials, Ontario documents show

CBC News, March 22, 2024

[Long-term care homes and agency didn't properly check fake nurse's credentials, Ontario documents show | CBC News](#)

Shortage of nurses no justification for not checking credentials, says nursing association chief

Hamilton Spectator, March 22, 2024

[Long-term care homes responsible for finding fake nurses \(thespec.com\)](https://thespec.com)

Ontario nurses looking to adopt minimum nurse-to-patient ratios similar to those in B.C.

Investigative Journalism Foundation, March 21, 2024

[Ontario nurses looking to adopt minimum nurse-to-patient ratios similar to those in B.C. \(theijf.org\)](https://theijf.org)

Ontario hospitals, LTC homes spent nearly \$1B on agency staff last year

The Canadian Press, March 25, 2024

[Ontario hospitals, LTC homes spent nearly \\$1B on agency staff last year \(thestar.com\)](https://thestar.com)

Growing in numbers; Nurse practitioners get more funding, but critics say it's just a drop in the bucket

Ottawa Sun, March 24, 2024

[Ottawa Sun \(Print Edition\)](https://ottawasun.com)

LETTER: Patient praises 'cordial and competent' RVH workers

Innisfil Today, March 23, 2024

[LETTER: Patient praises 'cordial and competent' RVH workers - Innisfil News \(innisfilday.ca\)](https://innisfilday.ca)

Nurses disappointed by lack of funding

Kingston Whig-Standard, March 23, 2024

[Kingston Whig-Standard \(Print Edition\)](https://kingstonwhigstandard.com)

Since-fired nurse gets fine, probation for role in mid-pandemic rally

London Free Press, March 25, 2024

[Since-fired nurse gets fine, probation for role in mid-pandemic rally | London Free Press \(lfpress.com\)](https://lfpress.com)

Maternity leave behind temporary closure of Listowel, Ont.'s obstetrics department

CTV News, March 26, 2024

[Maternity leave behind temporary closure of Listowel, Ont.'s obstetrics department | CTV News](https://ctvnews.ca)

Expanding nursing locum pilot program would fill health-care gaps across N.L., says union

CBC News, March 24, 2024

[Expanding nursing locum pilot program would fill health-care gaps across N.L., says union | CBC News](#)

WRH CEO touts success in retaining and recruiting nurses to the hospital

AM800, March 26, 2024

[WRH CEO touts success in retaining and recruiting nurses to the hospital \(am800cklw.com\)](#)

COVID-19 coverage:

Toronto was a ghost town four years ago. Here's a look back at how the COVID lockdown of March 2020 changed the city

Toronto Star, March 17, 2024

[Photos: How COVID lockdowns changed Toronto four years ago \(thestar.com\)](#)

Windsor saw its 1st COVID case 4 years ago today. Where do things stand now?

CBC News, March 19, 2024

[Windsor saw its 1st COVID case 4 years ago today. Where do things stand now? | CBC News](#)

Shingles cases are increasing in New South Wales. Experts say COVID might be why

Australian Broadcasting Corporation, March 20, 2024

[Shingles cases are increasing in New South Wales. Experts say COVID might be why - ABC News](#)

COVID Linked to Lower IQ, Poor Memory and Other Negative Impacts on Brain Health

Yahoo News, March 24, 2024

[COVID Linked to Lower IQ, Poor Memory and Other Negative Impacts on Brain Health \(yahoo.com\)](#)

Do you need a spring COVID-19 vaccine? Research backs extra round for high-risk groups

CBC News, March 28, 2024

[Do you need a spring COVID-19 vaccine? Research backs extra round for high-risk groups | CBC News](#)

Flu continues to grip Ottawa as COVID, RSV levels settle

CBC News, March 28, 2024

[Flu continues to grip Ottawa as COVID, RSV levels settle | CBC News](#)

Industry coverage:

Kaplan-Myrth: Let's learn from COVID-19 as measles starts to reappear

Ottawa Citizen, March 15, 2024

[Kaplan-Myrth: The lessons of COVID-19 apply as measles reappears | Ottawa Citizen](#)

Could your health data be stored on U.S. servers? Lawsuit tests Ontario's privacy safeguards

Toronto Star, March 18, 2024

[Lawsuit tests Ontario's privacy safeguards \(thestar.com\)](#)

Canada heading toward major measles outbreak without vaccine boost, new modelling suggests

CBC News, March 16, 2024

[Canada heading toward major measles outbreak without vaccine boost, new modelling suggests | CBC News](#)

We all experience stress. How we handle it is key to our health, say experts

CBC News, March 18, 2024

[We all experience stress. How we handle it is key to our health, say experts | CBC Radio](#)

Supporters say family caregivers need formal role in hospitals, long-term care

CBC News, March 18, 2024

[Supporters say family caregivers need formal role in hospitals, long-term care | CBC News](#)

She could have died from meningitis. Now this student wants more people to get vaccinated

CBC News, March 15, 2024

[She could have died from meningitis. Now this student wants more people to get vaccinated | CBC News](#)

Alcohol recovery room at University of Guelph helps ease ER pressure, hospital says

The Canadian Press, March 17, 2024

[Alcohol recovery room at University of Guelph helps ease ER pressure, hospital says | CP24.com](#)

Simcoe County opens three measles immunization clinics

CTV News, March 18, 2024

[Measles vaccination clinics open for three days | CTV News](#)

Head of Niagara Health describes future of hospital system

Niagara Falls Review, March 17, 2024

[Head of Niagara Health describes future of hospital system \(niagarafallsreview.ca\)](https://www.niagarafallsreview.ca)

Protest at Brampton Civic will push for better healthcare following release of alarming Ontario Health Coalition report highlighting PC push for privatization

The Pointer, March 17, 2024

[Protest at Brampton Civic will push for better healthcare following release of alarming Ontario Health Coalition report highlighting PC push for privatization | The Pointer](#)

Woman gives birth on park bench outside Quebec hospital after finding main doors locked

Atin Ito News, March 18, 2024

[Woman gives birth on park bench outside Quebec hospital after finding main doors locked – Atin Ito \(atinitonews.com\)](#)

How these four Toronto hospitals are making your ER visits less frustrating

Toronto Star, March 18, 2024

[How 4 Toronto hospitals use tech to speed up ER care \(thestar.com\)](#)

Second case of measles confirmed in Toronto

CTV News, March 18, 2024

[Measles in Toronto: 2nd case confirmed | CP24.com](#)

Another infant in Toronto has measles, as public health warns of possible exposure at library

Toronto Star, March 18, 2024

[An infant in Toronto has measles, the second case of 2024 \(thestar.com\)](#)

This Telus offshoot only covers certain drugs for its employees if they come from its own pharmacy

CBC News, March 19, 2024

[This Telus offshoot only covers certain drugs for its employees if they come from its own pharmacy | CBC News](#)

Incentives attract visiting doctors to northern Ontario ER's, but they're not sticking around

CBC News, March 19, 2024

[Incentives attract visiting doctors to northern Ontario ER's, but they're not sticking around | CBC News](#)

Diversion of safer supply drugs is a trivial issue distracting us from the real challenge: Toxic drug deaths

The Globe and Mail, March 19, 2024

[Opinion: Diversion of safer supply drugs is a trivial issue distracting us from the real challenge: Toxic drug deaths - The Globe and Mail](#)

My sister's rights were taken away, like thousands of others with developmental disabilities

Toronto Star, March 19, 2024

[Vulnerable people can't fight against system of forced care \(thestar.com\)](#)

Ads for paid clinics have people in Ontario freaking out about healthcare privatization

Blogto, March 19, 2024

[Ads for paid clinics have people in Ontario freaking out about healthcare privatization \(blogto.com\)](#)

Doug Ford's government says it has a plan to fight teacher shortages. Here's why the teachers' unions want it blocked

Toronto Star, March 19, 2024

[Teacher unions support move to limit days for retirees \(thestar.com\)](#)

'Critical' to get measles vaccine to stem outbreaks: WHO

Reuters, March 19, 2024

['Critical' to get measles vaccine to stem outbreaks: WHO - National | Globalnews.ca](#)

Over 1,400 Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph students face suspension over incomplete vaccination records

CBC News, March 20, 2024

[Over 1,400 Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph students face suspension over incomplete vaccination records | CBC News](#)

Surge in fatal suspected overdoses as potent synthetic opioids found in unregulated drug supply: TPH

CBC News, March 19, 2024

[Surge in fatal suspected overdoses as potent synthetic opioids found in unregulated drug supply: TPH | CBC News](#)

Toronto Public Health reporting spike in mpox infections, residents urged to get vaccinated

CP24, March 20, 2024

[Toronto Public Health reporting spike in mpox infections | CP24.com](#)

Home care org 'sounding the alarm' over Ontario's senior population boom

The Trillium, March 20, 2024

[Home care org 'sounding the alarm' over Ontario's senior population boom - The Trillium](#)

Nearly 300 Ontario patients moved to LTC homes they didn't choose, province says

The Canadian Press, March 20, 2024

[Nearly 300 Ontario patients moved to LTC homes they didn't choose, province says | CBC News](#)

Toronto Public Health warns of potential measles exposure at new location linked to 2nd case

CBC News, March 20, 2024

[Toronto Public Health warns of potential measles exposure at new location linked to 2nd case | CBC News](#)

Ontario cancer patients forced to choose between treatment and jobs

CBC News, March 21, 2024

[Ontario cancer patients forced to choose between treatment and jobs | CBC News](#)

More Canadians have poor mental health. The economy is partly to blame, survey says

The Canadian Press, March 21, 2024

[More Canadians have poor mental health. The economy is partly to blame, survey says \(thestar.com\)](#)

Sudbury's supervised consumption site gives drug users help and support. But sites need support too

Toronto Star, March 20, 2024

[Ontario must help supervised drug consumption sites \(thestar.com\)](#)

Half a million seniors had trouble getting specialized health services: StatCan

The Canadian Press, March 20, 2024

[Half a million seniors had trouble getting specialized health services: StatCan \(thestar.com\)](#)

Canada faces shortage of measles vaccines amid rise in cases, demand

CBC News, March 21, 2024

[Canada faces shortage of measles vaccines amid rise in cases, demand | CBC News](#)

Stripped of dignity, \$22 left after rent — stories emerge as Ontario sued for halting basic income pilot

CBC News, March 21, 2024

[Stripped of dignity, \\$22 left after rent — stories emerge as Ontario sued for halting basic income pilot | CBC News](#)

Number of suspended Windsor-Essex students now in double digits

CK News Today, March 20, 2024

[Number of suspended Windsor-Essex students now in double digits \(cknewstoday.ca\)](#)

Sudbury long-term care home named in COVID-19 lawsuit

Sudbury.com, March 20, 2024

[Sudbury long-term care home named in COVID-19 lawsuit - Elliot Lake News \(elliottlaketoday.com\)](#)

Profits over patients: For-profit nursing home chains are draining resources from care while shifting huge sums to owners' pockets

The Conversation, March 18, 2024

[Profits over patients: For-profit nursing home chains are draining resources from care while shifting huge sums to owners' pockets \(theconversation.com\)](#)

Barrie residents recognized with Home Care Hero awards

Barrie Today, March 20, 2024

[Barrie residents recognized with Home Care Hero awards - Barrie News \(barrietoday.com\)](#)

Respiratory virus levels mostly steady, but 13 flu hospitalizations in latest update

Ottawa Citizen, March 22, 2024

[Respiratory virus levels mostly steady, 13 hospitalized with flu | Ottawa Citizen](#)

Measles vaccination rates in GTA children are lower than the rest of Ontario. Why?

CTV News, March 21, 2024

[Measles vaccination rates in Toronto-area kids are lower than the rest of Ontario. Why? | CP24.com](#)

Ontario extends program that helps rural and northern hospitals avoid ER closures

The Canadian Press, March 22, 2024

[Ontario extends program that helps rural and northern hospitals avoid ER closures \(thestar.com\)](#)

Tech platforms face 'whack-a-mole' situation in battling health misinformation

Toronto Star, March 22, 2024

[Tech platforms face 'whack-a-mole' situation in battling health misinformation \(thestar.com\)](https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2024/03/22/tech-platforms-face-whack-a-mole-situation-in-battling-health-misinformation.html)

Woman launches lawsuit against London, Ont., hospital after daughter's brain injury

CBC News, March 22, 2024

[Woman launches lawsuit against London, Ont., hospital after daughter's brain injury | CBC News](https://www.cbc.com/news/health/woman-launches-lawsuit-against-london-ont-hospital-after-daughter-s-brain-injury-1.7048444)

HSN's economic impact on the Northeast is more than \$1B, CEO says

Sudbury.com, March 21, 2024

[HSN's economic impact on the Northeast is more than \\$1B, CEO says - Sudbury News](https://www.sudbury.com/news/hsn-s-economic-impact-on-the-northeast-is-more-than-1b-ceo-says-1.7048444)

Names of Ontario health-care clinics found to have extra-billed being kept secret

CTV News, March 22, 2024

[Ontario health clinics found to have extra-billed being kept secret | CTV News](https://www.ctvnews.ca/ontario-health-clinics-found-to-have-extra-billed-being-kept-secret-1.7048444)

One measles case, 2,000 contacts. Inside the fight to stop an outbreak in the GTA

Toronto Star, March 23, 2024

[How public health contained measles case with 2,000 contacts \(thestar.com\)](https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2024/03/23/how-public-health-contained-measles-case-with-2000-contacts.html)

What happens when privatizing surgical procedures drives up health care costs

Toronto Star, March 23, 2024

[Privatizing surgical procedures drives up health care costs \(thestar.com\)](https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2024/03/23/privatizing-surgical-procedures-drives-up-health-care-costs.html)

Physicians sound alarm over unfilled Ontario residency spots

CBC News, March 24, 2024

[Physicians sound alarm over unfilled Ontario residency spots | CBC News](https://www.cbc.com/news/health/physicians-sound-alarm-over-unfilled-ontario-residency-spots-1.7048444)

What to know about the measles vaccine

CBC News, March 23, 2024

[What to know about the measles vaccine — from who should get one, to how long immunity lasts | CBC News](https://www.cbc.com/news/health/what-to-know-about-the-measles-vaccine-from-who-should-get-one-to-how-long-immunity-lasts-1.7048444)

The drug addiction problem in Sudbury is too serious to ignore

Sudbury.com, March 24, 2024

[The drug addiction problem in Sudbury is too serious to ignore - Sudbury News](https://www.sudbury.com/news/the-drug-addiction-problem-in-sudbury-is-too-serious-to-ignore-1.7048444)

Health unit will push province to require that health care providers report immunizations

CBC News, March 22, 2024

[Health unit will push province to require that health care providers report immunizations | CBC News](#)

Sudbury hospital working to improve the health of Northerners

Sudbury.com, March 24, 2024

[Sudbury hospital working to improve the health of Northerners - Sudbury News](#)

Naturopathic doctors aren't solution to primary care crisis: doctors, health experts

The Canadian Press, March 25, 2024

[Naturopathic doctors aren't solution to primary care crisis: doctors, health experts - Thorold News \(thoroldtoday.ca\)](#)

Without health-care workers, we have nothing but empty health-care facilities

St. Catharines Standard, March 25, 2024

[Governments too often ignore the fact health care is people \(stcatharinesstandard.ca\)](#)

Sault health centre to pay higher interest on \$4M bank loans

Sudbury.com, March 24, 2024

[Sault health centre to pay higher interest on \\$4M bank loans - Sudbury News](#)

Six drug-related deaths reported by HPE health unit in three weeks

County News This Week, March 26, 2024

[Six drug-related deaths reported by HPE health unit in three weeks | The County Weekly News](#)

Brace for 2024/25 deficit as demand for primary care at Sault Area Hospital to surge: Official

The Standard, March 26, 2024

[Brace for 2024/25 deficit, Sault Area Hospital head warns | Elliot Lake Standard](#)

Letters: Saluting the staff at KGH; A card brightens a day

The Whig, March 25, 2024

[Letters to the Editor: Two positive experiences at KGH | Gananoque Reporter](#)

Why this Ontario rapper says colon cancer screening should start at age 30, not 50

CBC News, March 26, 2024

[Why this Ontario rapper says colon cancer screening should start at age 30, not 50 | CBC Radio](#)

About 200 Mississauga seniors losing retirement home to sale

CBC News, March 25, 2024

[About 200 Mississauga seniors losing retirement home to sale | CBC News](#)

Ontario College of Pharmacists seeks restrictions on exclusive deals with insurers

The Globe and Mail, March 25, 2024

[Ontario College of Pharmacists seeks restrictions on exclusive deals with insurers - The Globe and Mail](#)

In wake of Winnipeg lab scandal, scientists say Canada benefits from new, high-security pathogen lab

CBC News, March 26, 2024

[In wake of Winnipeg lab scandal, scientists say Canada benefits from new, high-security pathogen lab | CBC News](#)

Services for youth step up to fill gap left by Sudbury Action Centre for Youth

CBC News, March 26, 2024

[Services for youth step up to fill gap left by Sudbury Action Centre for Youth | CBC News](#)

Sanguen health van can't stop outside The Bridges shelter in Cambridge after parking dispute with city

CBC News, March 26, 2024

[Sanguen health van can't stop outside The Bridges shelter in Cambridge after parking dispute with city | CBC News](#)

Are we too fearful of cancer?

The Globe and Mail, March 26, 2024

[Opinion: Are we too fearful of cancer? - The Globe and Mail](#)

Watch what happens when not enough people are protected from measles

Toronto Star, March 27, 2024

[Watch what happens when measles coverage is not enough \(thestar.com\)](#)

Kids missing more school since pandemic, CBC analysis finds

CBC News, March 27, 2024

[Kids missing more school since pandemic, CBC analysis finds | CBC News](#)

More than 2,900 elementary students in Waterloo region suspended for out-of-date vaccine records

CBC News, March 27, 2024

[More than 2,900 elementary students in Waterloo region suspended for out-of-date vaccine records | CBC News](#)

CAMH calls for governments to restrict gambling advertising to protect youth mental health

The Globe and Mail, March 27, 2024

[CAMH calls for governments to restrict gambling advertising to protect youth mental health - The Globe and Mail](#)

Quinte health making progress with staffing

InQuinte.ca, March 26, 2024

[INQUINTE.CA | Quinte health making progress with staffing](#)

Health Unit concludes #HPEQuits challenge

INQUINTE, MARCH 26, 2024

[INQUINTE.CA | Health Unit concludes #HPEQuits challenge](#)

Ontario regulator exploring legal options to address allegations of corporate pressure at pharmacies

CBC News, March 27, 2024

[Ontario regulator exploring legal options to address allegations of corporate pressure at pharmacies | CBC News](#)

City of Lakes Family Health Team hires new executive director

Sudbury.com, March 28, 2024

[City of Lakes Family Health Team hires new executive director - Sudbury News](#)

Labour coverage:

Teacher guilty of professional misconduct for anti-COVID social media posts

Sudbury.com, March 19, 2024

[Teacher guilty of professional misconduct for anti-COVID social media posts - Sudbury News](#)

Young Canadian workers feel isolated and lonely, TELUS Health finds

The Canadian Press, March 19, 2024

[Young Canadian workers feel isolated and lonely, TELUS Health finds \(thestar.com\)](#)

Teachers' federation rejects more work for retirees, despite staff shortages

Toronto Star, March 18, 2024

[Teachers' federation rejects more work for retirees \(thestar.com\)](https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2024/03/18/teachers-federation-rejects-more-work-for-retirees-despite-staff-shortages.html)

“They do miss their breaks”: Health care workers allege staffing pressures at Lakeridge Health

Durham Radio News, March 20, 2024

[“They do miss their breaks”: Health care workers allege staffing pressures at Lakeridge Health | Durham Radio News](https://www.durhamradio.com/news/2024/03/20/they-do-miss-their-breaks-health-care-workers-allege-staffing-pressure-at-lakeridge-health/)

‘Beyond shameful’: Bell reportedly laid off hundreds of workers in virtual group meetings, union claims

Toronto Star, March 20, 2024

[Bell laid off workers in virtual group meetings, union says \(thestar.com\)](https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2024/03/20/beyond-shameful-bell-reportedly-laid-off-hundreds-of-workers-in-virtual-group-meetings-union-claims.html)

Canada is changing its foreign worker rules. Here’s why — and what it will mean

Toronto Star, March 21, 2024

[What Ottawa's tightened rules on foreign workers will mean \(thestar.com\)](https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2024/03/21/canada-is-changing-its-foreign-worker-rules-heres-why-and-what-it-will-mean.html)

More than 400 AGO workers to go on strike Tuesday

CBC News, March 26, 2024

[More than 400 AGO workers to go on strike Tuesday | CBC News](https://www.cbc.com/news/canada/ago-workers-strike-1.7048444)

Human Rights & Equity coverage:

Trans content creators say social media can be toxic, but won't let hate push them offline

CBC News, March 17, 2024

[Trans content creators say social media can be toxic, but won't let hate push them offline | CBC News](https://www.cbc.com/news/canada/trans-content-creators-social-media-toxic-1.7038444)

The Church has chosen to burn bridges with Inuit instead of aiming for justice

The Globe and Mail, March 14, 2024

[Opinion: The Church has chosen to burn bridges with Inuit instead of aiming for justice - The Globe and Mail](https://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/article-the-church-has-chosen-to-burn-bridges-with-inuit-instead-of-aiming-for-justice/)

Transgender people bear brunt of misinformation about gender identity, experts say

The Canadian Press, March 18, 2024

[Transgender people bear brunt of misinformation about gender identity, experts say \(thestar.com\)](#)

Hate-crime reports and antisemitic incidents in Toronto rise, police chief says

The Canadian Press, March 18, 2024

[Hate-crime reports and antisemitic incidents in Toronto rise, police chief says \(thestar.com\)](#)

Community provides support after bomb threat at Thunder Bay Drag Queen Storytime event

CBC News, March 19, 2024

[Community provides support after bomb threat at Thunder Bay Drag Queen Storytime event | CBC News](#)

Auditor-general report slams Ottawa's poor record on First Nations housing, policing

The Canadian Press, March 19, 2024

[Auditor-general report slams Ottawa's poor record on First Nations housing, policing - The Globe and Mail](#)

Support 'hub' for Black doctors aims to bridge gaps in London health care, rebuild patient trust

CBC News, March 20, 2024

[Support 'hub' for Black doctors aims to bridge gaps in London health care, rebuild patient trust | CBC News](#)

Ugandan, Ghanaian LGBTQ+ activists urge Ottawa to step up action against homophobic laws

The Canadian Press, March 20, 2024

[Ugandan, Ghanaian LGBTQ+ activists urge Ottawa to step up action against homophobic laws - The Globe and Mail](#)

Course for health-care providers aims to address anti-Black racism in health care

The Canadian Press, March 21, 2024

[Course for health-care providers aims to address anti-Black racism in health care \(thestar.com\)](#)

It's shameful that Canada has among the lowest and highest tuberculosis rates in the world

Toronto Star, March 22, 2024

[No excuses for Inuit communities suffering high rates of TB \(thestar.com\)](#)

'A slap in the face': Toronto Catholic school board quietly disbands race relations committee to the dismay of former members

Toronto Star, March 21, 2024

[Toronto Catholic board disbands anti-racism committee \(thestar.com\)](https://www.thestar.com/news/ontario/2024/03/21/catholic-school-board-disbands-anti-racism-committee.html)

Canada's dangerous slide into antisemitism

The Globe and Mail, March 22, 2024

[Globe editorial: Canada's dangerous slide into antisemitism - The Globe and Mail](https://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/article/canada-dangerous-slide-into-antisemitism/)

Winner of first ever Indigenous Juno says music awards still have work to do on reconciliation

CBC News, March 24, 2024

[Winner of first ever Indigenous Juno says music awards still have work to do on reconciliation | CBC News](https://www.cbc.com/news/indigenous/2024/03/24/indigenous-juno-awards-reconciliation.html)

Ottawa's approach to First Nations housing 'cost lives' on reserve, says NAN Grand Chief

Sudbury.com, March 25, 2024

[Ottawa's approach to First Nations housing 'cost lives' on reserve, says NAN Grand Chief - Sudbury News](https://www.sudbury.com/news/ottawa-approach-to-first-nations-housing-cost-lives-on-reserve-says-nan-grand-chief-2024-03-25)

Ontario MPPs can now speak their own Indigenous languages at Queen's Park

CBC News, March 27, 2024

[Ontario MPPs can now speak their own Indigenous languages at Queen's Park | CBC News](https://www.cbc.com/news/politics/ontario-mpps-indigenous-languages-2024-03-27)

Thunder Bay hospital launches anti-stigma campaign to better support patients with addictions

CBC News, March 27, 2024

[Thunder Bay hospital launches anti-stigma campaign to better support patients with addictions | CBC News](https://www.cbc.com/news/health/thunder-bay-hospital-anti-stigma-campaign-2024-03-27)

Comedian Mae Martin hopes CBC documentary dispels 'hysteria' over gender fluidity

The Globe and Mail, March 27, 2024

[Comedian Mae Martin hopes CBC documentary dispels 'hysteria' over gender fluidity - The Globe and Mail](https://www.theglobeandmail.com/entertainment/television/article/comedian-mae-martin-hopes-cbc-documentary-dispels-hysteria-over-gender-fluidity/)

From personal experience I know it's a mistake to not continue investing in inclusion

Toronto Star, March 28, 2024

[Investing in inclusion is good for Canada \(thestar.com\)](#)

Symbols matter — but what trans communities in Ontario need is action

TVO.org, March 28, 2024

[Symbols matter — but what trans communities in Ontario need is action | TVO Today](#)

Indigenous languages are dying. Here's how we fight that trend

Toronto Star, March 28, 2024

[Saving Indigenous languages while we can \(thestar.com\)](#)

Collective rights of Indigenous communities trump individual Charter rights in some cases, Supreme Court rules

The Globe and Mail, March 28, 2024

[Collective rights of Indigenous communities trump individual Charter rights in some cases, Supreme Court rules - The Globe and Mail](#)

Political coverage:

Machado: Alberta's failed lab privatization deal is another costly example of governments not listening to those who know best

Healthing, March 15, 2024

[Machado: Alberta's failed lab privatization deal is another costly example of governments not listening to those who know best | Healthing.ca](#)

Prime Minister Pierre Poilievre? That's bad news for Doug Ford

Toronto Star, March 16, 2024

[Prime Minister Pierre Poilievre? That's bad for Doug Ford \(thestar.com\)](#)

NDP MPP Joel Harden planning to run federally in Ottawa

CBC News, March 16, 2024

[NDP MPP Joel Harden planning to run federally in Ottawa | CBC News](#)

Privacy commissioner orders OPP to give it records of officers' role at Ford family stag and doe

The Trillium, March 18, 2024

[Privacy commissioner orders OPP to give it records of officers' role at Ford family stag and doe - The Trillium](#)

Crombie rules out provincial carbon tax as part of 2026 Ontario election platform

The Canadian Press, March 18, 2024

[Crombie rules out provincial carbon tax as part of 2026 Ontario election platform | TVO Today](#)

Doug Ford is recklessly bending the legal system to his will — and it's not the first time he's meddled

Toronto Star, March 20, 2024

[Doug Ford as meddled with Ontario's judicial system before \(thestar.com\)](#)

Ontario promotes new Kenora hospital — before actually giving it the green light

CBC News, March 18, 2024

[Ontario promotes new Kenora hospital — before actually giving it the green light | CBC News](#)

Ontario government facing class action suit for abruptly cancelling basic income program

CBC News, March 19, 2024

[Ontario government facing class action suit for abruptly cancelling basic income program | CBC News](#)

Internal plans reveal potential 'phase 2' in controversial Ontario Place redevelopment

Global News, March 20, 2024

[Internal plans reveal potential 'phase 2' in controversial Ontario Place redevelopment | Globalnews.ca](#)

Amid doctor shortage, Ford government looking at building a medical school in Vaughan: sources

Toronto Star, March 20, 2024

[Ontario looking at building a medical school in Vaughan \(thestar.com\)](#)

The OPP doesn't have to enforce First Nations laws. Indigenous leaders say that's outrageous — and they want the Ford government to act

The Toronto Star, March 20, 2024

[Leaders call for mandatory enforcement of First Nations laws \(thestar.com\)](#)

Under Doug Ford, Ontario's tribunals are under severe attack

Toronto Star, March 21, 2024

[Ontario's tribunals are under sever attack \(thestar.com\)](#)

Brian Mulroney delivered for corporate bosses, leaving workers in the snowbanks

Toronto Star, March 21, 2024

[Mulroney changed Canada, making corporations dominant \(thestar.com\)](#)

Ford government denies claim there is 'a secret plan to pave' Ontario Place

Toronto Star, March 20, 2024

[Ford Tories deny there is "a secret plan" for Ontario Place \(thestar.com\)](#)

Unhappy about Ontario's carbon levy? Thank Doug Ford for making it happen

Toronto Star, March 22, 2024

[Unhappy about Ontario's carbon tax? Thank Doug Ford \(thestar.com\)](#)

'Ontario remains resilient': finance minister warns of economic challenges ahead of budget

The Trillium, March 21, 2024

['Ontario remains resilient': finance minister warns of economic challenges ahead of budget - The Trillium](#)

The Trudeau government plan to ban replacement workers would only lead to more strikes. That's the last thing we need

Toronto Star, March 23, 2024

[Bill C-58 adds to risks facing Canada's supply chain \(thestar.com\)](#)

Is starving Ontario's hospitals and schools really something to brag about?

Toronto Star, March 25, 2024

[Low provincial spending is starving our public services \(thestar.com\)](#)

Ontario ad campaign 'It's Happening Here' has cost taxpayers \$8M

CBC News, March 25, 2024

[Ontario ad campaign 'It's Happening Here' has cost taxpayers \\$8M | CBC News](#)

Ontario to unveil provincial budget Tuesday, as province faces growing economic uncertainty

The Globe and Mail, March 24, 2024

[Ontario to unveil provincial budget Tuesday, as province faces growing economic uncertainty - The Globe and Mail](#)

Doug Ford's budget will extend gas tax cut to Dec. 31

Toronto Star, March 25, 2024

[Doug Ford's budget will extend gas tax cut to Dec. 31 \(thestar.com\)](#)

Ford defends taxpayer-funded government ads: 'You have to market your province'

The Trillium, March 25, 2024

[Ford defends taxpayer-funded government ads: 'You have to market your province' - The Trillium](#)

Doug Ford's Tories to deliver provincial budget today

Toronto Star, March 26, 2024

[Doug Ford's Tories to deliver provincial budget today \(thestar.com\)](#)

Ontario budget to be 'prudent and responsible,' minister says

The Canadian Press, March 26, 2024

[Ontario budget to be 'prudent and responsible,' minister says \(thestar.com\)](#)

Miserable young Canadians threaten to make Justin Trudeau feel their pain

The Toronto Star, March 26, 2024

[Miserable young Canadians threaten to make Justin Trudeau feel their pain \(thestar.com\)](#)

Billions in new funding for health care in Ontario budget

CBC News, March 26, 2024

[Billions in new funding for health care in Ontario budget | CBC News](#)

Ford government's budget shortfall soars to \$9.8 billion as tax revenues plunge

Toronto Star, March 26, 2024

[Ford government's budget shortfall soars to \\$9.8B \(thestar.com\)](#)

What will you get for your tax dollars? The budget should be clear

Sudbury.com, March 26, 2024

[What will you get for your tax dollars? The budget should be clear - Sudbury News](#)

Ontario budget pours \$2B into home care, but critics say it ignores long ER wait times

Toronto Star, March 26, 2024

[Ontario budget pours \\$2B into home care \(thestar.com\)](#)

With its 2024 budget, the Ford government is asking you to trust it. You shouldn't

TVO.org, March 27, 2024

[With its 2024 budget, the Ford government is asking you to trust it. You shouldn't | TVO Today](#)

Funding for 'massive' expansion of primary care falls far short

Hamilton Spectator, March 27, 2024

[Funding for Greater Hamilton Health Network plan falls short \(niagarafallsreview.ca\)](#)

Doug Ford's budget ensures Ontario won't thrive

Toronto Star, March 26, 2024

[Doug Ford's budget ensures Ontario won't thrive \(thestar.com\)](https://www.thestar.com)

Ontario budget projects \$9.8B deficit, real-dollar social services cuts

The Trillium, March 26, 2024

[Ontario budget projects \\$9.8B deficit, real-dollar social services cuts - The Trillium](#)

Ontario's government fought public workers for years. And lost billions.

CITY News, March 28, 2024

[Ontario's government fought public workers for years. And lost billions. \(citynews.ca\)](https://www.citynews.ca)

Ontario budget falls short on investments in northern Ontario, say advocates

CBC News, March 28, 2024

[Ontario budget falls short on investments in northern Ontario, say advocates | CBC News](#)

Extra billing sometimes a 'misunderstanding,' Ontario health minister says

Global News, March 28, 2024

[Extra billing sometimes a 'misunderstanding,' Ontario health minister says | Globalnews.ca](https://www.globalnews.ca)

Ontario spending \$310K on new media room with limits on reporters

The Canadian Press, March 28, 2024

[Ontario spending \\$310K on new media room with limits on reporters | CBC News](#)

Ontario's finance minister responds to Whitby's disappointment on lack of hospital funding in budget

Durham Radio News, March 27, 2024

[Ontario's finance minister responds to Whitby's disappointment on lack of hospital funding in budget | Durham Radio News](#)

Doug Ford has adopted Red Green's approach to fixing problems

Elliott Lake Standard, March 28, 2024

[Elliott Lake Standard \(Print Edition\)](#)

Media Release

Brantford Community Healthcare Registered Nurses Call for an Independent Review of Patient Safety

BRANTFORD, ON, March 18, 2024 – After repeatedly raising extremely serious concerns about patient safety and registered nurse (RN) staffing levels, RNs at Brantford Community Healthcare have called in an Independent Assessment Committee (IAC) to investigate issues in the hospital's emergency department.

“Nurses are alarmed for the safety of their acutely ill and unstable patients,” says Ontario Nurses’ Association President Erin Ariss, RN. “Access to safe and timely care is being delayed due to ongoing and unsafe RN staffing levels. Over the past three years, this hospital has repeatedly failed to ensure the required RN resources to support nurses in providing patients with the best care possible – the care patients deserve, and the College of Nurses of Ontario stipulates that RNs provide.”

Ariss says that RNs have consistently provided written documentation to this employer outlining the effects of inadequate RN staffing levels and the negative impact on patient care for this complex and susceptible population. These patients are more likely to require specialized nursing care, and the lack of RN staffing contributes to an unsafe work environment, potentially putting patients at risk.

“Nurses have been raising their concerns for more than three years, and the hospital has failed to resolve these serious issues,” says Ariss. “Both patient health and the ability of RNs to meet their professional standards are on the line. RNs must be able to meet the standards set by their regulatory college or risk their ability to practice.”

The hearing begins on March 19 and runs for three days. An IAC is a panel of three independent RN experts who assess and analyze the professional responsibility and workload issues raised by nurses, who will provide evidence of the negative impacts of inadequate staffing on patient care. The panel evaluates the evidence, determines whether RNs are being assigned more work than is consistent with the provision of proper patient care, and make recommendations to address concerns. Calling an IAC is the most severe step ONA can take to address concerns and is a last resort.

ONA is the union representing over 68,000 Registered Nurses and Healthcare professionals, as well as 18,000 nursing student affiliates, providing care in hospitals, long-term care, public health, the community, clinics, and industry.

Media Release

Ford's budget promises cannot be trusted to improve care in the public system, says Ontario Nurses' Association

TORONTO, ON, March 26, 2024 – The Ford government's 2024 Ontario budget fails to commit to the province's public health-care system in a meaningful way and lacks any details on how the health-care funds announced will be used, says the Ontario Nurses' Association (ONA).

"ONA was crystal clear in our pre-budget submission about what is needed to improve public health care," says ONA Provincial President Erin Ariss, RN. "There are several actions this government could and should have taken to address the health-care crisis it has created. Instead, Ontarians will see their taxpayer money flowing to for-profit, private corporations as the public health-care system falls further into disrepair."

The four per cent increase in hospital funding falls short on what is needed for the system to stabilize, notes Ariss. "This meagre one-year increase does not begin to address Ontario's hospitals' budgets, some of which are using lines of credits to pay off their debts. This is another missed opportunity for the government to do what's right for public health care."

ONA recommended that the government legislate safe staffing ratios to improve safe care, close the wage gap for nurses and health-care professionals working in primary care, nursing homes and home and community care, and end the reliance on for-profit clinics and nursing agencies, which are gouging taxpayers – close to \$1 billion yearly – at the expense of the public system. Instead, notes Ariss, the government has doubled down on privatization.

"There are no details on how health care funds will be used, and that is the invisible fine print of budget 2024. Increased dollars do not mean value for money, better health care for Ontarians or improved working conditions for workers. Targeted investments in retention strategies and improving publicly funded and delivered health care would have enormous benefits for everyone. Front-line ONA members will continue to push back and ask that residents of this province do the same."

ONA is the union representing more than 68,000 registered nurses and health-care professionals, as well as 18,000 nursing student affiliates, providing care in hospitals, long-term care facilities, public health, the community, clinics and industry.

Media Release

Ontario Nurses' Association Pickets at Extendicare Canada to Launch Nursing Homes Bargaining Campaign Calling for Care, Not Profit

MARKHAM, ON, March 27, 2024 – To mark the start of Ontario Nurses' Association (ONA) collective bargaining with 194 participating Ontario for-profit nursing homes, close to 200 nurses and health-care professionals held an early-morning picket outside Extendicare Canada's corporate headquarters in Markham today.

"Care, Not Profit is our rallying cry as we push back against low staffing levels and unequal wages at Ontario's for-profit nursing homes," says ONA Provincial President Erin Ariss, RN. "Corporations like Extendicare are raking in record billion-dollar profits on the backs of vulnerable residents and those struggling to care for them under impossible working conditions. Nursing home residents are not receiving the quality and safety of care they need because of understaffing. It's deplorable, and we are taking action to fix it."

Ariss says that ONA's front-line nursing homes staff are clear about their priorities for a new contract and willing to fight for them: they all want quality care to be the top priority, full stop. This means that ONA is entering talks demanding RN-to-resident staffing ratios and equal wages with hospital nurses. Front-line staff know that achieving these priorities will vastly improve the amount and quality of care residents receive.

Ariss says the time is now for these corporations to put care before profit. "We have seen the very clear outcomes for residents of for-profit homes compared to non-profit homes. The class action lawsuit just given the green light for the absolutely dire conditions and excessive deaths that happened during COVID-19's first phase in six of these for-profit homes has put the neglect of residents in the spotlight.

"ONA is firm that our provincial government must demand accountability from these for-profit corporations, as should every Ontario citizen. The Extendicares in this province receive generous taxpayer funding – and skim profit off the top, unchecked. They understaff and underpay workers to maximize profit. Their shareholders come before providing the care they are entrusted to deliver. Nurses are loud and clear: the days of corporate greed overruling the needs of our vulnerable residents are going to end, and we intend to fight for it."

ONA is the union representing more than 68,000 registered nurses and health-care professionals, as well as 18,000 nursing student affiliates, providing care in hospitals, long-term care facilities, public health, the community, clinics and industry.