

Ontario Nurses' Association
Weekly Media Scan & Media Release Summary

March 29 to April 5, 2024

ONA coverage:

Ford's Budget Promises Will Not Improve Public System Care

Kingsville Times, April 2, 2024

[Ford's Budget Promises Will Not Improve Public System Care - Kingsville Times](#)

Province touts 'prudent' budget despite record spending

Wellington Advertiser, April 2, 2024

[Province touts 'prudent' budget despite record spending \(wellingtonadvertiser.com\)](#)

Town ratifies agreement with nurses' union

Northern News, CJKL, April 3, 2024

[Town ratifies agreement with nurses' union | The Daily Press \(timminspress.com\)](#)

'Sunshine List' Released For Chatham-Kent Municipal Employees

CKXS, April 3, 2024

['Sunshine List' Released For Chatham-Kent Municipal Employees - 99.1 FM CKXS | Your Music Variety \(ckxsfm.com\)](#)

Be grateful for high-earning nurses

The Record.com, Waterloo Chronicle, April 4, 2024

[Letters to the editor: Be grateful for high-earning nurses \(therecord.com\)](#)

Nominate a nurse who has made a difference

CK News Today, April 4, 2024

[Nominate a nurse who has made a difference - CK News Today](#)

Know An Awesome Nurse? Nominate Them For This Award

Windsorite.ca, April 5, 2024

[Know An Awesome Nurse? Nominate Them For This Award | windsoriteDOTca News - windsor ontario's neighbourhood newspaper windsoriteDOTca News](#)

Nursing coverage:

Mankal: Let's clear up some confusion about nurse practitioners in Ontario

Ottawa Citizen, April 2, 2024

[Ottawa Citizen](#)

Let Nurse Practitioners Bill

Ottawa Sun, April 2, 2024
[Ottawa Sun \(Print Edition\)](#)

Hamilton Health Sciences hiring more nurses

Hamilton Spectator, April 2, 2024
[Hamilton Health Sciences hiring more nurses \(stcatharinesstandard.ca\)](#)

Baby boom amongst nurses leads to maternity ward closure in Listowel, Ont.

CTV News, March 28, 2024
[Listowel's obstetrics unit closing this summer | CTV News](#)

TFN nurse accused of accessing residents' health records without consent

Sault Star, April 2, 2024
[Sault Star \(Print Edition\)](#)

Sun shines on teachers, nurses in latest \$100,000 salary list for Waterloo Region

Waterloo Chronicle, April 2, 2024
[Teachers, nurses see sunshine on Waterloo Region salary list \(waterloochronicle.ca\)](#)

Educators, health care workers top Sunshine List; Public board has Ontario's highest-paid director

Brockville Recorder & Times, April 2, 2024
[Brockville Recorder & Times \(Print Edition\)](#)

'HAS REMORSE': Pennsylvania nurse who allegedly bullied patients eyed in 17 deaths

Toronto Sun, March 29, 2024
[Pennsylvania nurse who allegedly bullied patients eyed in 17 deaths | Toronto Sun](#)

CKHA holding job fair in Chatham next week

CKNX, April 3, 2024
[CKHA holding job fair in Chatham next week - CKNX News Today](#)

Ontario government tells Ottawa woman OHIP won't cover \$110 Pap test from Appletree clinic

Ottawa Citizen, April 3, 2024
[Ontario government tells Ottawa woman OHIP won't cover \\$110 pap test | Ottawa Sun](#)

Be grateful for high-earning nurses

The Record.com, Waterloo Chronicle, April 4, 2024
[Letters to the editor: Be grateful for high-earning nurses \(therecord.com\)](#)

Nominate a nurse who has made a difference

CK News Today, April 4, 2024

[Nominate a nurse who has made a difference - CK News Today](#)

Industry coverage:

Halton Healthcare expands program that helps divert ER visits

Halton Hills Today, April 1, 2024

[Halton Healthcare expands program that helps divert ER visits - Halton Hills News \(haltonhillstoday.ca\)](#)

Sault Area Hospital working hard to fill employment gaps

Toronto Star, April 1, 2024

[Sault Area Hospital working hard to fill employment gaps \(thestar.com\)](#)

Ruth lost her love of reading. Then she moved to a new retirement home that changed everything

Toronto Star, March 31, 2024

[Ruth lost her love of reading. Then she moved to a new retirement home that changed everything \(thestar.com\)](#)

'We were going to lose power': Algoma Board of Health echoes merger opposition to ministry

Sault Star, March 30, 2024

[Sault Star \(Print Edition\)](#)

Person diagnosed with bird flu in Texas after contact with cows

Associated Press, April 1, 2024

[Person diagnosed with bird flu in Texas after contact with cows | CBC News](#)

Ontario is in the midst of a drug crisis. These seven charts tell us who's being hit hardest

Toronto Star, April 1, 2024

[7 charts tell us who's hit hardest by Ontario's drug crisis \(thestar.com\)](#)

Cutting ER wait times? There's an app for that

Toronto Star, March 30, 2024

[Hospitals tap technology to reduce emergency room waits \(thestar.com\)](#)

Ontario's top doctor calls for decriminalization, limits on legal substances

CBC News, March 29, 2024

[Ontario's top doctor calls for decriminalization, limits on legal substances | CBC News](#)

Family doctor in North Bay, Ont. says family medicine is in a crisis

CBC News, April 2, 2024

[Family doctor in North Bay, Ont. says family medicine is in a crisis | CBC News](#)

'A dangerous mix': Shoppers Drug Mart opens primary care clinics

The Trillium, March 28, 2024

['A dangerous mix': Shoppers Drug Mart opens primary care clinics - The Trillium](#)

'Coming home': New Southlake president talks vision for future

The Trillium, April 1, 2024

['Coming home': New Southlake president talks vision for future - The Trillium](#)

As funding for supervised consumption runs out, people who use drugs brace for the worst

CBC News, April 1, 2024

[As funding for supervised consumption runs out, people who use drugs brace for the worst | CBC News](#)

A housing remedy for Canada's hard-hit ERs

Globe and Mail, April 1, 2024

[Doctors seek novel remedies for ERs stretched thin by homeless patients - The Globe and Mail](#)

Sudbury Project SEARCH 'a real difference maker'

Sudbury.com, April 1, 2024

[Sudbury Project SEARCH 'a real difference maker' - Sudbury News](#)

Machado: Long-term care is still not OK

Healthing, March 29, 2024

[Machado: Long-term care is still not OK | Healthing.ca](#)

VIDEO: Measles comeback may just be the first of many: Brock expert

Collingwood Today, April 1, 2024

[VIDEO: Measles comeback may just be the first of many: Brock expert - Collingwood News \(collingwoodtoday.ca\)](#)

CHEO's Alex Munter has not had a raise since 2012, an anomaly among hospital heads

Ottawa Citizen, April 2, 2024

[CHEO's Alex Munter has not had a raise since 2012, an anomaly | Ottawa Sun](#)

Why is the Ford government giving even more money to long-term-care operators facing lawsuits for negligence? Inside a twisted tale that will lead to disaster

Toronto Star, April 3, 2024

[Inside the twisted tale unfolding in Ontario long-term care \(thestar.com\)](https://www.thestar.com)

Her loved one got a \$5,200 bill under the long-term care law. Ontario repeatedly said no charges were reported

CBC News, April 3, 2024

[Her loved one got a \\$5,200 bill under the long-term care law. Ontario repeatedly said no charges were reported | CBC News](https://www.cbc.com)

A timely reminder that the courts need to keep their noses out of individuals' medical decisions

The Globe and Mail, April 2, 2024

[Opinion: A timely reminder that the courts need to keep their noses out of individuals' medical decisions - The Globe and Mail](https://www.theglobeandmail.com)

Politicians should spend a night in a LTC home

Toronto Star, April 3, 2024

[Politicians should spend a night in a LTC home \(thestar.com\)](https://www.thestar.com)

Durham ED suddenly closed for remainder of Tuesday

CKNX, April 2, 2024

[Durham ED suddenly closed for remainder of Tuesday - CKNX News Today](https://www.cknx.com)

'These delays equal deaths': Sudbury consumption site closes as it awaits response on provincial funding

The Trillium, April 2, 2024

['These delays equal deaths': Sudbury consumption site closes as it awaits response on provincial funding - The Trillium](https://www.thetrillium.com)

'Unexpected' system outage causing delays at multiple Toronto hospitals: UHN

CP24, April 3, 2024

[System outage causing delays at University Health Network hospitals | CP24.com](https://www.cp24.com)

NBRHC: Sunshine List rise due in part to Bill 124 arbitration awards

BayToday, April 2, 2024

[NBRHC: Sunshine List rise due in part to Bill 124 arbitration awards - North Bay News \(baytoday.ca\)](https://www.baytoday.ca)

Paramedics restrain knife-wielding patient

Brantford Expositor, April 4, 2024

[Brantford Expositor \(Print Edition\)](#)

Case of measles confirmed in adult in Durham

Toronto Star, April 3, 2024

[Measles case confirmed in adult in Durham Region \(thestar.com\)](#)

Cyberattack update: 82,000 Bluewater Health patients to start receiving letters next week

Sarnia Journal, April 3, 2024

[Cyberattack update: 82,000 Bluewater Health patients to start receiving letters next week - The Sarnia Journal](#)

Ontario hospitals send 326K letters to patients whose info was stolen in cyberattack

Canadian Press, April 3, 2024

[Ontario hospitals send 326K letters to patients whose info was stolen in cyberattack \(thestar.com\)](#)

Cultural long-term care admissions drying up in Ontario due to new priority rules

The Canadian Press, April 4, 2024

[Cultural long-term care admissions drying up in Ontario due to new priority rules \(thestar.com\)](#)

Health information system restored at University Health Network after early morning outage

Toronto Star, April 3, 2024

[Network outage 'Code Grey' resolved at Toronto hospitals \(thestar.com\)](#)

Canadians waiting longer for surgeries and other procedures compared to 2019: report

Canadian Press, April 4, 2024

[Canadians waiting longer for surgeries and other procedures compared to 2019: report \(thestar.com\)](#)

Now that bird flu is spreading among cows, scientists worry where H5N1 will jump next

CBC News, April 4, 2024

[Now that bird flu is spreading among cows, scientists worry where H5N1 will jump next | CBC News](#)

Strathroy woman launches petition to save hospital's obstetrics unit and keep births local

CBC News, April 4, 2024

[Strathroy woman launches petition to save hospital's obstetrics unit and keep births local | CBC News](#)

Extendicare moving residents into new South End home

Sudbury.com, April 3, 2024

[Extendicare moving residents into new South End home - Sudbury News](#)

Frequently closed rural Ontario emergency department faces uncertain future

The Trillium, April 4, 2024

[Frequently closed rural Ontario emergency department faces uncertain future - The Trillium](#)

Canada cancels free HIV self-test program despite 'alarming' rise in infections

Toronto Star, April 5, 2024

[Canada ends free HIV self-test program despite rise in cases \(thestar.com\)](#)

We need to start treating loneliness like a public health challenge. Here's why

Toronto Star, April 5, 2024

[We need to treat loneliness like a public health emergency \(thestar.com\)](#)

Canada is bad at studying wealth inequality and we explain why that matters

Toronto Star, April 4, 2024

[Canada has poor wealth inequality data \(thestar.com\)](#)

Wait lists for hip, knee replacements, other priority procedures longer than before pandemic

The Canadian Press, April 4, 2024

[Wait lists for hip, knee replacements, other priority procedures longer than before pandemic | CBC News](#)

Ottawa's high-risk respiratory streak ends

CBC News, April 4, 2024

[Ottawa's high-risk respiratory streak ends | CBC News](#)

Paramedics now treating pain of opioid withdrawal to open door to recovery

CBC News, April 5, 2024

[Paramedics now treating pain of opioid withdrawal to open door to recovery | CBC News](#)

Labour coverage:

Ontario Power Generation employees top Ontario's 2023 Sunshine List

CBC News, March 28, 2024

[Ontario Power Generation employees top Ontario's 2023 Sunshine List | CBC News](#)

Rethinking Sunshine List's \$100K threshold; Annual look at public servant pay could use an inflation upgrade, official says

Ottawa Citizen, March 30, 2024

[Ottawa Citizen \(Print Edition\)](#)

Ontario says it will raise minimum wage later this year

CP24, March 28, 2024

[Ontario minimum wage will go up later this year, Ford government says | CP24.com](#)

National Indigenous women's organization accused of union-busting as it lays off dozens of staff

CBC News, April 1, 2024

[National Indigenous women's organization accused of union-busting as it lays off dozens of staff | CBC News](#)

Ontario's Sunshine List of \$100,000-plus earners tops 300,000 for first time

Toronto Star, March 28, 2024

[Ontario's Sunshine List tops 300,000 people for first time \(thestar.com\)](#)

We need a new labour framework for gig workers

Globe and Mail, March 31, 2024

[Opinion: We need a new labour framework for gig workers - The Globe and Mail](#)

This Toronto community health centre serves thousands. Its future is in jeopardy

Toronto Star, April 2, 2024

[Toronto health centre serving thousands in jeopardy \(thestar.com\)](#)

Striking workers at Regent Park Community Health Centre reach tentative deal

Toronto Star, April 3, 2024

[Regent Park health centre workers reach tentative deal \(thestar.com\)](#)

'Extreme pay:' How can the average CEO earn 246 times what you do — including 'performance bonuses' while underperforming?

Toronto Star, April 4, 2024

[Despite failures, 'extreme pay' rules Canada's C-suites \(thestar.com\)](#)

Jamaican widow wants 'better' treatment of Canada's seasonal agricultural workers in wake of husband's death

CBC News, April 4, 2024

[Jamaican widow wants 'better' treatment of Canada's seasonal agricultural workers in wake of husband's death | CBC News](#)

Human Rights & Equity coverage:

How local advocates are observing the Transgender Day of Visibility

CBC News, March 31, 2024

[How local advocates are observing the Transgender Day of Visibility | CBC News](#)

Hospital offers bandages to match all skin colours; 'This is about people feeling like we see them,'organizer says

Ottawa Citizen, April 2, 2024

[Ottawa Citizen \(Print Edition\)](#)

Program to improve health care for marginalized populations puts Black physicians in racialized communities

Globe and Mail, March 29, 2024

[Program to improve health care for marginalized populations puts Black physicians in racialized communities - The Globe and Mail](#)

Queen's University says new medical school admissions process will increase diversity

The Canadian Press, April 2, 2024

[Queen's University says new medical school admissions process will increase diversity \(thestar.com\)](#)

Students praise Black mentorship and coaching program in London high schools

CBC News, April 4, 2024

[Students praise Black mentorship and coaching program in London high schools | CBC News](#)

Elliot Lake, Ont. lawyer joins delegation of 2SLGBTQI+ veterans to commemorate WWI in Europe

CBC News, April 5, 2024

[Elliot Lake, Ont. lawyer joins delegation of 2SLGBTQI+ veterans to commemorate WWI in Europe | CBC News](#)

Why should Indigenous people in Canada not be entitled to the same rights as other Canadians?

The Globe and Mail, April 5, 2024

[Opinion: Why should Indigenous people in Canada not be entitled to the same rights as other Canadians? - The Globe and Mail](#)

Political coverage:

Doug Ford's housing plan is unravelling — and he is the reason why

Toronto Star, March 30, 2024

[Doug Ford's housing plan is unravelling \(thestar.com\)](#)

Federal government commits to creation of national school food program

CBC News, April 1, 2024

[Federal government commits to creation of national school food program | CBC News](#)

Ontario Attorney-General declines meeting over naming 'like-minded' judges

Globe and Mail, April 1, 2024

[Ontario Attorney-General declines meeting over naming 'like-minded' judges - The Globe and Mail](#)

Staffers who left Ford government over Greenbelt scandal got exit packages: sources

The Trillium, March 28, 2024

[Staffers who left Ford government over Greenbelt scandal got exit packages: sources - The Trillium](#)

'His own gravy train': Cost of staffing Doug Ford's office more than double Kathleen Wynne's

Global News, April 2, 2024

['His own gravy train': Cost of staffing Doug Ford's office more than double Kathleen Wynne's | Globalnews.ca](#)

Government taking a steady approach to continue to grow Ontario: Smith

Doppler Online, April 2, 2024

[Government taking a steady approach to continue to grow Ontario: Smith - Huntsville Doppler \(doppleronline.ca\)](#)

Court strikes down most of Ontario's Mike Harris-era anti-panhandling law

Toronto Star, April 3, 2024

[Court strikes down most of Ontario's 'squeegee kid' law \(thestar.com\)](#)

‘Our kids first’: Doug Ford says Ontario students should get all medical school spots

Toronto Star, April 3, 2024

[Ford wants Ontario students to get all medical school spots \(thestar.com\)](#)

‘Amazing day’: York University new medical school cause for celebration in Vaughan

Toronto Star, April 3, 2024

[York U new medical school cause for celebration in Vaughan \(thestar.com\)](#)

Long-term-care money just another example of collusion and abuse by the Ford government

Toronto Star, April 4, 2024

[Ford continues to chip away at public health care: letters \(thestar.com\)](#)

Provincial byelection called for Lambton-Kent-Middlesex

CBC News, April 3, 2024

[Provincial byelection called for Lambton-Kent-Middlesex | CBC News](#)

Feds extend one year lifeline to London's safer opioid supply program

CBC News, April 4, 2024

[Feds extend one year lifeline to London's safer opioid supply program | CBC News](#)

Ford says province to decide site of new Durham Region hospital

CBC News, April 3, 2024

[Ford says province to decide site of new Durham Region hospital | CBC News](#)

What will climate policy look like in Ontario if Pierre Poilievre wins?

TVO.org, April 3, 2024

[What will climate policy look like in Ontario if Pierre Poilievre wins? | TVO Today](#)

Department heads present proposed 2024 budgets to council

Kirkland Lake Northern Daily News, April 4, 2024

[Kirkland Lake Northern Daily News \(Print Edition\)](#)

Ontario's Opposition leader visits Sault to hear Group Health concerns firsthand

Elliot Lake Today, April 3, 2024

[Ontario's Opposition leader visits Sault to hear Group Health concerns firsthand - Elliot Lake News \(elliotlaketoday.com\)](#)

'I won't be bullied': Ford attacks Whitby mayor over pressure campaign for hospital funding

The Trillium, April 3, 2024

['I won't be bullied': Ford attacks Whitby mayor over pressure campaign for hospital funding - The Trillium](#)

'Do we disagree? Yes, we disagree': Premier, health minister at odds with recommendations from province's top doctor

The Trillium, April 3, 2024

['Do we disagree? Yes, we disagree': Premier, health minister at odds with recommendations from province's top doctor - The Trillium](#)

Why do so many ignore facts, like the carbon tax works? Because we're hard-wired to follow the pack

Toronto Star, April 5, 2024

[Why people believe what their neighbours think \(thestar.com\)](#)

Ford's chief of staff cleared after 'overlooked' Greenbelt email

CBC News, April 4, 2024

[Ford's chief of staff cleared after 'overlooked' Greenbelt email | CBC News](#)

Media Release

One Fertility Burlington Nurses Vote to Join Ontario Nurses' Association

BURLINGTON, ON, April 3, 2024 – The registered nurses - and registered practical nurses working at One Fertility Burlington have voted overwhelmingly to join the Ontario Nurses' Association (ONA), the country's largest nurses' union.

“We are thrilled to welcome the nurses from One Fertility Burlington,” says ONA Provincial President Erin Ariss, RN. “We are a strong and committed union of 68,000 nurses and health-care professionals, in solidarity, and are committed to improving the working conditions of our members. ONA fights for our members so that they, in turn, can provide the best care possible for those who need them.”

The nurses have expressed concern about workloads, a lack of transparency and job security issues at this clinic.

“ONA welcomes One Fertility Burlington nurses to our union and we look forward to representing them with their employer and sharing the benefits of being a member,” Ariss says.

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.

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For more information about joining ONA, please email: organizer@ona.org or call 289-260-6156 and ask to speak with an organizer. All conversations will be kept confidential.

MEDIA RELEASE

North York Family Health Team Employees Vote Overwhelmingly to Join the Ontario Nurses' Association

NORTH YORK, ON, April 3, 2024 – Fifty nurses, health-care professionals and supporting staff working at the North York Family Health Team have voted overwhelmingly to joining Canada's largest nurses' union, the Ontario Nurses' Association (ONA).

"It is an honour to represent the incredible staff at North York Family Health Team," says Erin Ariss, RN, Provincial President of ONA. "Our union is committed to improving the working conditions of our members so that they, in turn, can focus on providing care and services for all they serve. We are delighted to welcome them to ONA and the solidarity and benefits we provide."

The North York Family Health Team staff were increasingly concerned about low wages, heavy workloads, a lack of transparency, job security and wanting to have their voices heard in their workplace.

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.

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For more information about joining ONA, please email: organizer@ona.org or call 289-260-6156 and ask to speak with an organizer. All conversations will be kept confidential.

Media Release

Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare Registered Nurses Fight to Save Care Nurses Meet with Top Executives, Demand Change

BRACEBRIDGE, ON, April 5, 2024 – As registered nurses (RNs) at Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare (MAHC) rallied and donned stickers reading “RNs: Staff Us, Retain Us,” a delegation of 30 RNs accompanied by Ontario Nurses’ Association (ONA) Provincial President Erin Ariss, RN, met with top executives at Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare to demand workplace changes.

The delegation of 30 RNs from both sites of MAHC (Bracebridge and Huntsville) presented a letter signed by 88 per cent of the RNs to hospital President and CEO Cheryl Harrison, Director, Nursing, Clinical Services & Chief Nursing Executive Melissa Bilodeau and Vice President, Integrated Care, Patient Services and Quality Diane George.

“As nurses, we are patient advocates first,” says ONA Provincial President Erin Ariss, RN. “We know that patients rely on their health care, and we have clearly spelled out to the executives what this organization needs to do immediately to fix staffing and nurse retention issues at MAHC that threaten patient care.”

Nearly 200 RNs at MAHC agree that management must take six steps to immediately address staffing and retention issues; these include working with local ONA leaders and front-line nurses to develop safe, quality and ethical nurse-to-patient ratios appropriate for the number of beds at MAHC and the increasing patient acuity by this summer.

The nurses have joined the community in being outspoken about opposition to the plan unveiled earlier this year by hospital leaders that would decrease access to local care. The hospital has been facing public scrutiny and criticism for its plans that would impact the access to critically needed health-care services locally.

“Our nurses stand in solidarity with this community,” says Ariss. “We will not give up in our efforts to not only preserve, but improve, patients’ access to high-quality care in their community.”

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.