

Ontario Nurses' Association Weekly Media Scan Summary

August 19 to 23, 2024

ONA coverage:

Workers Ask the Premier to Base Public Policy on Evidence and Continue Saving Lives

Ontario Nurses' Association, August 20, 2024

[Every Ontarian deserves low-barrier access to mental health and addictions services in their community](#)

Opinion: Sault Area Hospital's paid parking should be scrapped by board

The Sault Star, August 19, 2024

[On Aug. 2 the federal health minister warned the provinces not to charge out-of-pocket fees for "medically necessary" care and "services that should be accessible at no cost"](#)

Scrap paid parking at hospitals: LETTER

The Sault Star, August 22, 2024

[What may be seen as a minor issue of offering free parking is in fact part of a much larger systemic problem with our health-care system](#)

Nursing coverage:

Nurses play key role in addressing mental well-being for people after a stroke

Lethbridge Herald, August 19, 2024

[Nurses play a key role in helping patients manage emotional and social health challenges, or psychosocial health, after a stroke, and improved screening and assessment for psychosocial needs are essential to provide optimal patient care](#)

Lhtako Dene Nation community care nurse credits CNC with helping her succeed

Quesnel Cariboo Observer, August 19, 2024

[Tia Bunnah is a community care nurse for Lhtako Dene Nation and a CNC grad](#)

State of emergency? ER doc says hospital fix needs 'drastic measures'

Telegraph-Journal, August 20, 2024

[Physician says overcrowded ERs, lack of family doctors, backlog of patients awaiting nursing home beds meets state of emergency criteria](#)

N.W.T. gov't and union met to decide use of agency nurses, as health-care staff feel strain

CBC News, August 21, 2024

[The N.W.T. government and the Union of Northern Workers \(UNW\) met last month to discuss the appropriate use of agency nurses](#)

Nurses recruited from West Africa say Quebec training program has left them destitute

Canada News Media, August 23, 2024

[A Montreal civil rights organization says a Quebec program to recruit and train nurses from overseas is leaving some participants in dire straits and dependent on food banks](#)

Family of man who died waiting for care at Fredericton ER sues Horizon, 2 nurses

Fort Frances Times, August 22, 2024

[The family of a man who died waiting for care at the Fredericton hospital's emergency department two years ago is suing health-care providers for negligence over his death, alleging "reckless and outrageous acts and omissions" in his care and treatment](#)

Industry coverage:

Privatization concerns sparked by potential new Alberta health-care 'prototype'

CBC News, August 19, 2024

[Provincial government provided \\$85K grant to group in December 2023 to provide business case](#)

Canadian ERs keep closing this summer — but there's no easy fix

CBC News, August 17, 2024

[Shuttered emergency departments are a symptom of broader issues in the health-care system, experts say](#)

Mpox strain spreading in African countries could arrive in Canada, doctors say

CP24, August 16, 2024

[The type of mpox spreading rapidly through several African countries could arrive in Canada, where that strain hasn't appeared before, Canadian experts say](#)

CUPE President Slams NL Health Services' RFP for Agency Nurses as Move Towards Privatization

VOCM, August 19, 2024

[The president of CUPE Newfoundland and Labrador says NL Health Services issuing an RFP to standardize the use of agency nurses "reeks of privatization."](#)

Ontario to close safe consumption sites near schools

CP24, August 20, 2024

[The Ontario government is moving to close safe consumption sites for drug users near schools](#)

[and prohibit any new ones from being built near schools as well](#)

Joly announces \$1M to help stem mpox in Africa as Liberals craft continental plan

CTV News, August 19, 2024

[Foreign Affairs Minister Mélanie Joly says Canada will provide \\$1 million to help stem mpox in Africa as her government assembles a long-delayed plan on how to engage with the continent](#)

New long-term care beds coming to Chilliwack

Fraser Health, August 19, 2024

[“The redevelopment of the Bradley Centre, which will add 110 new beds and replace 90 existing beds, demonstrates our government’s commitment to improving care for seniors in B.C.,” said Adrian Dix, Minister of Health](#)

New study suggests Ontario hospitals in crisis as burnout and understaffing reach alarming levels

The Trentonian, August 20, 2024

[Over 1000 times last year, Ontario hospital emergency departments were forced to close their doors—either temporarily or permanently—due to severe staffing shortages, according to a new research study](#)

Ford government to close 10 supervised consumption sites, ban new ones in favour of 'hub' model

Pelham Today, August 21, 2024

[Experts say the move will lead to more deaths, more public drug use](#)

‘People will die’: Toronto Board of Health Chair denounces plans to close supervised consumption sites

City News, August 20, 2024

[The Toronto Board of Health denounced the province’s plans to close five supervised consumption sites across the city, saying it will lead to more drug deaths and public drug use while putting a greater strain on emergency services as they race to more overdose calls](#)

Thunder Bay's only safe drug consumption site to close in wake of Ontario move, raising fears of more deaths

CBC News, August 21, 2024

["A couple of times that I've been there, I've overdosed," said Vanessa Tookenay, a member of Fort William First Nation. Tookenay has been in recovery from addiction for about 2½ years and is now a child and youth worker. "Had I not been there, I wouldn't be alive."](#)

Ontario moves to ban safe consumption sites near schools, limit new locations

Global News, August 20, 2024

The Ford government is introducing strict new rules for supervised drug consumption sites, including banning them within 200 metres of schools and child-care centres -- a move that will force several existing sites to shut down permanently

Province orders Guelph's supervised consumption site closed by March

Guelph Today, August 20, 2024

The province is banning consumption sites located within a 200 metre zone of schools or childcare centres. The nine sites affected will be given the opportunity to transition into a HART Hub “and will be prioritized as part of the application process,” said Sylvia Jones, Ontario Minister of Health

African health officials hopeful mpox shots will start within days as WHO says outbreak is 'not the new COVID'

CTV News, August 21, 2024

African nations could begin vaccinations against mpox within days, according to the continent’s top public health agency, as a World Health Organization official said the spread of a deadlier strain of the virus could be controlled and “was not the new COVID.”

More long-term beds coming to Smithers

My PG Now, August 20, 2024

The new facility will be built on Broadway Avenue near Dominion Street replacing the current 56 bed Bulkley Lodge and adding an additional 160 spaces

Quesnel to receive a new long-term care home

CKPG Today, August 21, 2024

The new home will be adding 221 new beds and replacing 67 beds from Dunrovin Park Lodge

'Jarring' survey results reveal worsening mental health among Ontario youth

CTV News, August 21, 2024

More than half of middle and high school students in Ontario say they’re experiencing a significant level of psychological distress, a figure that has doubled over the past decade, new research shows

Spinal muscular atrophy screening expanded to all infants in Canada: 'Early diagnosis and effective treatment are critical'

Healthing, August 20, 2024

Every newborn in Canada born with SMA now has a better chance of living longer and a higher quality of life thanks to new screening measures.

Arbitrator awards compensation to Toronto healthcare workers dismissed for refusing COVID jab

Western Standard, August 20, 2024

Foreign Affairs Minister Mélanie Joly says Canada will provide \$1 million to help stem mpox in Africa as her government assembles a long-delayed plan on how to engage with the continent.

Shaping the future of rare disease care in Canada: New report outlines key considerations for fund allocation

Healthing, August 22, 2024

[A new report created by Takeda Pharmaceutical Company highlights six key areas of unmet needs, offering an outline of how policymakers can go about making rare disease drug access and care better in Canada](#)

COVID-19 tied to higher risk of depression, anxiety, PTSD and other conditions, with the unvaccinated most affected, study shows

CTV News, August 22, 2024

[Having a severe case of COVID-19 appears to be linked with an increased risk of subsequent mental illness, including depression and anxiety disorders, and a new study finds that the association is strongest among people who were not vaccinated against the disease](#)

Leaders in Health: Dr. Sean Wharton and compassion in obesity medicine

Healthing, August 21, 2024

[While the mantra “eat less and move more” continues to be advised by some healthcare practitioners for people living with obesity, Dr. Sean Wharton has brought greater compassion and understanding to the healthcare community and his own clinic](#)

Former patient testifies doctor told her future husband would regret it if she got tubes tied

CBC News, August 22, 2024

[Cape Breton doctor Manivasan Moodley facing professional misconduct hearing](#)

Fluoride at twice the recommended limit is linked to lower IQ in kids, U.S. report says

CTV News, August 22, 2024

[A U.S. government report expected to stir debate concluded that fluoride in drinking water at twice the recommended limit is linked with lower IQ in children](#)

LETTER: We deserve transparency on plans for long-term care homes

Stratford Today, August 21, 2024

[Reader asks, 'How many new beds are we going to have in total and where are they going to be?'](#)

There were 2 academic articles studying long COVID and kids — 1 was

retracted, the other wasn't

Halifax Examiner, August 21, 2024

[It starts back on January 14, when the Halifax Examiner published an article reported by Yvette d'Entremont, "Study: Very few children infected with COVID-19 develop long COVID."](#)

'Arms races' to attract doctors is straining Ontario municipalities

Ottawa Sun, August 22, 2024

["It is a nightmare for smaller communities because we are bound to lose."](#)

Thunder Bay's safe drug use site 'not just a place to come get high,' says client amid Ontario closure fallout

CBC News, August 23, 2024

[Juanita Lawson of Path 525 says staff was never consulted about province's new plan](#)

Closure of Hamilton supervised drug-use site 'raises many concerns': operator

Hamilton Spectator, August 22, 2024

[But Urban Core says it's 'well positioned' to take on province's new homelessness and addiction hub model](#)

What it's like to work at Ottawa's busiest safe consumption site

Fort Frances Times, August 22, 2024

[The Trailer, open 24 hours a day, is the frontline of Ottawa's opioid epidemic. The staff are tired, traumatized, unsung heroes](#)

Mpox is now a global public health emergency. Do I need to worry?

CBC News, August 22, 2024

[Doctors say risks to most people in countries without an outbreak are low. But there are precautions to take](#)

Federal health minister puts nicotine pouches behind the counter, bans flavours

The Canadian Press, August 22, 2024

[Health Canada-approved nicotine pouches will only be available behind pharmacy counters starting next week, as part of Health Minister Mark Holland's promised crackdown on the sale of new nicotine products to children](#)

B.C. pharmacist gave 'unauthorized prescriptions' to family, college says

CTV News, August 22, 2024

[A pharmacist from B.C.'s Okanagan has been issued a suspension and fine after admitting he provided "unauthorized prescriptions" to family members](#)

CUPE declares Ont. healthcare now in crisis mode

Fort Frances Times, August 22, 2024

[A new peer-reviewed study has raised alarm about the deteriorating conditions faced by Ontario's hospital workers, most of whom are women and many of whom are from racialized communities](#)

Labour coverage:

2 arrests made at Ontario PC party's Ford Fest event in Milton

CBC News, August 16, 2024

[Ford Fest GTA West 2024 held to celebrate accomplishments of Doug Ford government](#)

Canadian rail workers could strike or get locked out on Thursday

Global News, August 19 2024

[More than 9,000 workers at Canada's two major railways could be either on strike or locked out as of Thursday, disrupting supply chains relied upon by many industries](#)

Teamsters union serves strike notice to CPKC; CN Rail issues lockout notice

City News, August 18 2024

[More than 9,000 workers at Canada's two major railways could be either on strike or locked out as of Thursday, disrupting supply chains relied upon by many industries](#)

Ford Fest faces off against protesters over Highway 413, education, health care and more

Burlington Today, August 17, 2024

[Festival draws thousands to Country Heritage Park in Milton](#)

Canada on the verge of a National Rail strike

City News, August 19, 2024

[The Canadian economy could come to a screeching halt with a possible railway strike just a few days away](#)

'Rail is our lifeline': Businesses brace for possible CN/CPKC shutdown amid lockout-strike threats

CBC News, August 20, 2024

[London, Ont., transloading company relies on weekly railcar loads of plastic pellets](#)

CUPE recommends new deal for health-care workers, faces criticism after MGEU workers rejected similar deal

CBC News, August 20, 2024

[Union continues to recommend deal, describing it as the best monetary package they've negotiated in years](#)

How a rail stoppage could affect freight, farming, french fries and more

CBC News, August 21, 2024

[A railway shutdown would have consequences in big ways and small](#)

Saskatchewan's agriculture and mining sectors prepare as rail shutdown looms

CBC News, August 21, 2024

[2 industries reliant on rail for shipping say potential shutdown Thursday could be 'catastrophic'](#)

National rail shutdown begins as employees locked out at both major Canadian railways

Canadian Press, August 22, 2024

[In a first for Canada, freight traffic on its two largest railways has simultaneously ground to a halt, threatening to upend supply chains trying to move forward from pandemic-related disruptions and a port strike last year](#)

Canada's 2 major freight railroads come to a full stop as labour talks collapse

CBC News, August 22, 2024

[Trains across the country have ground to a halt as 9,300 workers were locked out by both of Canada's major railways after they failed to agree on a new contract before a 12:01 a.m. EDT deadline](#)

Rail reopening begins with workers at CN taking down pickets, but CPKC stoppage ongoing

CBC News, August 23, 2024

[Developments follow federal labour minister's referral of dispute to Canada Industrial Relations Board](#)

Human Rights & Equity coverage:

First Nation woman's death inquest yields 42 recommendations to improve remote health care

CBC News, August 19, 2024

[Family of Ruthann Quequish seeks better future for Kingfisher Lake First Nation](#)

Meet some of the first residents living on Caldwell First Nation

CBC News, August 19, 2024

[New residents eager to pass on and learn Caldwell traditions from each other](#)

Are Canada's migrant workers experiencing 'contemporary forms of

slavery’?

City News, August 20, 2024

[“These jobs come with such low wages, poor working conditions and little job security, which makes them less appealing to Canadians,” said Alsharif. “So instead of improving these jobs, companies are opting to bring in workers from abroad who have fewer options and are easily exploitable.”](#)

In hard times for media companies, these people are working to bolster Indigenous news coverage in Sask.

CBC News, August 19, 2024

[Students, publishers hope to bring more stories to the province, but also more Indigenous journalists](#)

Opinion: Supreme Court gives government a spanking for failing to uphold Indigenous treaty rights

National Post, August 21, 2024

[A recent court decision will fundamentally reshape Crown-First Nations relations for decades to come](#)

Addiction treatment centre with focus on cultural healing opens in North Battleford, Sask

CBC News, August 21, 2024

[Battlefords Treatment Centre to be run by Alberta-based Poundmaker's Lodge](#)

B.C. woman’s plight underscores need for urgent health-care reform

Fraser Institute, August 22, 2024

[While it’s important to remain grounded in data when measuring wait times for health care, it’s also important to remember the tragic nature of delayed care](#)

Feds warn Ontario Algonquins not to 'usurp' own organization's modern treaty talks

CBC News, August 22, 2024

[Some Algonquin nation members say Crown concerns are contradictory, colonial](#)

Political coverage:

Housing shortage, health-care crisis on agenda as Ontario municipal leaders meet

CBC News, August 18, 2024

[Premier Doug Ford to speak at 125th AMO conference in Ottawa on Monday](#)

Doug Ford is having a funny summer, but his Greenbelt woes are no laughing matter

Hamilton Spectator, August 20, 2024

[If the summer of 2024 feels unfunny to the premier, the summer of 2025 might be that much more miserable, Martin Regg Cohn writes](#)

Workers ask the Premier to base public policy on evidence and continue saving lives

Canadian Life Sciences, August 20, 2024

[Every Ontarian deserves low-barrier access to mental health and addictions services in their community](#)

Ontario health minister went against review recommendations on consumption sites

City News, August 22, 2024

[Two Ontario government-commissioned reports recommended keeping existing drug consumption sites open across the province, increasing funding to stabilize staffing and hiring permanent security guards to boost safety, but the health minister decided against that guidance](#)

Doug Ford finally got his way on safe injection sites. That doesn't solve our bigger problem

Hamilton Spectator, August 22, 2024

[Reallocating resources from harm reduction to recovery isn't the same as finding a comprehensive solution to the challenges posed by drug addiction, Martin Regg Cohn writes](#)