

Hello Fellow ONA Member:

I wanted to reach out and take a moment of your time to introduce myself, and to start what I hope might become an ongoing conversation.

My name is Duane Stockley, and I am a nurse in the Peri-Anesthesia Unit at Women's College Hospital. I am also the ONA grievance chair at our institution, and I have currently thrown my hat into the ring to expand my union responsibilities as the Local Secretary-Treasurer. You may have seen my posters up in your facility and be wondering who I am and what I stand for. As our Local is made up of three Bargaining units (Sunnybrook, WCH and Canadian Blood Services), some of which have multiple sites, it's understandable to have not necessarily met me in person, and that's why I am reaching out in this manner.

In tumultuous times, such as we find ourselves in currently, I believe leadership should rise to the challenges while listening to members needs and concerns. If elected to the position, I would work diligently with the executive to create the budget for the local. I believe an important component of that process would be transparency with the membership about the finances of the Local, as well as openness and communication with the nurses served by the local to know what their priorities are when it comes to effectively using the resources on hand to provide support. I would fight to have your concerns and priorities heard at the executive table and give my energies to ensure that the executive remain accountable to you in upholding the financial responsibilities of our union Local.

I recognize that the restrictions Covid has placed on us makes face to face communication difficult right now, but I also know that many of you may want to communicate directly with me to ensure that we share a common view of our Local's future. For that reason I have set up an email account, [electduanefortreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:electduanefortreasurer@gmail.com) This email will remain open until election day. Please feel free to reach out to share your issues with me, ask questions about my thoughts on the future of our ONA Local, or simply have any conversation that you feel might benefit us as a group. I will endeavour to take the time to respond to any questions and concerns raised.

At this point in the conversation you may be wondering why I chose to put my name forward for a Local Executive position to begin with. When you compare my union experience with my fellow candidate for Secretary-Treasurer, you clearly see a difference in resumes. I have been an active clinical nurse for decades, and worked in many areas, but have only come to hold a Bargaining unit executive position about 9 months ago. Given the year that 2020 has become, I could not have had a better moment to enter this arena. The amount of change that has occurred this year, with Covid, Bill 124, Bill 195, Nursing protests, struggles with PPE and various other issues, has been a rapid education! I have marched in protests to support our members. I have learned much about dealing with Ministry of Labour complaints. I have been a part of an effort to re-energize our Joint Health and Safety Committee. I have seen the workload of Grievance Chair at WCH basically double.... Filing grievances to help members resolve issues which matter to them. All in all we have had some significant wins for our

members this year and we have been able to raise the visibility of ONA at WCH. With transparency and communication we have also seen an increased involvement of members within our bargaining unit. I have been proud to be a part of the team that has worked to make that happen. This is also what has helped me realize that I have something more to offer our members.

Further to all of these things, along with my colleague, Helen Middleton, we have been busy constructing a better, stronger more effective bargaining unit at WCH. In a year when nursing groups took to Facebook to demand more from their union representation, Helen and I were just starting to learn what it meant to truly represent. The largest part of that is to be working from a point of view of what is beneficial for the members. That is a daunting task. It involves having difficult conversations, and actively listening to members such as yourself. It takes determination, commitment and time to be able to do this successfully.

This roller coaster of a year, 2020, has helped me realize that I can be all of those things. I can be a leader worthy of trust. I am a capable member and representative who can be responsible to ensure that the Local finances are protected, budgets created and followed, all with the membership's needs in mind. Above that? I can be communicative and transparent.

My goal in this process is to continue to utilize the many different skills I have acquired across my career to help us, the membership of Local 80, move forward into a future of higher visibility for members, allowing us to raise a louder voice to have concerns heard and addressed.

Of course, this isn't something I can do alone. Members who are willing to communicate their issues are a key component, as are members who are willing to take a little of their time to cast a ballot on November 20/20. I hope you might be one such member.

If you have read to this point, it is obvious that you care about who will be the next union executives to represent you. I would be honoured to be given that opportunity for the next 3 years as your Local 80 Secretary Treasurer. If you believe that now is a time for change, come out to vote on November 20/20. Cast a ballot for me and let's continue this conversation!

Keep Safe!  
In Solidarity!

Duane Stockley