

**ONTARIO REGIONAL OFFICE**

80 Commerce Valley Drive East, Markham, ON L3T 0B2  
Tel.: (905) 739-3999 Fax: (905) 739-4001 / cupe.ca / scfp.ca

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Ontario Region CUPE Staff  
**CC:** National Office CUPE Staff  
**FROM:** Erin Provost, National Servicing Representative  
Robin McKenna, A/Assistant Regional Director - Ontario  
**DATE:** September 27, 2023  
**RE:** ♦ 1-min action to help avert a strike for 70 CUPE members

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Please take one minute to send a message to help 70 public health workers, members of CUPE Local 3314, and 50 public health nurses, members of Ontario Nurses' Association (ONA) Local 31.

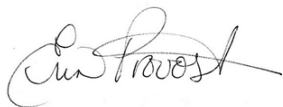
The ONA members have been on strike for more than five weeks and the Local 3314 members joined them on the picket lines at Hastings Prince Edward Public Health last Friday.

It really will only take a minute or less using this CUPE Ontario campaign page:  
<https://cupe.on.ca/support-hpe-public-health-workers/>

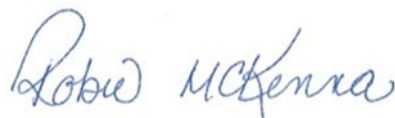
I sent my own message this morning – please send yours right away!

P.S. It's more powerful if you use your own personal email address (i.e. not @cupe.ca)

Thanks.



Erin Provost  
National Servicing Representative



Robin McKenna  
A/Assistant Regional Director

KM:lf/sn/cope491

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National President/Président national

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**Here's more info:**

CUPE frontline public health workers and Ontario Nurses' Association (ONA) nurses do life-saving work for the residents of Belleville, Quinte West, and Hastings and Prince Edward counties.

The demands on Hastings Prince Edward Public Health workers have never been greater, as they help protect the communities from COVID-19, flu, STDs, rabies, foodborne illnesses like E. coli, dirty water, effects of tobacco smoke, cancer, etc.

But as workloads increase, funding for public health hasn't kept up. Frontline workers fear that services will suffer, even as they themselves struggle to make ends meet in a time of record inflation.

As of Friday, September 22, CUPE Local 3314 public health workers are on strike. They are fighting to protect public health services and to make sure their wages come a bit closer to meeting the rising cost of living. These 70 CUPE members joined 50 ONA Local 31 members – nurses who had already withdrawn their labour for five weeks.

Help them all win a fair deal for workers and residents: send a message to the medical officer of health/CEO, board of health, local mayors and councillors, and premier Doug Ford. This petition email message will be sent when you fill in your info. below and press 'send'.

**Subject: Get back to the table now – Accept CUPE and ONA workers' proposals**

Mayors Jan O'Neill, Kimberly Carson, Neil Ellis, and Jim Harrison; Councillors John Hirsch, Kate MacNaughton, Michael Kotsovos, David McCue, Sean Kelly, Garnet Thompson, and Paul Carr; Drs. Ethan Toumishey, Jeffrey Allin, and Craig Ervine; and Premier Doug Ford:

I don't want you to cut corners on the vital public safety services and care provided by CUPE Local 3314 public health workers and ONA Local 31 nurses. Our communities' health depends on the vital work they do.

Stop trying to download the cost of vital public safety work onto the backs of Hastings Prince Edward Public Health frontline workers and nurses.

These workers are just asking for a modest pay increase and some improvements to benefits. Their proposals are completely reasonable, necessary, and affordable – especially given high inflation that's driving up costs for all workers and devaluing everyone's wages.

The province and Hastings Prince Edward Public Health managers have the resources to accept the workers' bargaining proposals.

The Ontario government has underspent on health care by \$1.7 billion in the last fiscal year alone.

Show your employees some respect where it counts!

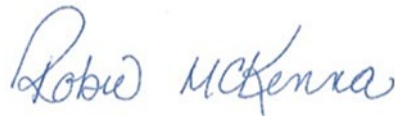
Get back to the bargaining table today with a new mandate to accept the workers' proposals and sufficiently fund our public health.

Failing to do so will cost you votes and, more importantly, continue to cause unnecessary harm to some of the most vulnerable people in our communities who rely on public health services.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erin Provost".

Erin Provost  
National Servicing Representative

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robin McKenna".

Robin McKenna  
A/Assistant Regional Director

KM:lf/sn/cope491