



ONTARIANS NEED MORE REGISTERED NURSES

Joint Statement

RNAO and ONA are coming together to draw attention to a critical issue facing Ontarians.

There's a problem with our hospitals. Ontario has the lowest RN-to-population ratio in Canada.

Research is clear. Evidence shows the value of RNs on patient, organizational, and health system outcomes. This includes lower mortality and morbidity rates. RNs save the system overall, for example through fewer complications and fewer readmissions.

All political parties must turn their minds to the fact that patients and their families urgently need more RNs. This is a matter of patient safety. This is a matter of life and death.

Ontarians cannot wait.

Ontario's nursing associations know where to get started to fix this problem.

RNAO and ONA leaders are urging all political parties to commit to making RN staffing a health-care priority by including a promise in their election platforms to:

1. Immediately post and fill 10,000 RN vacancies in hospitals. This will begin to fix the deficit in Ontario's RN workforce and better serve patients; and
2. All new hires in acute care and cancer care hospitals be RNs.