

Ministry of Labour

Office of the Minister

Ministère du Travail

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Dr. Doris Grinspun
Chief Executive Officer
Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario
dgrinspun@rao.ca

Dear Dr. Grinspun:

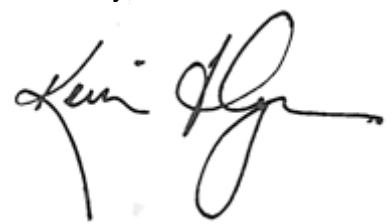
Thank you for your correspondence addressed to the Honourable Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, and me responding to our report on *Preventing Workplace Violence in the Health Care Sector*.

We appreciate your insight and comments regarding workplace violence prevention for nurses in health care settings. As you would be aware, a multifaceted approach and deep commitment from all workplace parties are essential to better protect the health and safety of health care professionals. Employers need to look at setting goals and measures for themselves, and collaborate with unions and staff for best practices and controls. The Ontario government is committed to the health and safety of Ontario's health care workers. I support your position that nurses have the right to practice in an environment where workplace violence is not tolerated. Violence against our health care workers affects us all, and impacts our families and our communities.

As you are aware, a progress report summarizing the findings from phase one of the Leadership Table was released on May 15, 2017. The recommendations are directed to Ontario's ministries of Labour and Health and Long-Term Care, to hospitals, and to a number of other partners that can play a key role in reducing workplace violence. They emphasize the critical importance of understanding and addressing all factors that contribute to violent incidents in hospitals, and using all possible levers and strategies to reduce risk. Our government has accepted all 23 recommendations in the report and is taking meaningful action on them.

We thank you for your commitment to this important work.

Sincerely,



Kevin Flynn
Minister of Labour

c: The Honourable Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care