



To: Victorian Order of Nurses (VON) Bargaining Unit Presidents

From: Lorna Thompson, RN, Chair, VON Provincial Negotiating Team

Date: February 12, 2025

Re: **VON Provincial Negotiating Team (VONPNT) Update**

C: Board of Directors, Local Coordinators, VONPNT, Staff

The VON Provincial Negotiating Team (VONPNT) completed its orientation and proposal development this week.

Your employer has informed ONA they are not agreeing to voluntary arbitration. The Ontario government does not consider VON an essential service. This places you in the position of using potential strike action to reach a collective agreement. A meeting has been scheduled for February 25, 2025, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. ET, to provide you with more information of the impact of your employer's decision and next steps.

Please watch your personal email for details on registering for this meeting on February 25, 2025.

Your fierce negotiating team, supported by negotiations staff, reviewed direct feedback from members on identified issues, the current contract and research. Member feedback directly guided proposal development along with the state of health care and the threat to our public health-care system.

For the first time in our provincial VON bargaining history, ONA members will review, discuss and directly vote on the initial proposals that your elected VONPNT will bring forward to the employer. The initial proposals you will be voting on will be shared with you on March 18, 2025. Details to register will be provided. We are currently confirming dates for bargaining in early April 2025.

We will be communicating our progress through personal email, social media and on ONA's website at <https://www.ona.org/bargaining>.

To assist the VONPNT in communicating to ONA members on our progress, we ask Bargaining Unit Presidents to add VONPNT updates to their meeting agendas, to post them on their worksite bulletin boards, Local website and/or social media, and to provide hard copies where members do not have access to ONA's website.

If you have any questions for the VONPNT, please contact ONA Provincial President Erin Ariss at president@ona.org. Erin will ensure any questions are brought to my attention.

Provincial Office
85 Grenville Street
Toronto, Ontario M5S 3A2
ona.org

Phone: 416-964-8833
Toll-Free: 1-800-387-5580
Fax: 416-964-8864
Toll-free fax: 1-866-964-8864