



June 23, 2025

Jeffery Lang
President and Chief Executive Officer
Workplace Safety and Insurance Board
200 Front Street West
Toronto, Ontario M5V 3J1

Dear Mr. Lang,

Re: Support and Solidarity with Striking OCEU Members

I am writing to you on behalf of the Ontario Nurses' Association (ONA) to express our unwavering support and solidarity with members of the Ontario Compensation Employees Union (OCEU/CUPE Local 1750) who are currently on strike. ONA is Canada's largest nurses' union, representing more than 68,000 registered nurses, health-care professionals, and over 18,000 nursing student affiliates. We recognize the vital services OCEU members provide to Ontarians, including ONA members, who have experienced a work-related injury or illness.

As front-line workers, OCEU members interact with injured workers and their families with compassion and help them navigate Ontario's worker compensation system. The rising workloads and demands placed on OCEU members contribute to burnout and deteriorating working conditions. These conditions have a substantial impact on staff who are experiencing anxiety and depression at twice the national average. It is shocking that you spent over \$14.5 million to hire a coaching company from Texas,¹ but will not invest in paying your own workers fairly.

OCEU members have not been on strike in more than 100 years. The ongoing work stoppage continues to disrupt the services Ontarians rely on. We are looking to you to end this strike now by doing the right thing. Negotiate a fair deal with these workers — one that includes real wage improvements, secure employment, safe workloads, and a workplace culture that honors their professionalism and dedication. The WSIB leadership must come to the bargaining table with a fair deal that recognizes the essential contributions of OCEU members.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erin Ariss", is written over a horizontal line.

Erin Ariss, RN
Provincial President
Ontario Nurses' Association

¹ "Amid "Team Canada" approach, WSIB contracts US firm" cupe.ca/amid-team-canada-approach-wsib-contracts-us-firm

C: Andrea Kay, RN, CEO Ontario Nurses' Association
 Hon. Doug Ford, Premier
 Hon. David Piccini, Minister of Labour
 Harry Goslin, President of the Ontario Compensation Employees Union