



Hospital Provincial Negotiating Team Candidate Article

Name: Corey Willemsen

Nominee For: Region 5 Full-Time Representative

Through my experience on the Local Negotiating team and as Grievance chair, I have learned different styles of negotiating, when to push back or when to give a little to achieve your ultimate goals. I have been able to be an advocate for Local issues at Bluewater Health and have really enjoyed Local negotiations and my role as lead. This has made me want to reach out further and continue to advocate not only locally but also provincially for nurses.

I feel that one of the biggest issues in nursing is nursing shortages. I know we were unsuccessful during last round of negotiations, but I feel that an objective of this team should remain to establish safe nursing ratios which could help stabilize nursing. Hospital in patient units continue working short, causing hospitals to replace with less qualified staff or bring in agency nurses at exorbitant costs. This leads to further discouragement amongst staff nurses, which out of frustration are leaving the hospitals where they are employed, to work for agencies which then perpetuates this cycle. We are experiencing a large loss of hours and contracting out to different roles and we need bargaining unit protection language to help stabilize our work.

I feel another objective would be to help senior nurses protect what they have earned through years of service in 2 ways, one way is for nurses to be able to maintain their weeks of vacation earned, when being hired by another Ontario hospital. And a 2nd way is to not have full time nurses seniority eroded by giving 1 year of seniority for 1500 hours to part time workers.

Corey Willemsen

Signature of Nominee