

SEIU LOCAL 1 CANADA

Main Office

125 Mural Street, Richmond Hill,
Ontario L4B 1M4
Phone: 905-695-1767
Toll Free: 1-800-267-7348
Fax: 855-233-8238
www.seiuhealthcare.ca
info@seiuhealthcare.ca

Sharleen Stewart

President

Tyler Downey

Secretary Treasurer

V. Mina Amrith

Executive Vice-President

REGIONAL OFFICES

Barrie

121 Commerce Park Drive
Unit G
Barrie, Ontario
L4N 8X1

London

41 Adelaide Street North
Unit 83
London, Ontario
N6B 3P4

North Bay

126 Lakeshore Drive
North Bay, Ontario
P1A 2A8

Ottawa

251 Bank Street, 5th floor
Ottawa, Ontario
K2P 1X3

St. Catharines

404 St. Paul Street
Unit 2
St. Catharines, Ontario
L2R 3N2

Thunder Bay

1200 West Walsh Street
Thunder Bay, Ontario
P7E 4X4

Toll Free: 1-800-267-7348 (SEIU)
Toll Free Fax: 1-855-233-8238



July 8, 2021

Amy Olmstead

A/Executive Lead, Ontario Health Teams

Ministry of Health

Sent via email to: amy.olmstead@ontario.ca

SEIU Healthcare is writing to address O. Reg. 177/20: CONGREGATE CARE SETTINGS (prohibiting healthcare workers from working in multiple congregate care settings).

Our members are seeking clarity with respect to fully vaccinated workers being authorized to work at multiple employers in the Home and Community Care sector. While this regulation has been updated to allow fully vaccinated workers in the Long-Term Care sector to work with multiple employers, the discrepancy with home care workers is causing confusion. As you know, many frontline workers seek employment across various sectors of the health care system. Therefore, your clarification would be greatly appreciated.

As a matter of public policy, SEIU Healthcare believes that workers should be guaranteed access to full-time work at a fair, living wage. Full-time jobs help limit the spread of viruses, whether they be during a pandemic like COVID-19 or the common flu every winter.

SEIU Healthcare has warned against returning to a system dominated by part-time jobs at low wages. This is not just unfair, but as we were reminded by experts during the pandemic, it is bad public health. And while our members seek clarity on the above-mentioned regulations, they also want the security that comes with one job at a living wage with benefits like paid sick days and pensions. Precarious work is not the ideal, it is what drives the multi-employer search.

SEIU Healthcare has recommended the government introduce a universal minimum wage of at least \$25 per hour for all low wage workers, like PSWs. This would help retain and recruit the workers our care economy needs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tali Zrehen".

Tali Zrehen

SEIU Director of Home and Community Care