

HealthForceOntario

Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

Health Human Resources
Strategy Division

10th Floor, Hepburn Block
80 Grosvenor Street
Toronto ON M7A 1R3
Tel.: (416) 212-7685
Fax: (416) 314-3751

www.healthforceontario.ca

Ministère de la Santé et des Soins de longue durée

Division de la stratégie des ressources
humaines dans le domaine de la santé

Édifice Hepburn, 10^e étage
80, rue Grosvenor
Toronto ON M7A 1R3
Tél.: (416) 212-7685
Télééc.: (416) 314-3751

www.professionssanteontario.ca



October 7, 2009

HLTC2968AC-2009-688

Doris Grinspun, RN, MSN, PhD
Executive Director
Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario
158 Pearl St.
Toronto, ON M5H-1L3

Dear Ms. Grinspun: *DORIS*

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and provide feedback about your concerns regarding the Hospital Annual Planning Submissions (HAPS) and skills mix in hospitals.

The ministry has consistently communicated the value of interprofessional, collaborative teams (nurses, doctors, pharmacists and other health disciplines) in the delivery of quality health care to Ontarians. Additionally, new and expanded health care provider roles have been integrated in the system based on the principle of augmenting, rather than substituting or replacing one provider over another. The ministry has supported nursing models of care delivery that maintain continuity of caregiver, as demonstrated by our commitment and our continuous movement to 70 per cent full-time employment of nurses.

The ministry remains committed to ensuring patients get the best care possible in all settings including hospitals. It is unfortunate that RNs were used as an example in the HAPs document. As such, the example will be removed.

Thank you for sharing your concerns and for your strong and continuing commitment to the nursing profession.

Sincerely,


Joshua Tepper
Assistant Deputy Minister

- c. Ken Deane, Assistant Deputy Minister, Health System Accountability & Performance Division
- Sandra Hanmer, CEO, Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network
- Vanessa Burkoski, Provincial Chief Nursing Officer
- Sophia Ikura, Senior Policy Advisor, Minister's Office
- Leela Prasaud, A/Director, LHIN Liaison Branch, Health System Accountability & Performance Division