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Renaud Gagné
Quebec Director
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Lana Payne
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April 25, 2020

SENT VIA EMAIL

The Honourable Stephen McNeil, M.L.A.
Premier of Nova Scotia
premier@novascotia.ca

The Honourable Randy Delorey, M.L.A.
Minister of Health and Wellness, Nova Scotia
health.minister@novascotia.ca

Dear Premier, Minister,

Re: Premium pay for frontline workers

Today, Ontario Premier Doug Ford announced a pandemic premium of \$4 per hour and an extra \$250 for those who have worked more than 100 hours a month. This is effective April 24, 2020, and will continue for 16 weeks. The premium is for all long-term care, retirement living, community care, and social services frontline workers – all areas in which wages have stagnated and there is increasing pressure on workers due to the pandemic.

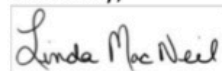
I urge you, Premier and Minister, to work with your federal counterparts to implement the same wage premium for frontline health care workers in our beautiful province. I truly believe this will help in attracting desperately-needed staff in our long-term care facilities, which would, of course, include Northwood.

As in my previous correspondence requesting you to implement a wage premium, I will reiterate this will not only help attract staff, but will also shows the workers the respect they deserve.

I understand both of you, along with many others, are trying your best to manage this pandemic. Following what British Columbia and Ontario are doing will be yet another way of showing leadership and providing due recognition to the workers who are struggling to get us through COVID-19.

I thank you for your attention to this matter and hope Nova Scotia will take leadership to support frontline health care workers.

Sincerely,



Linda MacNeil
Unifor Atlantic Regional Director
LM/kcope343