

March 19, 2014

Dear

I am a healthcare professional working here in Manitoba and I am one of 3600 members of the Manitoba Association of Health Care Professionals (MAHCP). As a healthcare worker, I play an integral part in the healthcare system, ensuring that my fellow Manitobans have a health care system they can rely on.

I am not a doctor or a nurse, but without me and my colleagues, the work in hospitals and community health centres would come to a halt. I have years of education that made me the professional I am today - yet each year my wages fall behind my colleagues in other provinces. I work under economic restraint, with dwindling resources every year. Where I work there is always a need to do more with less, and have more output with less people to do that work.

In our last collective agreement most of my colleagues in this union received 0%, 0%, 2.5% and 2.5%. I can tell you that many of us are now the lowest paid in the country. Vacancies are not being filled, so our workloads increase and as a result, waitlists for services increase. If we want to maintain and even improve the quality of healthcare in Manitoba, I believe that keeping our workforce here and paying an equitable wage is of the utmost importance.

We are the pillars of healthcare - and Manitobans depend on us daily for regaining and maintaining their health. They need us, so we need to be there for them.

I ask that you support me and my union, MAHCP, when it comes time for our union negotiations, which will be starting shortly after the end of March 2014.

Thank you,

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