

With the passage of the Ford Government's new health restructuring law we all need to take a stand to protect our local health care services

Each time there are cuts and every time for-profit companies have tried to take over our health care Ontarians have fought back. Together we've saved dozens of local hospitals, emergency departments, maternity wards, beds and services from closure. We stopped the transfer of our surgeries & diagnostics to for-profit clinics. We improved care levels & inspections in long-term care homes. We expanded home care and fought back against attempts to privatize more of it.

- ✓ Email Doug Ford and your local MPP and tell them not to cut, merge or close your local health services. You can do it on our website at www.ontariohealthcoalition.ca
- ✓ Join your local health coalition, visit www.ontariohealthcoalition.ca
- ✓ Are you a health care worker? You can talk with your union about their work to protect jobs and services.

GIANT HEALTH CARE RALLY

Tuesday

April 30 noon

Queen's Park Toronto
(Main Legislative Building)

Please get on your local bus!

www.ontariohealthcoalition.ca



STOP HEALTH CARE PRIVATIZATION & CUTS

The Doug Ford government has brought in a new law that gives the Minister of Health and a new health Super Agency sweeping powers to force privatization, cuts, mergers, mega-mergers, movement of services from one town to another, and closure of local health care services. It is time for everyone to take action to protect our health care.

Ontario Health Coalition

Doug Ford Government's New Health Care Law Sets Stage for Massive Health Service Restructuring

The new law dismantles the 14 Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs), Cancer Care Ontario, Health Quality Ontario, Health Force Ontario, the Trillium organ donation system and three other agencies, and then creates one Super Agency out of some of their services. Other parts may be privatized or moved elsewhere.

New powers to merge, amalgamate, transfer, cut & close local health services

This law launches a new round of health care restructuring, bigger than we have ever seen. It gives sweeping powers to the Minister and Super Agency to order and force mergers, mega-mergers, transfer of services from one provider to another and one town to another, also to cut services & close down entire services.

Upheaval & risks for staff

Not only will this create great instability for already overstretched staff, health care employers are asking the government to remove protections that require health care workers to remain with their jobs if their work is transferred.

Sweeping powers allow Minister of Health & Super Agency to force for-profit privatization of vast array of public & non-profit health services

The law is far-reaching, including 1,800 hospitals, long-term care homes, home care, palliative care, community care, community mental health and addictions, community health centres, non-profit primary care (doctors/nurse practitioners/ other health professionals), air ambulance, eHealth, cancer care and more. It gives unprecedented power to the Minister to direct our public hospitals to contract out all support services, or privatize all public hospital labs or surgeries, privatize air ambulance, privatize all non-profit home care, and more.

Loss of local control & services

Remember the Harris government's hospital restructuring? It resulted in closures & mergers of more than 300 hospitals. Local towns saw their hospitals closed and their services gutted. It cost \$3.9 billion to cut \$800 million. That's billions wasted to lay off nurses and health professionals, cut support staff, move service from town to town and so on. This new plan is even bigger: it seeks to restructure a whopping 1,800 health service providers through mergers, takeovers, closures, & so on. It risks huge costs, takes away local control and risks our local services.

We need improved public health care, not privatization, mergers & cuts

Ontario funds health care at the lowest rate of all provinces and this has serious impact. We have the fewest hospital beds left of any province in Canada, leaving patients waiting on stretchers for days for a bed. We have the 2nd fewest nursing home beds & the fewest nurses per patient of anywhere in Canada. Operating Rooms are closed in hospitals across Ontario due to insufficient funding. Ontario's government needs to improve care & restore services. There's lots of room to do it without spending more than other provinces.

For-profit companies threaten our public health care. In British Columbia where they have transferred public hospital services to for-profit clinics, patients are being told to pay hundreds or thousands of dollars for surgeries & diagnostics in violation of the Canada Health Act. For-profit nursing homes are lobbying governments for reduced care requirements, no staffing standards & deregulation of inspections to make more room



for profit-taking. Private cleaning companies reduce the number of staff & skimp on the quality of cleaning supplies leading to more infections & deaths. For-profit health companies take the easy & profitable patients leaving the heavy care patients behind with fewer resources to provide for them. Bottom line? Profit-seeking reduces care.