

November 1, 2022

Minister Ernie Hudson
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Minister Hudson,

The staff of private and not-for-profit nursing homes across Prince Edward Island are disappointed in the provincial government for leaving them out of a recently announced retention and recruitment program valued at \$8 million. Long term care workers provide professional services and the high standards of care regulated by the provincial government, regardless of the building being publicly or privately owned.

Your government's decision to reward some health care workers while leaving others out is simply not fair. Through a global pandemic and a national health human resources crisis the staff of private and not for profit nursing homes have done the work to keep Islanders safe. Some of these staff are represented by the same unions as government health care workers. To add confusion, the staff of Medavie EMS received the retention bonus, even though they work for a private company.

The staff who signed this petition ask the government to reconsider their decision and correct this mistake before more staff decide to leave a profession that feels like it is under attack. The following 42 pages of petitions contain the signatures of 446 health care workers from private and not for profit nursing homes across all three counties. More signatures are being collected. The signatures on this petition support the following statement:

PETITION TO THE GOVERNMENT OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

We request that the Government of PEI extended the eligibility of the RETENTION INCENTIVE PROGRAM (announced Oct 18, 2022) to all RCW, RN, LPN and all health care workers, not just some. We the undersigned are residents of PEI and draw the attention of the Government of PEI to the following:

- All health care workers are important to maintaining the health and safety of all Islanders
- All health care workers, regardless of their place of work, deserve recognition for working through a pandemic and staying during a health care staffing crisis
- All health care workers deserve this retention incent, regardless of the facility being a public or private or not-for-profit health care facility

This petition was initiated by the PEI Nursing Home Association in consultation with our employees.

Ramsay Duff
Chair, PEI Nursing Home Association

Jason Lee
Vice-Chair, PEI Nursing Home Association