

NEWSBULLETIN

Avian Flu | Healthcare Funding Rallies | Membership Bargaining Survey Coming

Public Health Issues Guidelines for Avian Flu:

Implement Contact, Droplet and Airborne Precautions for suspected or confirmed cases of HPAI.

- Use gloves, a gown, eye protection & a **fit-tested, seal-checked N95 respirator** when entering the P/R/C room.
- Accommodate P/R/C in an airborne infection isolation room (AIIR).

If unavailable, accommodate in a single room with the door kept closed. Consider portable high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filtration units to supplement ventilation in areas where ventilation does not meet Canadian Standards Association (CSA) standards.

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Rallies for Increased Hospital, LTC Funding

Increasing health care funding in Ontario was the goal of rallies in Ottawa and Hamilton at recent pre-budget hearings in those cities.

Rallies are also scheduled for Toronto on January 29 and Peterborough on January 30, organized by the Ontario Council of Hospital Unions (CUPE) and the Ontario Health Coalition.

Health care in Ontario is funded this year at less than its actual costs. Cuts are happening in hospitals across Ontario. Meanwhile the demand for hospitals and long-term care is at an all time high with an aging, growing population .



CUPE 7800 president, Jillian Watt speaks to CHCH TV about increasing hospital funding in Hamilton

Public Health Issues Guidelines for Avian Flu:

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- If the P/R/C must leave the room, they are to perform hand hygiene and wear a medical mask, if tolerated.
- Postpone elective aerosol-generating medical procedures (AGMPs) until the illness resolves.

If you have any questions about the precautions for Avian Flu, please contact your local union health and safety representative.

Clerical staff at Mount Sinai Fight for Equal Pay with Toronto hospitals

Clerical staff represented by CUPE at Mount Sinai have started a campaign in their fight for equal pay with admin staff at other Toronto hospitals. They are paid several dollars less an hour than other Toronto hospital clerical staff.

Mount Sinai has 50 vacant positions out of 600 clerical jobs at the hospital and workloads for staff are very difficult.

The local has held three rallies and will begin an advertising campaign Feb. 1. The union is in bargaining with the hospital.



Mount Sinai clerical local union president, Fadumo Mohamed, speaks with CTV at a rally on January 20