

Our Hospitals are Facing Serious Cuts

If we don't stop them

On the Chopping Block Across Ontario:

- Hospital beds, emergency departments, birthing and surgical units, palliative care and many other services.
- Hundreds of nursing positions, along with the thousands of hours/year of hands-on care that they provide to patients.
- Laboratories, diagnostics, outpatient clinics and vital housekeeping and clerical support services.



What do the cuts mean for our communities?

As staff, beds and services are cut, our hospitals are less able to meet our communities' needs.

The cuts mean:

- Patients waiting for days in the emergency department or on stretchers in hallways because there are no beds available.
- Surgeries cancelled because of too little funding or because there are no beds.
- Patients being discharged much too early.
- Patients being forced to pay user fees in a private clinic for medically-necessary care.

Communities That Fight Back, Win!

Communities across the province are facing round after round of devastating cuts. All across Ontario, regular people are taking up the call and are planning local campaigns to fight back against the cuts in their communities.

Communities that have been vocal, have had some success in stopping the cuts.

Working with local communities we have successfully stopped the closure of small and rural hospitals, saved emergency departments, cancer care and birthing services, and won the re-opening of hospital beds.

What We Can Do to Save Our Services

- ✓ Help distribute this fact sheet in your neighbourhood/community.
- ✓ Send an email to your local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) and ask them to put pressure on the Liberal government to stop the hospital cuts.
- ✓ Join your local Health Coalition and get involved in helping to save local hospital services.
<http://www.ontariohealthcoalition.ca/index.php/get-involved/find-a-local-health-coalition/>

Did You Know?

Ontario's government has been pursuing the most aggressive hospital cuts plan of anywhere in Canada, and anywhere in the developed world. Ontario is currently in the ninth straight year of real-dollar hospital cuts by our provincial government. This is the longest period of hospital cuts in Ontario's history and there is no end in sight.

As a result of the funding cuts by our provincial government, Ontario's hospitals have cut more hospital beds than any other province in Canada. In fact, we have dropped far below the rest of Canada. Among all developed countries, only Mexico and Chile have fewer hospital beds than Ontario.

Public Hospital Funding Per Person, 2015 Current \$	
Newfoundland & Labrador	\$2,406
Alberta	\$2,245
Prince Edward Island	\$1,995
New Brunswick	\$1,971
Nova Scotia	\$1,907
Manitoba	\$1,818
British Columbia	\$1,797
Saskatchewan	\$1,761
Ontario	\$1,419
Quebec	\$1,382
Average of the other provinces	\$1,920
Difference between Ontario and the average of the other provinces	Ontario funds hospitals at \$501 per person less

Hospital Beds Per 1000 (population) By Province 2013-14	
Newfoundland & Labrador	4.6
New Brunswick	3.8
Saskatchewan	3.6
Nova Scotia	3.4
Manitoba	3.3
PEI	3.3
British Columbia	3
Alberta	2.8
Ontario	2.3
Average other provinces	3.5

Source: Calculated from Canadian Institute for Health Information, *National Health Expenditures Database 2015*

We are calling on the Ontario government to:

- ✓ Stop the devastating hospital cuts and improve hospital funding to at least the average of the other provinces.
- ✓ Spend our health care dollars on providing direct, front-line patient care and vital support services.



Due to funding cuts, Ontario now has the most overcrowded hospitals in the country with patients left on stretchers in hallways for days waiting for beds.