



Angela Cutulle is joined in support by a resident of Villa Columbo on July 24, 2009 to protest cuts to front line care despite increases in funding for staffing.

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST PROVES US RIGHT!

A recent Freedom of Information request contained data which proves that what CUPE and our members have been saying all along is true!

Despite the fact that dollars are flowing into Long-Term Care – this money is not translating into bedside care.

In fact, the FOI states that care levels actually decreased during the same time period that funding increased.

With your help, we will continue to expose this crisis at every opportunity.

Please help us gather a more accurate picture by filling out and returning the enclosed Standard of Care Hours form.

This information is critical for the next part of the campaign and will help us to pressure the government to do the right thing and provide a care standard that is enforceable by law.

In addition to the Hours of Care form, we are also asking members to fill in the pink Quality Care Handbook which will help us track and monitor ongoing situations and care levels.

### IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS

- HCWCC Conference September 21-24, 2009, London
- OHC LTC Forum September 25, 2009, Toronto
- CUPE National Convention Health Sector mtg. October 4, 2009, Montreal

For further information contact CUPE Ontario or visit [www.cupe.on.ca](http://www.cupe.on.ca)



Billy O'Grady wants to know where all the LTC dollars went??

## BILL 140 REGULATIONS

CUPE Ontario, with the support of our research staff, had an opportunity to respond to the first set of draft regulations. The feedback provided is now under review. The second and final set of draft regulations will be coming out shortly and we will be responding in detail to that draft as well.

CUPE Ontario provided the Ombudsman a copy of our submission on the first set of regulations and will do the same for the final set.

CUPE and other labour groups have been invited to a ministry consultation session on the regulations to happen on September 17. This will be another opportunity to relay our concerns and reinforce our call for greater accountability and enforceable standards.

CUPE and other partners fear the revised regulations could lead to further deregulation. We can't allow this to happen! Stay tuned to learn more about future action plans.



Seniors join CUPE members at a rally

## BAKED DAY OF ACTION A TASTY SUCCESS

Long-term care (LTC) residents, workers and Members of Provincial Parliament awoke June 30 to the aroma of cupcakes with a twist. The pastries and other sweets delivered to LTC facilities and Liberal MPPs offices by CUPE LTC sector members smelled like any other, but carried a message that residents in long-term care deserve better treatment, courtesy of customized icing that included an important number—3.5.



For LTC workers and residents, 3.5 represents the minimum standard of hands-on care, in hours, that nursing home residents should receive daily. Prior to the 2007 provincial election, Premier Dalton McGuinty promised to enshrine minimum care standards. However, the Health Care Workers Coordinating Committee (HCWCC) wasn't prepared to let the McGuinty Liberals slide on their broken promise of minimum care for some of our most vulnerable citizens. Instead, committee members decided to make June 30 an unofficial 'Residents Appreciation Day,' as well as a 'Day of Baked Action.' Participating CUPE locals across Ontario celebrated Residents Appreciation Day by bringing baked goods such as cookies and cupcakes into their workplaces, all bearing the "3.5" message. At the same time, every Liberal MPP in the province received a special delivery of cupcakes that also included the "3.5" message in icing on top.

## NO MORE CRUMBS! 3.5 HOURS NOW!



## THE SHARKEY SHAM



As the Shirlee Sharkey process prepares to roll out into facilities across Ontario – CUPE Ontario is reminding locals of the decision made to not participate in this process both at the provincial level and local level.

CUPE Ontario believes that the best way to enhance the quality of lives for seniors is to implement enforceable rules that providers are held accountable too.

Participating in a superficial process that is not tied to any accountability structures will not improve the lives of those depending on care, nor will it enhance the quality of care being provided in Ontario's Long-Term Care homes.

The Government of Ontario is trying to offload its responsibility for seniors by way of the Sharkey process. We must not let this happen. If the Sharkey process rolls out as planned - it will move us further away from the enforceable care standard that we have been fighting for years to achieve.

Please contact CUPE Ontario or your staff representative if you are contacted about discussions related to the rollout of the Sharkey plan - or if your facility has been selected as one of the pilot homes.

## WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?

- Complete the Hours of Care form and submit it to CUPE Ontario ASAP
- Fill in the pink Quality of Care Handbook, encourage your colleagues to also fill it in and submit it to CUPE Ontario as soon as it has been completed
- Set up a meeting with your MPP to discuss care levels and the lack of accountability of funding dollars
- Discuss workload and care levels with your Director of Nursing and take minutes for the record
- With the support of CUPE Communications, draft letters to the editor and publish newsletters to keep your members informed
- Host an information picket at your workplace or MPP's office and hand out CUPE Long-Term Care flyers highlighting the issues
- Distribute flyers at farmers markets or other busy locations
- Call the ACTION Hotline to report work left undone or residents that have been affected by workload or funding decisions at 1-866-434-0144

***DIGNITY & RESPECT  
FOR SENIORS  
...  
PRICELESS***

***CONTACT CUPE ONTARIO TO FIND OUT WHO YOUR HCWCC REPRESENTATIVE IS AND TO  
GET INVOLVED IN THE CUPE ONTARIO LONG-TERM CARE CAMPAIGN***