

Time to Care

Ontario seniors need our help.

**Make minimum care of four hours
the law in Ontario.**

Crisis in long-term care devastating our seniors.....	2
Liberals forced to support Bill 33 at 2nd Reading.....	3
Taking to the streets for Ontario's seniors.....	3
Final push to win minimum care standards.....	4
Hollow government announcement.....	4

“As a society it is our responsibility to ensure that our seniors are guaranteed a good quality of life in their final years. This is not a partisan issue and we believe strongly that all parties must support Bill 33.”

- Candace Rennick



Crisis in long-term care devastating Ontario seniors

Seniors living in long-term care are suffering. Despite the best efforts of staff, many of their basic needs are not being met.

“We have five to ten minutes to help a resident with their morning routine. That includes waking, washing, dressing and use of the commode,” said Andrea Legault, a personal support worker for 19 years.

“Imagine if you only had ten minutes for all those activities in the morning. Then imagine you are 82 years old with mobility issues – it’s just not right.”

“The hardest thing for me,” Legault said, “is the residents that we literally force into incontinence because we don’t have enough staff to get to

them when they call for help to the bathroom.”

There are more than 78,000 people living in Ontario long-term care homes. The majority of residents are over 85, almost three quarters have some form of Alzheimer’s or dementia, and the vast majority have mobility issues.

Right now, the only guarantees long-term care residents have in Ontario, are that there will be one nurse on site in the home at all times, and that they will get two baths a week. Canada has the lowest care levels among countries with equivalent economies, and Ontario has the lowest in Canada.

Under the leadership of Candace

Rennick, Secretary Treasurer of CUPE Ontario and a former long-term care worker, CUPE Ontario has worked with the NDP to bring forward Bill 33 (Time to Care Act.) The bill would legislate a minimum care standard of four hours a day for residents in all Ontario long-term care homes.

“It’s not acceptable that our loved ones, the people who spent their lives building our province and caring for our communities, are now being neglected in their final years,” said Rennick. “As a society it is our responsibility to ensure that our seniors are guaranteed a good quality of life in their final years. This is not a partisan issue and we believe strongly that all parties must support Bill 33.”

Help Bill 33 reach final reading and become law.

Email your MPP @ TimetoCareOntario.ca



Liberals forced to support Bill 33 at Second Reading

More than 75,000 seniors, family members and long-term care workers implored the provincial Liberals to support the Time to Care Act.

Through phone calls and emails, in person meetings and signatures on a petition, tens of thousands of Ontarians demanded that the Liberal government support Bill 33. All of the effort paid off and on November 2, 2017 the bill passed at second reading.

“This was a real victory but there are two more hurdles that stand between seniors and the law they need to protect themselves,” said Heather Duff, Chair of CUPE Ontario’s Health Care Sector.

“It’s now up to the Liberals to bring the bill to committee for review and then on to final reading.

“There is significant concern that the Liberals will not bring the bill forward and will let Bill 33 die when the legislature recesses for the spring election,” said Duff. “We can’t let this happen. We must keep up the pressure.”

“We have a huge opportunity to win this critical

legislation,” said CUPE Ontario President Fred Hahn. “The people of Ontario want this law and the Liberals are worried about losing the election. If we keep the pressure up we can make them do the right thing.”

“Bill 33 was written with one thing in mind, protecting the health and dignity of our seniors living in Ontario’s long-term care homes,” said NDP Health Critic France Gélinas. “If we want to protect our most vulnerable citizens, a minimum standard of daily care is a must.”

“We will continue to encourage all CUPE Ontario members as well as our friends, families and allies, to contact their MPP,” said Hahn. “They need to know we want them to make sure that minimum care standards of four hours a day becomes the law before the next election.”

“There is significant concern that the Liberals will not bring the bill forward and will let Bill 33 die when the legislature recesses for the spring election.” - Heather Duff

Taking to the streets for Ontario seniors

The support from passers by was overwhelming when a group of CUPE activists took to the streets to raise awareness of the crisis in long-term care.

Members from all sectors hit Toronto’s Eaton Centre and Nathan Phillips Square to show the public how seniors in long-term care are suffering.

While some members used signs to silently portray the problems, others handed out leaflets about the need for Bill 33 and talked to people about what they could do to make sure a four-hour minimum care standard becomes law.



Final push to win minimum care standards for

Ontario seniors living in long-term care

Bill 33 (Time to Care Act) passed second reading thanks to the amazing work of CUPE members all across Ontario. Now we just need to make sure the government brings it forward for final reading before the spring election.

Here's what you need to do to make a four-hour minimum care standard the law for seniors in long-term care homes.

- **Email your MPP at TimetoCareOntario.ca and tell them to pass Bill 33 before the spring election.**
- **Tell your friends and family about Bill 33 and ask them to do the same.**
- **Hand our leaflets at your local mall, Christmas market or other holiday event** - download leaflet from the website or email info@cupe.on.ca to order them.
- **Visit your MPPs office and tell them we're counting on them to pass Bill 33 before the spring election.**
- **Contact CUPE Ontario if you want to organize a Time to Care event in your community and need speakers.** info@cupe.on.ca



Don't be fooled by

hollow government announcements

You know the government has been feeling the public pressure to make Bill 33 the law because less than a week after the Time to Care Act passed second reading the Premier announced a new plan for Ontario seniors. She even said it would include four hours of care. The problem was in the fine print.




1. There is no plan to legislate minimum care standards.
2. There is no timeline for when it would happen.
3. The calculations include time when workers are off sick or on vacation - not just when providing hands on care.

Don't be fooled by pre-election feel good promises with no implementation details. Without legislated minimum care standards the words are just hollow.



Keep Informed.

Follow us:

-  [Facebook.com/CUPEOntario](https://www.facebook.com/CUPEOntario)
-  [Twitter.com/CUPEOntario](https://twitter.com/CUPEOntario)
-  [YouTube.com/CUPEOntario](https://www.youtube.com/CUPEOntario)