

## **Workers speak on Ontario's social policy; 'It's a regional hospital'; City committee slams NHS's plans to move services to St. Catharines;**

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Workers from Community Living Sarnia-Lambton travelled to London Wednesday to speak to Ontario's standing committee on social policy.

The staff, members of **CUPE** 4370, told the committee that proposed legislation in Ontario could mean longer wait times and uncertainty for people with developmental disabilities and their families.

Local president Brian Biggers said Bill 77 would allow private brokers to find support staff for families that opt for direct finding. The brokers would take on the role of employer without the same accountability as community service agencies, he said.

"Recruitment and retention of workers in this sector are huge problems that are not addressed by Bill 77."

The local workers urged the standing committee to ensure public money only goes to non-for-profit service providers.