



Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care
Deputy Minister
Room 310 Legislative Building, 450 Broadway
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Manitoba Nurses Union
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Dear Ms. Jackson

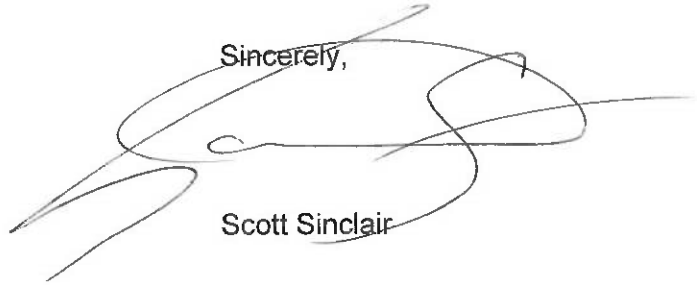
Further to our shared interests in improving the health care system for both nurses and patients, the government of Manitoba is committed to working with the Manitoba Nurses Union to take steps to reduce the number of nursing agencies operating in Manitoba and the overall number of contracts Service Delivery Organizations have with Agencies.

As you know, Manitoba has more than 170 individual contracts with more than 70 district nursing agencies across the province. In consultation with the Joint Nursing Council, of which MNU is a participant, the province will develop standards and criteria for SDOs that which to contract an agency must comply with. These standards will align with our provincial goal to support nurses and front line workers in the public health care system. To accomplish this, the province will be issuing a Request for Proposals from Agencies through which a number of Agencies will be pre-qualified against the established standards and criteria and which SDOs must access agency nurses from.

It is our hope that these steps, plus the expansion of the Provincial Float Pool, will help to reduce the reliance on nursing agencies, minimize associated expenditures, will reduce mandatory overtime and ensure safe patient care.

I look forward to partnering with you in this work and I know setting Manitoba on a pathway to reducing reliance on agency nurses remains a shared priority and mutual goal for both the government and the Manitoba Nurses Union.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Scott Sinclair', written over the printed name.

Scott Sinclair