

To/A: Ontario Healthcare Local Presidents and National Service Reps.
From/De: Corey Vermey
Date: October 21, 2015
Subject/Objet: Review of the Personal Support Worker Registry

Greetings:

The Ministry of Health has initiated a comprehensive program review of the PSW Registry. They have given the task to an outfit named: "Professional Standards Authority for Health and Social Care", which is UK-based organisation involved in professional/and occupational registration in that country. If you would like more information about them check out www.professionalstandards.org.uk

We will be speaking with this Professional Standards Authority in the coming weeks around the position of our union in terms of PSWS and the Registry. Your Local and members can also participate by completing the online survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/pswreview>. The responses they receive will inform the findings of their review so it is critical that the views of PSW on the front line are also considered. The website will only be active for responses until 29 October 2015.

There is concern that the Ministry will seek to utilize the review to once again expands the scope of the registry on a mandatory basis to the long-term care sector. At present, only the home care requires PSWs to be registered. The KEY QUESTION in the survey is simply at No. #11 - **DO YOU SUPPORT THE MANDATORY REGISTRATION OF PSWs EMPLOYED BY PUBLICLY FUNDED HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS**. It has been our position that the Registry ought not become a mandatory obligation extended into the long-term care sector. There are critical issues of privacy at stake as well as the need for an appeal or challenge process to ensure the records of the Registry are indeed more than rumour or complaints.

Please circulate this request as broadly as possible to PSWs

In solidarity/ En toute solidarité,

Corey Vermey

Health Care Director

Directeur des soins de santé