

**Ministry of Health  
and Long-Term Care**

Office of the Minister

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HLTC2966MC-2016-3604

**JUN 16 2016**

Mr. Bill White, CAO/Clerk  
Town of Minto  
[BWhite@town.minto.on.ca](mailto:BWhite@town.minto.on.ca)

Dear Mr. White:

Randy Pettapiece, MPP, Perth-Wellington, forwarded the Town of Minto's concerns with respect to Bill 163. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care values the contributions of nurses, who go above and beyond for Ontarians every single day. I also recognize that unfortunately, many nurses are exposed to traumatic events as part of their work.

The intent of Bill 163 is to cover first responders who arrive and assist at the scene of an emergency and are frequently exposed to traumatic incidents, events and stressors due to the nature of their work. The government also recognizes nurses and other professionals who work each and every day to help those in need and keep our communities safe. These groups face unique stresses in their service to Ontarians.

All workers who are in other occupations with Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) coverage that are not included under the Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) presumption will continue to be able to bring forward claims for PTSD, which the WSIB will adjudicate under its current process.

Again, I thank you for taking the time to write on this important issue.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eric Hoskins'.

Dr. Eric Hoskins  
Minister

c: Randy Pettapiece, MPP