

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

Happy Health Care Professionals Day!

Although we're celebrating a little later than usual this year, we want to take a moment to recognize each of you for the incredible work you do every day. Whether you're caring for patients, supporting the families, working behind the scenes, your dedication, professionalism, and compassion make a difference every single day! Thank you for the care you provide and the commitment you show to your profession.

This year also marks an exciting milestone. In January 2026, our Bargaining unit officially became it's own LOCAL....**ONA Local 239.**

Becoming our own Local gives us the opportunity to build something that reflects the needs of all of our members, the work you do, all of our various professions and our priorities. As a new Executive, we've spent the past several months laying the foundation for Local 239. A top priority for us is improving our communication to the membership and getting our Local 239 more engaged and empowered.

This year, when you sign for your Tim Card, we are requesting you update your personal emails. Moving forward, we will only be using personal emails to communicate with members. This way we can rally the troops and plan meetings, privately.

We're excited for what lies ahead and look forward to growing together.

On behalf of our Executive Team, thank you for everything you do.

Sincerely



Christine Spence

Local 239 Coordinator & Bargaining Unit President



*Scan the QR code
below to access our
website and the
following
important
resources*

**Collective
Agreement**

**Local
Policies**

**Workload
Form**

**Education
Grant
Application**

**Executive and
Unit Rep
Contact List**



A small token of appreciation for Health Care Professionals Day. Please enjoy this \$15 Tim Hortons Gift Card. Please note that a percentage of the proceeds goes back to the HSN Foundation

STAY CONNECTED

Website – local239.onalocal.org

Facebook – ONA Paramedical LOCAL 239

ONA Access – ona.org/access

Next Scheduled Bargaining Unit Meeting

Thursday October 8th

Time: 6:30 pm (approx 2 hours)

Virtual Meeting – invite will be sent to personal emails

BUILDING LOCAL 239

Highlights Since January 2026 – Work of the Executive

- Selected our new Executive Team, with our Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice President appointed through an expression of interest process.
 - Developed ONA Local 239 Policies to guide the work of our Executive and support effective governance.
 - Hosted our first Annual General Meeting on April 15, 2026, where members approved the 2026–2027 Local Budget, adopted the new Local 239 Policies, and approved a \$5 local levy increase.
 - Finalized the Education Grant application process to provide qualifying members with access to educational funding opportunities (up to \$500 for education, per year)
 - Planned a bargaining unit representative training day for September 15, 2026 - Reps stay tuned!!
 - Ongoing negotiations with Health Sciences North while awaiting our arbitration date.
 - Preparing for the upcoming Local 239 Executive Elections (October 19–23, 2026).
 - Ongoing representation of our members through multiple WANS submissions at Labour Management meetings, advocating for safer workloads and quality patient care.
 - Proposed improvements to Health Sciences North's code of conduct investigation process to promote greater fairness, transparency, and consistency.
 - Continued updating members' personal email addresses to strengthen communication and member engagement.
 - Participated in community and political advocacy to protect Ontario's publicly funded health care system and our members' rights.
 - Started meeting with individual units with our Labour Relations Officer. Goal is to flag members on trends, answer questions specifically related to issues in their professions and respective departments. Ongoing.
- Please reach out to your Bargaining Unit President if you want to schedule a private meeting with your group

This is only the beginning—we will continue to speak up, show up, and get louder in the fight for advocating for our members and the patients we serve.

Collective Agreement Update

Your Negotiations Team has completed **five full days of negotiations** with Health Sciences North. After reaching a standstill, the next step is **interest arbitration**. We are currently awaiting an arbitration date and will keep members informed as updates become available.

LOCAL 239 Elections - October 2026

Elections are scheduled for this October 19th to 23rd.
All positions within LOCAL 239, ONA-P Bargaining Unit are up for elections.
If we have more than one candidate run for the same position, the elections will be done electronically.
Please see our website for the list of positions and descriptions.
They will be posted soon!

Important Details/Dates:

Elections Committee (3 members) Aurora Stone, Jessica Duval and Kerri Zalan
Call for Nominations - September 4th
Close Nominations – September 29th
Post tickets of Nomination - October 9th
Election window to vote between October 19th and October 23rd

Payroll Reconciliation Issues

If you have been notified by HSN that you were subject to a payroll reconciliation, that you owe money or you don't agree with their explanation, please reach out to your Bargaining Unit President. Our team is currently coming up with a plan on how we are going to tackle this issue.

hsnparamedbup@ona.org



Your Executive is here to support, represent and advocate for every member of ONA Local 239. We encourage you to reach out with questions, concerns, ideas, or opportunities to get involved. Together, we're building a strong, engaged Local.



**Local Coordinator and
Barg Unit President**
Christine Spence



Vice President:
Jamie Farrow



Treasurer:
Lisa Harrison



Secretary:
Carla Michaud



Chair Grievance
Kristen Harper



**Chair Professional Practice
and Workloads:** Tova Jessup



**Chair Return to Work/WSIB/
Human Rights Equity:** Sara Zinkie



**Chair Health and
Safety:** Verne Saari

WHO SHOULD YOU REACH OUT TO WITH YOUR QUESTIONS?

Questions about what to do when you are injured at work or returning to work after an illness?

Sara Zinkie, Safe Return to Work and Accommodation Representative

Questions about health or safety concerns at work?

Verne Saari, Occupational Health and Safety Representative

Questions about the collective agreement or filing grievances?

Kristen Harper, Grievance Representative Chairperson

Questions about heavy workloads affecting your ability to provide quality patient care, ability to chart?

Tova Jessup, Professional Practice and Workloads Representative

Questions about the education fund and application process?

Carla Michaud, Local Secretary

Questions about disciplinary processes, investigations or meetings?

Christine Spence, Bargaining Unit President Local 239 Chair

Questions about your expense form you must submit if you attended an ONA event?

Lisa Harrison, Local Treasurer

Name	Location	Contact Information
Christine Spence President	YMCA, Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehab	local239bup@ona.org
Jamie Farrow Vice President	RLHC, 3 rd floor - Cardiodiagnostics	onaparamedvp@ona.org
Kristen Harper VP Grievances	RLHC, 3 rd floor - Respiratory Therapy	hsnparamedgrc@ona.org
Verne Saari VP Health and safety	RLHC, 1 st floor - Lab	hsnparamedhs@ona.org
Tova Jessup VP Workloads	RLHC, 2 nd floor – OR Perfusion	hsnparamedprwf@ona.org
Sara Zinkie VP Return to Work	RLHC, 3 rd floor - Cardiodiagnostics	hsnparamedhre@ona.org
Carla Michaud Local Secretary	NECC, 1 st floor - Supportive Care Program	local239sec@ona.org
Lisa Harrison Local Treasurer	SOC, 3 rd floor – Cardiac Outpatient Centre	Local239tr@ona.org

Other Ways to Stay Connected

ONA LOCAL239 Website: <https://local239.onalocal.org/>

- ONA-P Executive contact lists and services offered
- Stay current with our newsletters to find out what is going on within our Bargaining Unit
- Find out what discounts you qualify for through ONA

ONA ACCESS: <https://ona.org/access-ona/>

- Keep your contact information up to date with ONA
- Access to online education, member services, forms and records

Facebook Page: Search → **ONA Paramedical LOCAL 239**

- Follow us to get updates and other important messages from your union
- Reminders for upcoming events such as Bargaining Unit meetings

Each department or unit also has a **Unit Representative** who can help to point you in the right direction. Check the list attached and find out who your representative is. They will help guide you to the Executive.

Area	Rep
1st Floor North	Kristin Schafer
4 North	Julie Bazinet
4 South	Parampreet Singh Aulakh
6 North and Kirkwood	Ashley Mason
5 North	Ashley Mason
5 South	Venkadesan Rajendran
6 South	Kevin Li
7 and 8 North	Emma McDougall/Heather Thompson
9 North	Richard Lavoie
Biomed	Jordan Espinosa
Cardiodiagnostics	Sara Zinkie
Cedar Street	Suzanne Lepage – Health and Safety
Chapleau	Anne Brunette
CTC	Penny Jacob
Diagnostic Imaging	Melanie Ethier/Lisa Moggy
Elliot Lake	Carrie Powell
Emergency Department	Dheerendra Kumar
Espanola	Taylor Kozachanko
ICU	Genevieve Gordon
IRU	Sharmaine Jeanveau
Lab	Kim Riipinen
Manitoulin Island	VACANT
NEJAC	Renee Wilson
Neo Kids and Family Program	Alice Haasdyk
Neurodiagnostic	Samantha Bouffard
New Liskeard	Anne Venne
Nuclear medicine	Steven Marson
Ortho Techs	Shawn Charron
Perfusion	Tova Jessup
Pharmacy	Laura Green
Phlebotomy and Tech IV	Verne Saari/Pam Leduc

Area	Rep
Pine Street	Amber Marcotte
NECC - Radiation Therapy	Lauren Oliver
NECC - Supportive Care	Carla Michaud
Respiratory Therapy	Kristen Harper
Sleep lab	Julia Menard
SOC - Bariatrics	Teri Lynn Charbonneau
SOC - Breast Screening Clinic	Robin Robillard
SOC - Cardiodiagnostics	Jessica Duval
SOC - Chronic Pain	Terah Reid
SOC - Diabetes	Shane Taylor
SOC - Genetic Counsellor	Robyn Hebert
SOC - OBIRS	Shane Taylor
SOC - Seniors Mental Health	Janice Aitken-Levesque
SOC - STAT	Jen King
SOC - nutrition	Jasmine Coulombe
SOC- BSO (Behavior Specialists Ontario)	Stephanie Ellis
SOC- Chiropody	Shane Taylor
SOC - Outpatient Neuro Rehab	Nat Piquette
SSM radiation therapy	Olivia Hancott
Timmins	Karina Lacroix
WSIB Speciality Clinic	Kristin Schafer
YMCA -Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehab	Christine Spence
NESGC	Theresa Bohan/ Kerri Zalan
AMU	Laura Johnson
ARCC	Manon Landry
Systemic Treatment	Mary Pavacic
Pharmacy Pre-Admission	Bobby Ann Lachapelle
Amberwood	Denise Ouellet
LOTUS	Aurora Stone