

SEPTEMBER 2026

Triage Desk

Hello there,

What started as a simple idea to stay connected with you and our wider community has grown into three years of sharing stories, advocating for better health care, and celebrating victories while facing challenges together. In this edition, we're taking a moment to look back at some of that journey.

This month also marks one year since we launched our Alberta Needs Care campaign. The response has been encouraging, and while our message continues to resonate, the work is far from over.

As we do each year, we're also giving you an early look at our Annual General Meeting, which begins next month. We'll close this edition by recognizing Truth and Reconciliation Day on September 30.

This may be our third anniversary, but it's yours too. Thank you for being part of this journey, for staying informed, and for standing with us.

Happy anniversary, and as always, thank you for reading.

Nursing Notes



Anniversary Reflections

Three years ago, The Pulse launched with the first edition of our Respect. Retain. Recruit campaign, calling for immediate action to address Alberta's nursing shortage and strengthen public health care.

Since then, you've been with us every step of the way.

You followed our collective bargaining journey, from negotiations to the ratification of a historic four-year agreement that restored Alberta nurses to the highest-paid in Canada while securing stronger job protections and a new evidence-based process to advance safe staffing.

Together, we stood up for public health care through our It Could Be Better Here campaign, pushing back against the growing shift toward for-profit delivery.

We also celebrated a landmark victory when presumptive PTSD coverage was extended to Registered Nurses and Registered Psychiatric Nurses, ensuring work-related psychological injuries receive the recognition they deserve.

Most recently, we launched Alberta Needs Care, shining a light on the staffing shortages, underfunding, long wait times, and growing pressures facing our health-care system. The campaign is entering an exciting new phase, and we'll have more to share in our next edition.

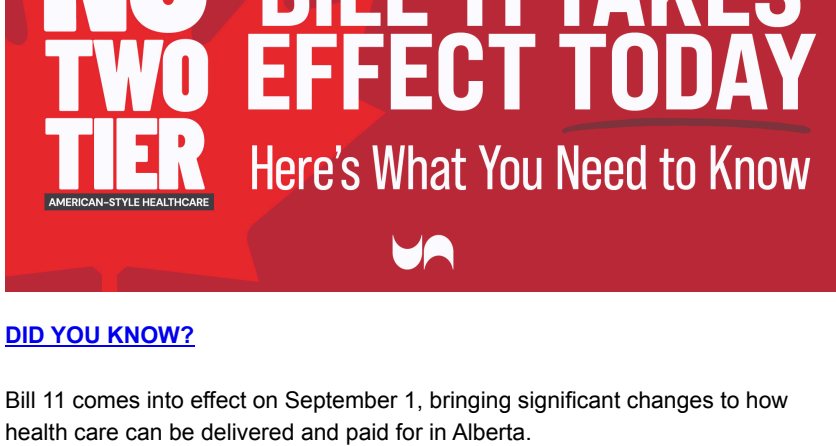
Until then, you'll continue to see the campaign across Alberta in communities, on billboards, buses and trains, at hockey rinks, and on radio, television, and digital platforms.

Whether we've been advocating for better health care, negotiating a new collective agreement, or highlighting the issues that matter most, you've been part of this journey.

Thank you for reading The Pulse and for standing with us over the past three years.

Here's to the next chapter.

Brain Food



[DID YOU KNOW?](#)

Bill 11 comes into effect on September 1, bringing significant changes to how health care can be delivered and paid for in Alberta.

The legislation allows physicians to work in both the public and private systems, including charging patients out of pocket, and creates Canada's first private insurance market for medically necessary care.

These changes could have far-reaching implications for patients, nurses and Alberta's public health-care system, including how quickly people can access care and how much that care ultimately costs.

What does Bill 11 mean for you and the future of public health care? [Find out more on our website.](#)

Truth and Reconciliation Day



On September 30, we come together to recognize the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day.

It's a time to honour residential school survivors, remember the children who never made it home, and acknowledge the lasting impact on generations of Indigenous families and communities.

By wearing orange, listening, learning and taking part in events in our communities, we can each play a part in reconciliation, not just on the day, but throughout the year.



Canada's nurses are once again calling on the federal government to take stronger action on the crisis in Gaza.

In an August 12 letter to Prime Minister Mark Carney, the Canadian Federation of Nurses Unions (CFNU) raised concerns about the ongoing loss of life, the destruction of Gaza's health care system and the targeting of health care workers.

Read CFNU's full letter [here](#).

Quote of the Month

"When you're a nurse, you know that every day you will touch a life or a life will touch yours."

Unknown

What's Next?



Labour Day is more than the last long weekend of summer.

The day, being commemorated on September 7 this year, is rooted in Canada's labour movement and the fight for better working conditions that began with workers rallying for their rights in 1872.

Today, Labour Day is a chance to recognize the progress workers and unions have fought for and the work that continues to protect and improve working conditions for everyone.

[Here](#) is a list of Labour Day activities you can participate in.

Let's Connect

LET'S GET SOCIAL!

We'd love to keep in touch. Follow us on our social media platforms and help us spread the word about how, together, we can support Alberta's nurses.



STAY CONNECTED. STAY INFORMED.

Members can download the **UNA APP** here to get the latest news and updates, all in one place.



iPhone



Android