

April 2, 2024

VIA EMAIL: dharrigan@una.ca

David Harrigan  
Director of Labour Relations  
United Nurses of Alberta (UNA)  
700, 11150 Jasper Avenue NW  
Edmonton, AB T5K 0L1

Dear David:

As a follow-up to my December 1, 2023 letter, I am writing with updated information on the Health System Refocus Initiative that will see a transfer of positions in the Direct Nursing bargaining unit.

In summer 2024, approximately 3200 employees representing 2000 FTE in the UNA bargaining unit will transfer from Alberta Health Services to the newly formed Recovery Alberta: Mental Health and Addiction Services.

While timelines are dependent on legislative amendments yet to be introduced, the Ministry of Mental Health and Addiction is aiming to establish the corporate structure of Recovery Alberta by June 3, 2024. Following the establishment of the corporate structure and executive team, staff and services would begin operation under the banner of Recovery Alberta on July 1, 2024.

Affected staff work across multiple settings, including:

- Standalone psychiatric facilities (for example, Alberta Hospital Edmonton and Centennial Centre for Mental Health and Brain Injury)
- Acute care hospital staff working in AMH programs or services (for example, Red Deer Regional Hospital and Royal Alexandra Hospital)
- Virtual staff working on AMH programs or services (for example, Virtual Opioid Dependency Program and Access Mental Health)
- Community outpatient clinics and outreach programs (for example, Red Deer Mental Health and Community Health Centre and Sheldon M Chumir Health Centre)
- Detox and residential treatment facilities (for example, Henwood Treatment Centre and Northern Addictions Centre)
- Provincial corrections facilities (for example, Calgary Corrections Centre and Edmonton Remand Centre)
- Corporate office settings (for example, Seventh Street Plaza and Southport Tower)

As per our recent conversation led by Kerry Bales, we are committed to ongoing dialogue on this transfer and the establishment of Recovery Alberta and address any questions that may arise.

My office will coordinate the scheduling of recurring meetings pre and post transfer.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Lee McEwen

Executive Director, Labour Relations and In-scope Classification & Compensation  
Alberta Health Services

Copy:

Athana Mentzelopoulos - President and CEO, Alberta Health Services

Kerry Bales - Chief Program Officer, Addictions & Mental Health and Correctional Health Services

Raelene Fitz - Lead Negotiator, Alberta Health Services