

# THE PULSE

United Nurses of Alberta

## February 2025

### Triage Desk

Hello,

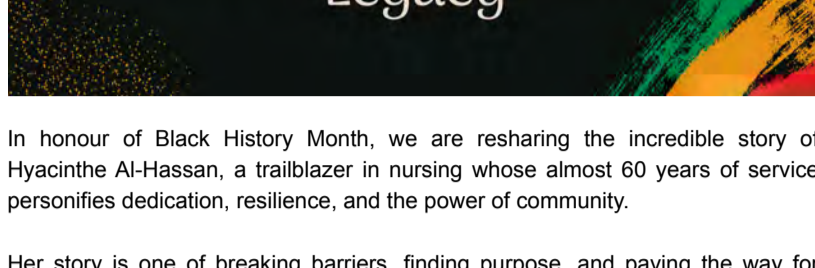
February may be the shortest month of the year, but it definitely knows how to make an impact with all the celebrations and events packed into just 28 days!

In addition to celebrating Black History Month, we've got Valentine's Day, Family Day, Canada Flag Day, and International Day of Women and Girls - all in one month!

In this edition, we're honouring a nurse who's demonstrated Black excellence, recapping our Day of Action, highlighting the importance of presumptive coverage, and so much more.

So get comfortable, and dive in - you won't want to miss out on what we've got in store! Happy Family Day!

### Nursing Notes



In honour of Black History Month, we are resharing the incredible story of Hyacinthe Al-Hassan, a trailblazer in nursing whose almost 60 years of service personifies dedication, resilience, and the power of community.

Her story is one of breaking barriers, finding purpose, and paving the way for future generations of Black nurses.

Born in the United Kingdom and inspired by the women in her family who were nurses, Hyacinthe's path to healthcare was guided by a deep sense of purpose.

Though she initially aspired to become a doctor, she found her calling in nursing after spending a year in medical school. This decision, she says, was one she has never regretted.

#### After 45 years at the University of Alberta Hospital, 90 years old Hyacinth continues to work casual shifts as a Registered Psychiatric Nurse.

Hyacinthe's career has been filled with impactful moments, but one that stands out was being part of a team performing brain surgery, a memory that solidified her passion for nursing and the difference she could make in the lives of others.

Over the decades, Hyacinthe has seen nursing evolve, but through all the challenges, Hyacinthe's message to young nurses is clear: nursing is a profession driven by love and dedication. She encourages them to be fully committed, understanding that it's a challenging but rewarding path.

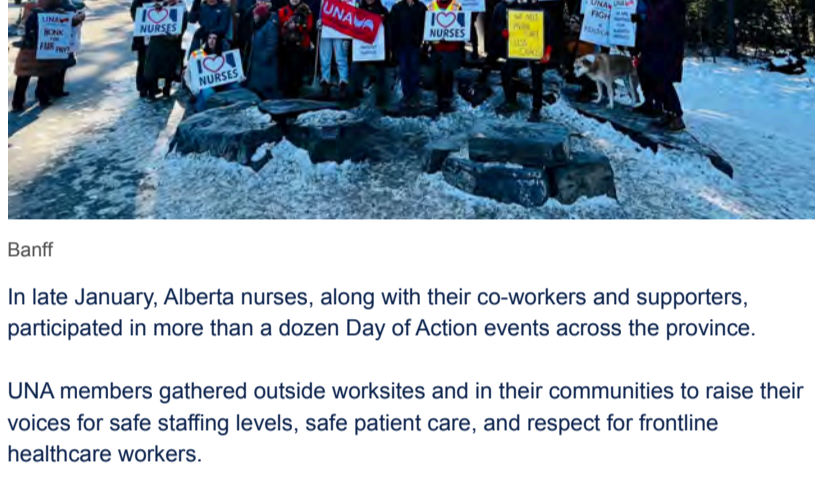
After 45 years at the University of Alberta Hospital, 90-year-old Hyacinth was still working casual shifts as a Registered Psychiatric Nurse as recently as last year.

Hyacinthe Al-Hassan's remarkable life and career are a testament to her strength and perseverance. Her legacy continues to inspire, and we salute her for 57 years of selfless service, breaking barriers and providing compassionate care to all those she serves.

#### Quote of the Month

"A family doesn't need to be perfect; it just needs to be united."

### Alberta Nurses Stand Strong for Safe Staffing and Patient Care



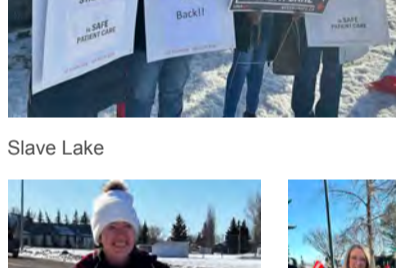
Banff

In late January, Alberta nurses, along with their co-workers and supporters, participated in more than a dozen Day of Action events across the province.

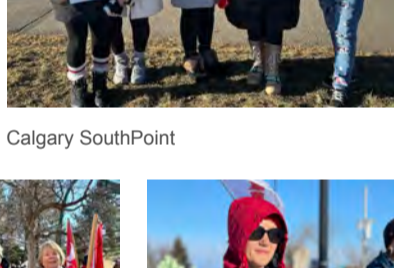
UNA members gathered outside worksites and in their communities to raise their voices for safe staffing levels, safe patient care, and respect for frontline healthcare workers.



Edmonton General



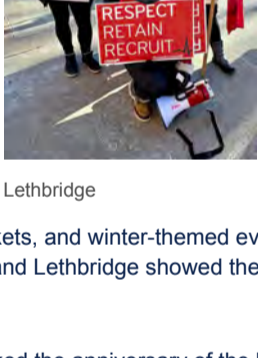
Slave Lake



Calgary SouthPoint



Olds



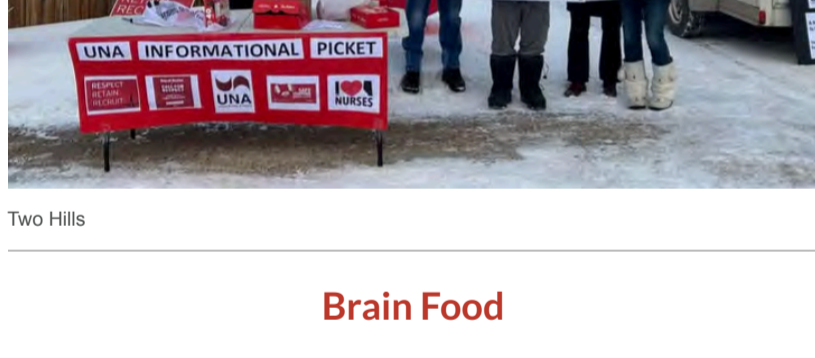
Lethbridge



Red Deer

With rallies, information pickets, and winter-themed events, nurses in cities like Banff, Calgary, Edmonton, and Lethbridge showed their unwavering support for public healthcare.

The Day of Action also marked the anniversary of the historic 1988 nurses' strike, a pivotal moment in UNA's history.



Two Hills

### Brain Food

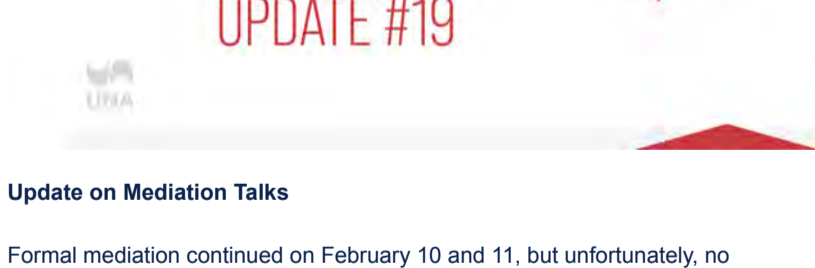
#### Canada Flag Day!

On February 15, 1965, Canada's iconic red and white maple leaf flag was raised for the very first time.

The maple leaf flag honours our geography, history, and national identity, while paying tribute to the diverse Canadians who have helped shape this great country.

Celebrating Canada Flag Day is not only about the flag but the unity and pride it represents.

### Negotiations Update

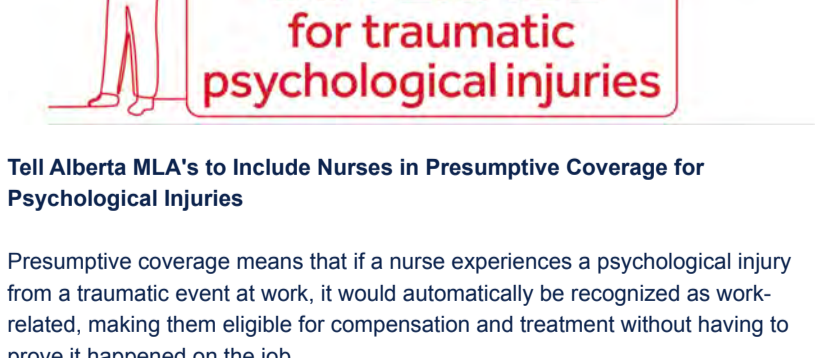


#### Update on Mediation Talks

Formal mediation continued on February 10 and 11, but unfortunately, no settlement was reached.

While no additional mediation dates have been scheduled at this time, discussions are ongoing between the Employers, UNA, and the Mediator.

### What's Next?



#### Tell Alberta MLA's to Include Nurses in Presumptive Coverage for Psychological Injuries

Presumptive coverage means that if a nurse experiences a psychological injury from a traumatic event at work, it would automatically be recognized as work-related, making them eligible for compensation and treatment without having to prove it happened on the job.

Right now, nurses don't have this benefit, but contacting your MLA's constituency office could change that. [Visit our website](#) for more information on presumptive coverage and how to contact your MLA.

### Let's Connect

#### Stay Connected!

Be a part of our mission to advocate for and support Alberta's nurses by connecting with us on our social media platforms.



iPhone



Android

MEMBERS CAN DOWNLOAD THE **UNA APP** HERE.