With 56 percent of the nurses casting ballots and 81 percent voting in favor of ratification last week, our tentative agreement is now the new contract for ONA—represented nurses at SLCH.

While this new contract is in itself a win—many of you strongly expressed your disappointment with management in regards to Fairshare. Your team is committed to continuing this fight and will be working on upcoming ways to generate more input from the nurses and plans for our next bargaining in 2013.

Copies of the contract should be printed and ready for distribution in approximately two months. We still need to proofread them and sign-off on any changes before sending the final written to the printers. We’ll be sending out an e-mail to nurses as soon as we know when retroactive pay is scheduled for distribution.

The bargaining team wants to thank nurses for all the participation, feedback and support over the last few months. Thanks to your hard work, we already have groundwork in place to begin working on some of the issues that didn’t go our way in this contract.

Upcoming WEBINAR
Delegation and Supervision of Patients: Pitfalls to Avoid, Practices to Pursue

Friday, November 18, 2011 at 12 noon (PDT)  FREE TO ONA MEMBERS

**Description:**
This web conference, the first of two, is designed for staff nurses, new graduates, instructors, mentors, preceptors, and charge nurses. Its purpose is to update knowledge of the 5 Rights of Delegation, supervision and team work. Also included are steps to incorporate delegation principles into one’s practice at the bedside.

**Objectives:**
1. Define RN delegation, supervision and accountability according to the Oregon Nurse Practice Act statute and rules.
2. Identify ways in which a nurse can make errors in delegation and supervision.
3. Locate and review American Nurses Association (ANA) and National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) joint statement on delegation and supervision.

**Please continue adding your voice to the discussions and efforts, and stay-tuned for opportunities to get more involved in our union.**
A Portion of the ONA Position Statement from our ONA website.

Recent flu seasons and the previous threat of an H1N1 pandemic have caused policy makers to focus on programs to protect Oregonians. Individual health care facilities have implemented a variety of procedures and policies related to influenza vaccinations for health care workers that have achieved varying degrees of success; these policies have had a range of implications for employees. As Oregon’s largest group of health care professionals, nurses have seen and experienced the best and worst of this piecemeal approach to vaccinations, and are striving to propose an evidence-based, common sense solution that protects health care workers and the patients they serve.

The Oregon Nurses Association (ONA) believes that all nurses and other health care workers should be vaccinated against seasonal influenza. Vaccination is a key method of protecting health care workers from influenza and helping to prevent the spread of influenza among patients and the public. ONA is actively promoting vaccination to become immunized within the nursing profession by using social media, and electronic and print media to provide education to Oregon’s nursing professionals and student nurses and assist them in making informed choices about receiving annual influenza vaccines.

ONA opposes requiring influenza vaccinations of nurses and other health care workers as a condition of employment. Rather, education and access to vaccinations, when combined with other methods to prevent influenza transmission, are sufficient and effective in protecting patients and workers.

More information and the entire Position statement may be found online by visiting the ONA website at www.oregonrn.org

2012 ONA Convention

The Oregon Nurses Association Annual Convention is an opportunity for nursing students, ONA members, ONA leadership and others in the nursing field throughout the state to come together and discuss the issues facing Oregon nurses.

Thursday, April 12, Friday, April 13, and Saturday, April 14
Hood River Inn, Hood River, OR

The Labor and CE day schedule of events is currently being developed.

The House of Delegates is scheduled for Saturday, April 14.

Update Your Contact Information!

Throughout the year it is critical that the executive team and ONA labor relations representatives are able to communicate openly and efficiently with nurses. The ONA website, mail at home and e-mails at home continue to be the best methods of getting updates to all members as quickly as possible.

Unfortunately, many members aren’t getting the most up-to-date information because ONA doesn’t have a current mailing address or a home email address. Or, the e-mail address on file is a work e-mail. ONA is often restricted when sending out mass e-mails to employer based e-mail addresses and if we don’t have a current mailing address or home email address, it results in many members not receiving the critical information they need as quickly as they should.

To remedy this situation, ONA is encouraging all members to go to www.OregonRN.org and click on “Update Your Contact Information” to update their information on file to include a personal (non-work) e-mail address to ensure the messages get through in a timely manner. Together we can make sure everyone is involved and stays informed!

Seasonal Influenza Vaccination for Health Care Workers

A Portion of the ONA Position Statement from our ONA website.

Recent flu seasons and the previous threat of an H1N1 pandemic have caused policy makers to focus on programs to protect Oregonians. Individual health care facilities have implemented a variety of procedures and policies related to influenza vaccinations for health care workers that have achieved varying degrees of success; these policies have had a range of implications for employees. As Oregon’s largest group of health care professionals, nurses have seen and experienced the best and worst of this piecemeal approach to vaccinations, and are striving to propose an evidence-based, common sense solution that protects health care workers and the patients they serve.

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