

THE PULSE

United Nurses of Alberta

April 2024

Triage Desk

Hello there,

Nursing Week is just around the corner, and we're excited to share some of the exciting plans we have in store to celebrate this special occasion.

In this month's edition, nurse Kaylee Kotowich shares her insights on agency nursing, respect, and burnout, providing valuable perspectives from the frontline.

Additionally, we'll bring you the latest updates on bargaining efforts and remember a passionate advocate for union activism and human rights.

Thank you for standing with us in support of our incredible nursing community.

Warm regards,

Nursing Notes

Who Will Care for Patients Amid Nursing Burnout Crisis?

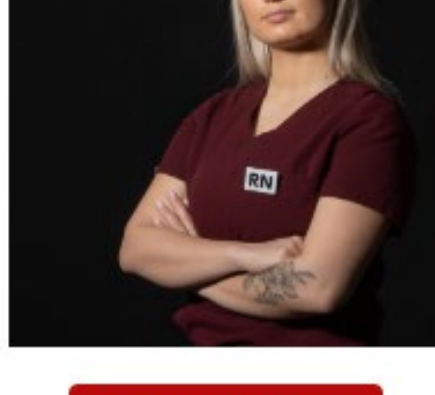
In this month's episode of ["Behind The Frontlines"](#) we take notes from nurse Kaylee Kotowich, from the Lougheed Centre ICU,

Kotowich weighs in on what respect means to her, agency nursing, burnout and much more.

"If everybody is being burnout from bedside nursing and needing to go else where then who is going to look after those patients? And if it's constantly a revolving door then we're really not fixing any of the problems that we have," she notes.

Watch as she tells her story and provides insight on the issues affecting nurses across Alberta.

Catch up on past episodes in the series by visiting our YouTube, subscribing and hitting the notification bell.



[Watch Video](#)

Quote of the Month

"Nurses are a unique kind. They have this insatiable need to care for others, which is both their greatest strength and fatal flaw."

Jean Watson, American nurse theorist and nursing professor

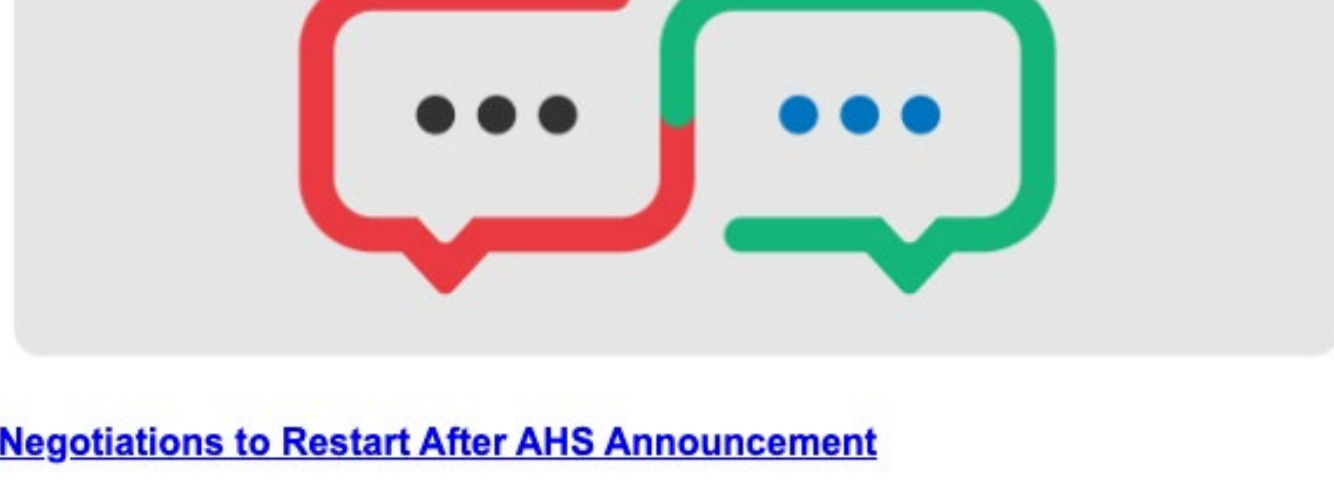
Brain Food

Did you know? National Nursing Week is only two weeks away?

As part of our week of activities to celebrate, UNA kicked off our second [Nurses' Week Engagement Challenge](#) aimed at recognizing the work of our Locals.

Keep an eye out for more exciting events and initiatives coming your way as we gear up for Nursing Week in May!

What's Next?



[Negotiations to Restart After AHS Announcement](#)

Negotiation discussions are set continue from [May 6-8](#) following the announcement of "Recovery Alberta."

The Negotiating Committee has scheduled a virtual Presidents Meeting to discuss and seek Local direction regarding "Recovery Alberta".

The meeting is scheduled for [Friday May 3](#).

National Day of Mourning

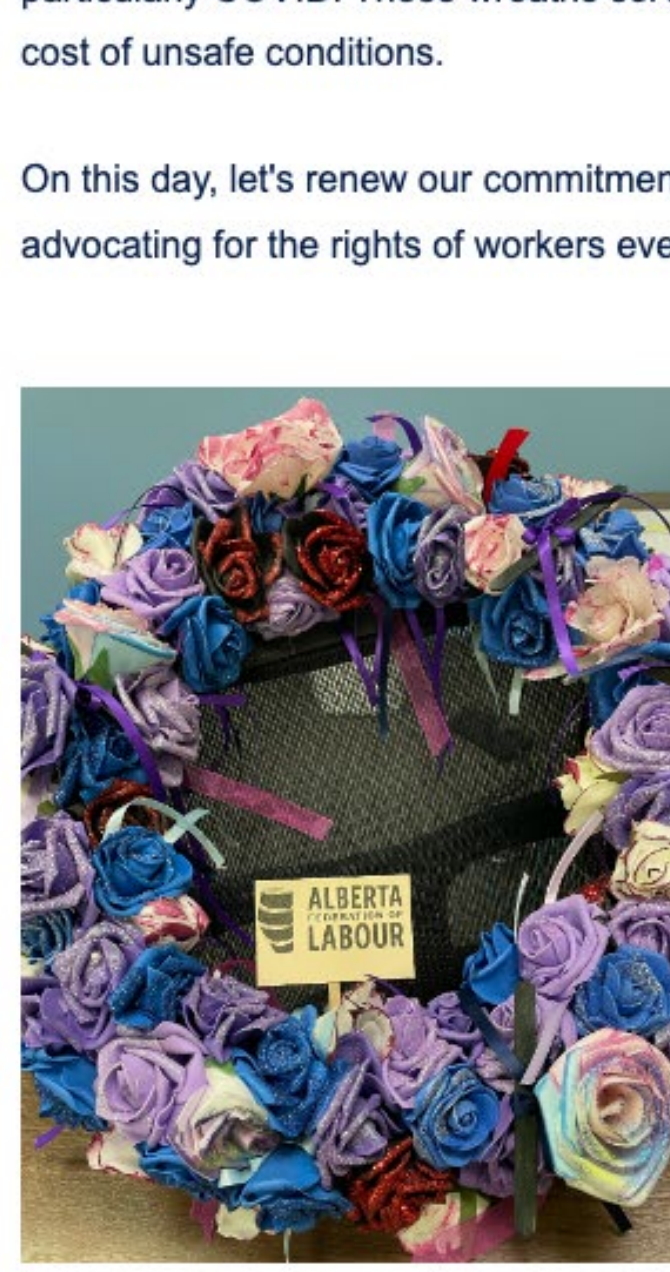
The National Day of Mourning, observed annually on [April 28](#), reminds us of lives lost and the ongoing fight for workplace safety. It honours those injured or killed on the job, highlighting the impact on families and society.

This year's theme, "Safe Work Now," calls for immediate action to prevent further tragedies.

Notable are the wreaths (*pictured below*), featuring over 5000 flowers, crafted by UNA member & Secretary Treasurer of Alberta Federation of Labour Karen Kuprys, and Erin Allyward, member of United Food and Commercial Workers 401.

Each flower colour represents the age of individuals lost to workplace hazards, particularly COVID. These wreaths serve as a powerful reminder of the human cost of unsafe conditions.

On this day, let's renew our commitment to promoting workplace safety and advocating for the rights of workers everywhere.



In Memoriam 🌸

Beryl Scott, a passionate advocate for union activism and human rights, passed away at the age of 77 on [March 19, 2024](#), in Edmonton.

Originally from Jamaica, she began her nursing career in England in the 1970s before immigrating to Canada, where she made significant contributions to the nursing community.

Scott's unwavering commitment to social justice was evident throughout her career, as she actively participated in union activities and fought for the rights of marginalized groups, particularly workers of color and Indigenous communities.

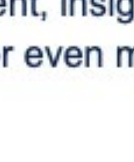
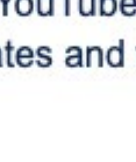
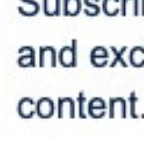
Her legacy is marked by her fearless advocacy and numerous accolades, including the AFL International Women's Day Award in 2009 and the Community Woman of the Year Award in 2016.



Let's Connect

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MEMBERS CAN DOWNLOAD THE [UNA APP](#) HERE.



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