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November 19, 2015

Hon. Kathleen Wynne Premier of Ontario Room 281 Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier:

There is a sense of chaos and uncertainty in my riding due to job cuts and two work stoppages at major provincial employers. I've spoken many times about the 350 front-line health care workers, including more than 100 nurses, which your government has fired at our hospital. As a result, workers, friends and families are out protesting the hospital cuts every single week.

Meanwhile, your government has also fired 54 workers at Nipissing University, including 22 professors. Nipissing students have been without classes for nearly three weeks as a faculty strike wears on. I'm receiving email on a daily basis from Nipissing University students and parents concerned that the students may not be able to complete their semesters.

At Ontario Northland, 43 workers have been fired, and now, Unifor members are in a lockout. Earlier this week, your Minister of Labour stated "we've got the best mediators in the country" and "if both groups work together at the table, an agreement can be reached." Yet to date, three requests for mediation have been rejected by management. It's to the point Unifor's national president felt he needed to become personally involved and laid this lockout firmly at your feet.

Premier, Nipissing families, students, seniors, and businesses are hurting. I'm asking you to personally intercede and provide leadership and direction to assist in resolving these two contract impasses. I also ask you to direct your Minister of Health to ensure proper ongoing funding is restored to the North Bay Regional Health Centre to maintain necessary hospital services for my constituents.

Sincerely,

Vic Fedeli, MPP Nipissing