

Granville Anderson  
Regional Councillor Ward 3 & 4  
Municipality of Clarington  
40 Temperance Street  
Bowmanville, ON L1C 3A6

August 2, 2022

Hon. Sylvia Jones,  
Minister of Health  
College Park 5th Flr,  
777 Bay St  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

**Subject: Intensive Care Unit Closure at Bowmanville Hospital**

Dear Minister Jones:

I was disheartened to learn that the Intensive Care Unit at Bowmanville Hospital is set to temporarily close due to a significant staff shortage. I am aware of the option for constituents to seek care at neighboring hospitals however, I also know that our neighbouring hospitals are facing similar staffing shortages. The ability to travel is also a privilege that many in emergency situations and those with limited access to transit do not have.

It is unacceptable to not have a fully functioning hospital for a growing community of over 100,000 people. I acknowledge that the decision to close was not made lightly and that a combination of factors contributed to this outcome, but I also know that there are very important investments and decisions that need to be made by the provincial government immediately to support our local hospitals.

It is my belief that the closure at Bowmanville Hospital is merely one small puzzle piece of a bigger picture: our healthcare system is currently dependent on healthcare workers and if investments and changes to working conditions do not change, we are at risk of needing much more radical action. It is important that the provincial government take immediate action to support healthcare workers. Institutions are only as strong as the employees that support them and work within them. Our healthcare workers have been tirelessly pushing our communities forward throughout the Covid-19 pandemic and have been simultaneously organizing to demand change and it is time to be responsive to their needs.

I would like to invite you to visit our local hospital here in Bowmanville and sit with our community leaders to discuss how we can move forward and support the needs of the community. All levels of government are needed to work together to address this problem and I am committed to see this work through.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized capital letter 'A' followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Granville Anderson  
Regional Councillor for Clarington Wards 3 & 4

Cc: Clarington Council  
John Henry, Regional Chair  
Todd McCarthy, MPP Durham