

The following statement was provided by MNU President Darlene Jackson on September 11, 2018 in response to the WRHA's Phase II consolidation announcement regarding 2018 changes and labour adjustment for nurses:

“As frontline professionals, nurses know that ongoing cuts and changes have not delivered the efficiencies promised by the WRHA and government, and have made it harder for them to deliver safe patient care. Phase 1 increased workload and overtime, especially at major facilities such as HSC and St. Boniface, where nurses are still working record amounts of mandatory overtime.

Wait times have been higher ever since Phase I was introduced, and insufficient staffing and resources have made the situation worse. Deteriorating working conditions threaten to increase sick time, stress leave and force nurses to consider relocating to other regions or provinces for work.

Phase I was widely disruptive for nurses throughout the region. It's time for this government to take a step back, and listen to nurses' concerns. In the meantime, we will continue to speak out against cuts and changes that jeopardize patient care.”