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### Ontario Nurses' Association calls for answers into murder of RN

*Toronto, 15 Dec 05*

The Ontario Nurses' Association (ONA) is calling for a Ministry of Labour investigation into the workplace murder of member Lori Dupont, RN. Dupont was stabbed to death by a co-worker – an anesthetist – while working in Windsor's Hotel-Dieu Grace Hospital last month. ONA is mystified as to why the Ministry of Labour has not begun to carry out a fatality investigation.

"The Ministry of Labour, the coroner and the hospital are treating Lori's death as a domestic violence incident," says Linda Haslam-Stroud, RN, ONA President. "But Lori was not the only nurse to express her fears to the hospital about working with this physician. This is also a workplace fatality that requires the Ministry of Labour to carry out their concurrent investigations. Lori's family deserves to have full answers about why it happened."

A number of questions surrounding Lori's murder have yet to be answered, including:

- Why was the anesthetist who murdered Lori allowed to return to the workplace when there were concerns about his mental stability?
- Did Hotel-Dieu Grace Hospital administrators take security threats raised by Lori, and concerns of other nurses seriously, and take every precaution reasonable in the circumstances for the protection of workers? At the time of Lori's death, there were outstanding Ministry of Labour workplace violence orders against the hospital that had not been complied with.
- Why is the Coroner's investigator not actively interviewing the nurses and co-workers who had raised complaints and fears about Dr. Marc Daniel and his strange behavior at the hospital in the weeks leading up to his murder of Lori Dupont in the workplace?

ONA is also calling for a review of the provisions and administration of the Occupational Health and Safety Act to protect workers and the administration of the criminal justice system that failed Lori.

ONA is the union representing 51,000 registered nurses and allied health professionals working in hospitals, long-term care facilities, public health, community health agencies and industry across Ontario.

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