

Which card, Doug Ford?



Stop the privatization of our public health care

Instead of expanding services in our public hospitals, the Ford government is giving hundreds of millions in public dollars to for-profit corporations to privatize health care.

As he announced his plan to privatize, Mr. Ford promised we would never have to pay for care with our credit card, only our OHIP card. But his government is letting private clinics get away with charging Ontarians for health care, which is **illegal** under our Protection of Public Medicare laws.

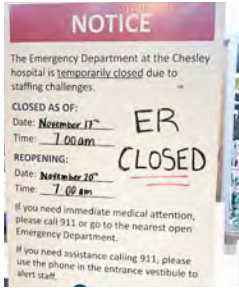
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I wouldn't have spoken out, if I hadn't heard Premier Ford say these private clinics won't charge you extra. It feels like it's my public duty to say that's not true. //

Lois Cooper was referred to a for-profit clinic for eye surgery. Under the Canada Health Act, patients can't be charged user fees for medically needed surgery. But by the time it was all done, **Lois was charged close to \$8,000.**

Watch her story on CBC News: Medical upselling in Canada can cost patients thousands of dollars, April 2, 2023

Plundering Public Health... For Profit



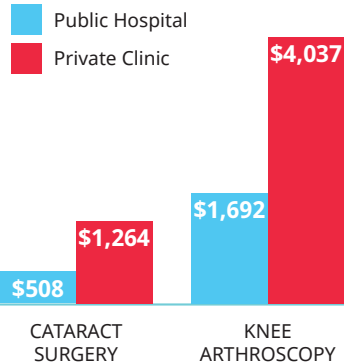
For more than a hundred years, Ontarians have fundraised & volunteered to build our local public hospitals' services. Together we built a world class public hospital system we could be proud of.

Privatization couldn't happen unless they dismantled our public hospitals: underfunded them, pushed them into crisis, and left them without the resources they need to provide for our communities... and that is exactly what the Ford government is doing.

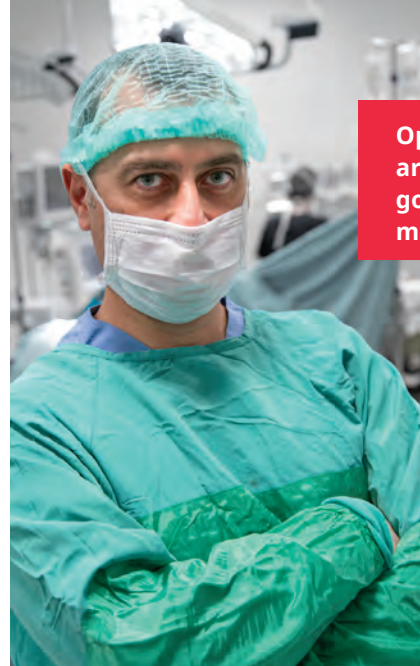
The Ford government is paying **double** for surgeries at a private for-profit hospital.

After she left office with the Ford government, former Health Minister Christine Elliott became a lobbyist for a corporation that owns a for-profit hospital.

The Ford government increased funding to that hospital by 278%. It is paying them more than double the cost per surgery than our local public hospitals— paid by our taxes.



Source: CBC News: Doug Ford government paying for-profit clinic more than hospitals for OHIP-covered surgeries, documents show November 14, 2023



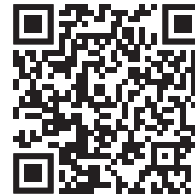
Operating rooms in public hospitals across Ontario are sitting empty or underused—Meanwhile, the Ford government is increasing funding to private clinics by more than 200%.

Ontario funds its public hospitals at the lowest rate in Canada.

Every service that has been cut from our public hospitals has been privatized. It's not a coincidence. It is the plan.

Instead of privatizing, Ontario should match the funding other provinces give and improve our hospital services under public ownership & control.

For-profit privatization is an urgent threat to our health care



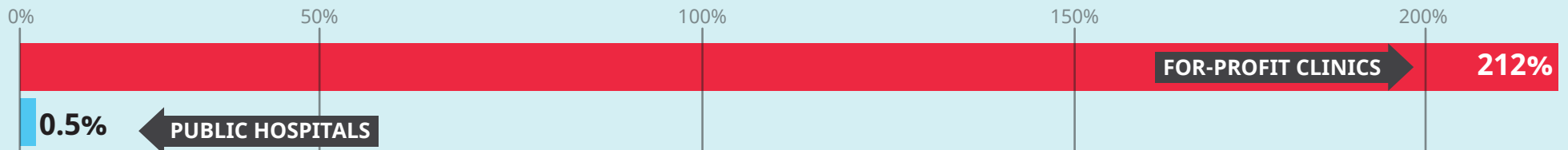
For more information visit StopForProfitHealthcare.ca

It siphons funding & staff out of our local public hospitals, forcing them to close services.

It costs more. Private clinics charge OHIP and they charge patients thousands of dollars in user fees on top, even though such fees are illegal.

Privatization enriches corporations at the expense of the health and well being of regular Ontarians.

Real-dollar cuts for public hospitals, huge funding increases to for-profit clinics



Source: Government of Ontario, Budget Estimates 2023-24 & 2022-23.

Operating funding for public hospitals is in "real dollar cuts" increasing far below the rate of inflation this year (half of one percent: 0.5%). At the same time, the Ford government has more than tripled the funding for private clinics (up 212%).

People Over Profit

The Ford government does what it can get away with. But public pressure forced them to backtrack on their Greenbelt land development scandal.

If we all take action, we can pressure them to stop privatizing our health care too.



Take Action

- ✓ Hand out leaflets in your neighbourhood, at work, in community groups.
- ✓ Join your local Health Coalition— www.ontariohealthcoalition.ca.
- ✓ Join the May 30 protest— and bring friends!
- ✓ Tell your MPP to stop the privatization of our health care.



Thursday, May 30 at noon Stop the privatization of public health care

In Toronto: Gather at noon at the south side of Nathan Phillips Square across from the Sheraton, 123 Queen St. W. We will march to the Ontario Legislature at Queen's Park. There is a designated space at Queen's Park for people with mobility issues— we will be at Queen's Park at 1 p.m.

Across Northern Ontario: There will be regional events at the same time.

Across Ontario: There will be buses to the rallies & marches in each region. **See our website for details and to reserve a space on a bus.**



www.StopForProfitHealthcare.ca