



# Ottawa Health Coalition

Protecting public healthcare for all

## Statement from the Ottawa Health Coalition: Make Revera Public

---

The Ottawa Health Coalition supports the call from the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) for the Public Sector Pension Investments Board (PSP) to divest from Revera and to put the for-profit long-term care company under public ownership and control.

As with other private, for-profit long-term care operators, Rivera's profit-driven management undermined working conditions and care provision in ways that made the Covid-19 crisis far worse than it might have been. Chronic staff shortages, unstable multi-facility staffing practices, and a lack of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) are directly related to the company's for-profit ownership.

Negotiations between Revera and the unions that represent the workers there have been contentious over the years. Personal support workers (PSWs) are forced to work in many different sites to make a living because of their low wages and insufficient hours.

Unions representing the workers in long-term care facilities have organized for many years in support of legislation that would ensure that each resident has at least 4.5 hours of care time per day. The fact that the Ontario Long-Term Care Association (OLTCA) has lobbied both Liberal and Conservative provincial governments and has contributed to their election campaigns has helped to ensure that this minimum standard has not been established.

In a May 11<sup>th</sup> letter to PSP CEO Neil Cunningham, the PSAC pointed out that, "In the midst of this unprecedented global pandemic, we should not have to convince PSP of the value of working to ensure safe services to the Canadian public and fair compensation and working conditions for workers in the facilities."

"Operating these facilities, with financial profit as a top priority, cannot continue. Only by turning control of the facilities over to provincial health authorities, can we ensure that the wellbeing of the Canadian public and workers comes first."

-Ottawa Health Coalition, September 2020



[Click Here](#) to register for the Virtual Townhall on **September 16th at 7:00PM**



[ottawahealthcoalition.ca](http://ottawahealthcoalition.ca)



[ottawahealthco@gmail.com](mailto:ottawahealthco@gmail.com)



[@ottawahealthco](https://twitter.com/ottawahealthco)