

# Halton Healthcare Services hiring nurses for ICU, ER

Halton Healthcare Services will hold an open house for nurses Thursday.

The event will take place from 3 to 7 p.m. in the auditorium at Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital (OTMH) and is for emergency room (ER) and intensive care unit (ICU) registered nurses that Halton Healthcare Services is looking to hire at Milton District Hospital, OTMH and Georgetown Hospital.

ICU nurses are particularly needed at OTMH, which has plans to expand its intensive

care/critical care unit from 12 to 18 beds.

Experienced ER nurses and those with at least one year of experience working on a medical/surgical floor in an acute care setting are being sought. Consideration will also be given to new grads for the ER Observation Unit.

The open house will provide an opportunity for ICU nurses and ER nurses to visit OTMH and get a feel for Halton Healthcare Services' hospitals.

Representatives from the ICU and ER departments will be

available to answer any questions and tours of the departments will be offered.

Free parking is available.

"We have an exceptionally dedicated ER health-care team — a very close-knit group," said Christine Forester, a registered nurse at OTMH's emergency department.

For more information about the open house or other employment opportunities at Halton Healthcare Services, call human resources at (905) 338-4626 or visit [www.haltonhealthcare.com](http://www.haltonhealthcare.com).

# Loblaws staff in strike position

Local and province-wide Loblaws employees went into a legal strike position Friday.

But at holiday press time Friday afternoon, no picket lines had been set up. The United Food and Commercial Workers union, which represents employees of Loblaws, Zehr's and Great Canadian Super Stores, reported that a strike wouldn't start unless a final contract offer — that had yet to be made — was voted on and turned down.

"While we have received an overwhelming strike mandate from our members and are in a legal strike position as of October 6, we have not set a strike deadline at this point," a statement from union officials said. "If there is a memorandum, or final offer, it will be presented to our members before the commencement of a strike. The only way a strike might start earlier is if either of the negotiating parties should walk away from the table."

The statement also indicated that even when the final offer is made, it's unlikely the union's negotiating committee would recommend supporting it.

Loblaws Companies Ltd. is reportedly seeking cost cuts to stay competitive with retail giant Wal-Mart, which continues to expand the grocery sections in its stores.

More than 95 per cent of the company's 27,000 unionized employees across Ontario voted for a strike mandate.



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