



# Guy Bourgouin

MPP Mushkegowuk- James Bay  
Député Mushkegowuk - Baie James

Kapuskasing, August 23, 2019

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to endorse the Canadian PPE Network and the role it plays in assisting Personal Support Workers (PSWs) in Ontario and Canada. The Canadian PPE Network is a new non-profit organization completely run by PSWs and other caregivers seeking to build collaborative linkages amongst frontline workers in the health care, long-term care and disabilities sectors.

I am pleased to have met with their president and founder, Ms. Lynn Steele; her passion, dedication and courage are exemplary and for that reason, I cannot but commend and endorse this fantastic initiative. PSWs play an essential, yet often unrecognized, role in securing the well-being of some of the most at-risk people in our communities.

PSWs in our country often work in precarious conditions and are highly vulnerable to physical, psychological and emotional violence. Most importantly, perhaps, is that while they care for our loved ones – and often put their lives at risk to do so – PSWs' wages and benefits are below par.

Given the shortage of qualified PSWs in both Ontario and Canada, it is even more essential that we encourage and promote initiatives such as the Canadian PPE Network. I thereby endorse their ethos of solidarity as well as their collective efforts to enhance the working conditions in the field. In endorsing this initiative, it is my hope to raise awareness about the recognition and respect that PSWs so greatly deserve.

Thank you very much for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Guy Bourgouin".

Guy Bourgouin  
MPP for Mushkegowuk – James Bay  
Député provincial pour Mushkegowuk – Baie James