

Subject: Motion re Lions Gate Hospital

Date: Mon, 15 Sep 2003 00:07:06 -0700

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Notice of Motion;

Serious shortcomings at Lions Gate Hospital - Report Councillor Crist.

Motion:

That Mayor Bell on behalf of the residents of the District of North Vancouver, write a letter to the Premier of British Columbia with copies to the Minister of Health, voicing our concerns pertaining to serious shortcomings and the general deterioration of accepted standards at Lions Gate Hospital, including staff shortages as well as lack of general maintenance and patient care and further that

The Mayor of the City and the Mayor of West Vancouver be invited to do likewise.

Rationale;

Mr. Eric Waugh a resident of the District of North Vancouver recently appeared before Council and brought to Councils attention an extremely serious concern to all North Shore residents. He pointed out that when he was recently admitted to the emergency room at Lions Gate Hospital, all 8 available beds were full, while 15 people most of whom were elderly and in pain, had to wait for hours before they were attended to by the one and only doctor present. He stated further that he himself had to wait 4 hours while in great pain before he was treated.

I can personally corroborate this situation since I too recently had an accident which compelled me to go to the emergency room. I too had to wait for hours while in great pain while only one doctor was in attendance. What was even more painful was to look at the state of the emergency room. Not only was it for a Hospital unacceptably untidy which under busy condition and up to a certain point may be understandable but the floor was filthy. The whole atmosphere was one of Third World condition and totally at variance with the one time first class state of this facility. Local Press reports have indicated that the experience is widespread and of concern to most North Shore residents

Lions Gate Hospital which at one time had the reputation of a first class facility has now a reputation of a place that is to be avoided under almost all circumstances since the conditions including shortages of personnel, cleanliness and patient care have deteriorated to a degree which can only be compared with Third World standards. While Health Care at this level is a provincial responsibility it is nonetheless the responsibility of local government to voice our extreme concern at this state of affairs.

As a local government it is our duty to speak up on behalf of our citizens.

