

**Subject: Feb 21, Agenda Item #8 - Support in Establishing a North Shore Hospice**

**Date:** Sun, 20 Feb 2005 22:00:20 -0800

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Your Worship & Members of Council,

I am in full support of the motion. There are however some concerns.

You should note that 13 lots directly east to the Lions Gate Hospital were recently sold by the Lions Gate Hospital Foundation and the Lions Gate Hospital after being declared surplus to the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority needs. They were sold for \$6.5million, despite being assessed at only \$4.2million, and under the condition that the purchaser must accept the current zoning of RS-1 and will NOT be permitted to acquire the property subject to rezoning. The City of North Van designates the properties as institutional in their OCP. The funds from the sale of these lands are being mainly used to renovate Cederview Lodge (\$2.98million), fund LGH PACS (\$1.93million), and upgrade the Emergency Power Generators at LGH (\$1.5million). The sale of an appreciating asset (public land) to fund depreciating capital is not wise. To make matters worse, both the needs study and the long range plans for the LGH seem nonexistent as far as the public is concerned.

I say all this because, with the above sales, will come increasing pressure to meet the community future health care needs with the remaining lots to the south. In addition, economic pressures are sure to increase their value and open up the temptation to also sell them rather than use them for needs like a hospice.

With the above in mind - a strong statement of support which includes the use of lands in the vicinity of the Lions Gate Hospital is desirable.

Yours truly,

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