

**Subject: [Fwd: Re: Let's "do our homework" on mental health as election issue: "go among the victims"]**

**Date:** Sun, 22 May 2005 19:02:15 -0700

**From:** Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>

**To:** Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>

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**Subject: Re: Let's "do our homework" on mental health as election issue: "go among the victims"**

**Date:** Sun, 08 May 2005 13:36:18 -0700 (PDT)

**From:** elix@vcn.bc.ca

**To:** lorne.mayencourt.mla@leg.bc.ca

**CC:** WORLD\_URBAN\_FORUM\_VANCOUVER@yahoogroups.com, info@greenparty.bc.ca, gordon.campbell.office@leg.bc.ca, carole@bc.ndp.ca, streetcrime@bcjusticereview.org, fonvca@fonvca.org, managecomm@dnv.org, ablanleil@andres1.com, adorning@hotmail.com, agwebfeedback@gov.bc.ca, april.laing@gems1.gov.bc.ca, aucourant@cbc.ca, bccomments@ctv.ca, bcss.prov@telus.net, bctvnews@shaw.ca, bgerding@kelownacapnews.com, bgiven@kelowna.ca, brenda.locke.mla@leg.bc.ca, bsoprovich@westvancouver.ca, callbc@sen.parl.gc.ca, cday@kelowna.ca, chiefjudge@provincialcourt.bc.ca, civiljustice@bcjusticereview.org, cking@cmhc-schl.gc.ca, comments@chbc.com, communications@lsbc.org, complaints@cpc-cpp.gc.ca, csilver@nvsd44.bc.ca, editor@vancourier.com, ernie\_crist@dnv.org, extreme\_punishment\_for\_political\_purpose@yahoogroups.com, feedback@bcmhs.bc.ca, feedback@vancoastalhealth.ca, fontana.j@parl.gc.ca, info@bchrcoalition.org, info@cmhavb.bc.ca, info@cnv.org, info@dotcommmediainc.com, info@lookoutsociety.bc.ca, info@opcc.bc.ca, info@redress.org, info@silk.fm, info@vancouverfoundation.bc.ca, jamie\_graham@city.vancouver.bc.ca, jclark@westvancouver.ca, jenny.kwan.office@leg.bc.ca, jferguson@westvancouver.ca, jjohnston@kelowna.ca, jody\_rafuse\_2004@yahoo.ca, john.blatherwick@vch.ca, john.harding@ok.bc.ca, kirbym@sen.parl.gc.ca, ladybugfund@shaw.ca, larry\_campbell@telus.net, letters@ok.bc.ca, mayor@cnv.org, mayorandcouncil@city.vancouver.bc.ca, mhr.correspondence.unit@gems7.gov.bc.ca, mhr.minister@gems7.gov.bc.ca, national@cbc.ca, news1130@news1130.rogers.com, nick14@hotmail.com, nvsstar2004@yahoo.ca, owen.s@parl.gc.ca, pepin@sen.parl.gc.ca, pgoldsmith-jones@westvancouver.ca, phil\_bouvier@telus.net, pm@pm.gc.ca, rcannan@kelowna.ca, rday@westvancouver.ca, ruth.ross@christianlegalfellowship.org, rwood@westvancouver.ca, sandra@victoriafoundation.bc.ca, sharonshepherd@shaw.ca, shaune.wiley@gems4.gov.bc.ca, shenanagins@yahoo.ca, shirley.bond.mla@leg.bc.ca, sustainableregion@gvrd.bc.ca, systems@ombudsman.bc.ca, tb-petitions@ohchr.org, thebigpicture@nowtv.ca, vancouverletters@metronews.ca, vdurman@westvancouver.ca, webmaster@anxietybc.com, webmaster@bchousing.org, bplatts@shaw.ca, council@dnv.org

Dear MLA Mayencourt:

You "went among the victims" when you spent four nights on the street. Perhaps you could do the same by spending the same amount of time at Lookout Shelter on Alexander Street. Then, when you see mental patients being threatened with expulsion onto the street which is, in Dr. Blatherwick's terms, "clearly hazardous to health", you can explain the procedure to all of us. See <<http://www.geocities.com/hrtcomplaint>> and maybe you can pass this on to the case manager who is now dealing with the particulars; or to the Supreme Court of BC who will receive these details plus others later.

What are the FACTS of those details? What are the facts of the health hazards Dr. Blatherwick refers to? The forensic scientists of "CSI Vancouver" like Mayor Campbell know in fine detail what happens to a dead body laying on a Vancouver street. Mayor Campbell can spell out in medical-scientific detail and hour by hour what happened to the body of Frank Paul as he died of exposure in a Vancouver alley. With your help he can do the same for a living body on the street. Both living and dead bodies on the street are under attack by many of the same vermin from the micro- to the macro- level. Isn't it the duty of VPD to obtain these facts?

Warning! Political comment below:

So far all indications are that Campbell and COPE corrupt politicians are among the attacking vermin. Is that who is keeping Chief Constable Graham from doing his duty and investigating the possible criminality of the procedures at issue? Why is it any less a matter of criminal assault to throw a mental patient into the street than to throw a mental patient into

Burrard Inlet? Both "procedures" carry with them a likelihood of killing the victims which ranges from less than 1% to greater than 99%.

I will gladly discuss this with you at your Library Square office any time.

Sincerely-EE

> Good public administration cannot be done without recognizing the  
> important facts so we must all heed Mr. Campbell's statement about "doing  
> our homework" on mental health issues. People with mental disabilities,  
> physical disabilities and others are evicted onto streets hazardous to  
> their health as a PROGRAMMING PROCEDURE. This is what is at issue here and  
> not "cut-backs". Uttering mantras like "cut-backs" and "bigger budgets" or  
> "smaller budgets" is a lazy politicians way of evading doing the homework  
> and examining the FACTS; as devoid of substance as the contest of the  
> "big-endians" vs. "little endians" in Gulliver's Travels.  
>  
> Dr. Blatherwick stated the obvious in an email of Nov. 10/04: "Clearly,  
> sleeping on the street for anybody is a hazard to their health". No doubt  
> when the case at <<http://www.geocities.com/hrtcomplaint>> gets to the  
> Supreme Court of BC he will be able to elaborate on the facts of evicting  
> people with mental disabilities onto the streets, including the likelihood  
> of loss of life. But this kind of eviction is done BECAUSE OF the mental  
> disability in many cases, ie because of the troublesome behaviour which is  
> in the nature of the illness. Again that is fact.  
>  
> It is very disturbing, particularly at election time when those who will  
> continue to administer such procedures or stop them do not come forward  
> EAGERLY to explain their stance to the voters. As I have stated many  
> times, I will gladly explain any procedure I used when I was employed at  
> MHR-Woodlands as I was for almost a decade. Yet now, if I were to re-apply  
> for employment at MHR I would be expected to administer procedures which  
> no politician or administrator has yet explained to the public.  
>  
> \*\*\*\*\*  
> Please think about that for a minute: demanding that workers administer  
> procedures hazardous to health and life which are questionable in terms of  
> ethics, morality and legality and giving them no sound rationale for the  
> use of such procedures.  
> \*\*\*\*\*  
>  
> April at MHR said to ask someone "higher up" in the administration. Mr.  
> Wiley, her boss, said to ask the Minister of Human Resources. But Mr.  
> Campbell had already emailed on Nov. 9/04 to say "I can assure you that  
> Minister Brice will give your comments every consideration". MHR Minister  
> Brice has not replied. I need a reply now, at the very least so that I can  
> cast an informed vote. Likewise for hundred of thousands of other voters.  
> What does the current administration have to hide?  
>  
> If I had forced a patient at MHR-Woodlands to sleep on hazardous streets I  
> would have expected some serious consequences. One consequence I would  
> have expected ... criminal charges under Section 215 of the Criminal Code  
> of Canada. That has to do with providing the necessities of life to those  
> under one's charge. But violating Section 215 is just a special case of  
> criminal assault (and possibly even culpable homicide in extreme cases).  
> The criminal assault can happen, using the street as the instrument of  
> criminal assault, in many other circumstances and the victim can be a  
> person with a mental disability.  
>  
> This is far from a frivolous matter. It is very important to me as a voter  
> and as a professional. If I were to seek employment with this government  
> now, I would be expected to administer procedures without a public  
> rationale which I reasonably suspect to be unethical, immoral and  
> criminal.

>  
> Thus all I am asking for is that the parties who want to administer  
> services to the mentally ill explain why eviction onto the street, ie  
> forcing mentally ill people to sleep on the street AS A MATTER OF  
> PROGRAMMING is ethical, moral and legal. Does the Green Party think such  
> an explanation should be forthcoming before election day?  
>  
> EE  
>  
>> Pardon my oversight: there are three parties which could plausibly form  
>> a  
>> government in this election. NDP tell us they will double the budget for  
>> mental health. But the question below is not answered with money.  
>> Throwing  
>> the mentally ill into the street to suffer death and destruction of  
>> their  
>> health is current administrative practice and it could continue with  
>> greater budgets or smaller budgets. The practice is FACT. It is recorded  
>> on daily logs. Nobody is disputing that this is done.  
>>  
>> Will the Green Party continue to administer this practice if it is  
>> elected  
>> to govern BC?  
>>  
>> EE  
>>  
>>> Dear Gordon and Carole:  
>>>  
>>> Yesterday mental health became an election issue when you, Gordon, said  
>>> that Carole had not "done her homework". I have a long career in mental  
>>> health advocacy including almost a decade of service at MHR-Woodlands.  
>>> I  
>>> have done my homework and I can give a forthright answer to any  
>>> question  
>>> about any procedure which I used in my practice and public service with  
>>> MHR. I would like both of you to now do the same with respect to my  
>>> question which is an important question pertaining to public  
>>> administration and mental health:  
>>>  
>>> \*\*\*\*\*  
>>>  
>>> Could you please DESCRIBE the most extreme form of punishment which MHR  
>>> administers and/or funds in programming at Lookout Society?  
>>>  
>>> \*\*\*\*\*  
>>>  
>>> I would like to be able to reapply for positions with MHR but I cannot  
>>> do  
>>> so until this question is answered, nor can I cast an informed vote in  
>>> the  
>>> present election until it is answered. My vote will be very much  
>>> dependent  
>>> upon which of you gives the better answer.  
>>>  
>>> All I want are the important FACTS of a procedure like that of MHR's  
>>> HR2863 in lock step with social housing for the mentally ill (plus  
>>> alcoholics/addicts) as provided by Lookout Society. The contractual  
>>> "one-two punch" I am asking about forces those with mental  
>>> disabilities,  
>>> alcoholism and addiction to sleep on streets which are hazardous to  
>>> their  
>>> health and imperil their lives. When MHR-Lookout make such a decision  
>>> to  
>>> use this health and life destroying procedure in public practice, VPD  
>>> will



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