

**MAY
17**

Make your vote count

for Health care in the Thompson-Cariboo region



Thompson-Cariboo region hard hit by Campbell's cuts

Since 2001, the Campbell Liberals have severely damaged health care in BC. Cuts and closures have left too many British Columbians – including those in the Thompson-Cariboo Shuswap region – without the care they need, when they need it.

The Interior Health Authority axed 387 acute care beds, eliminated 716 long-term care beds, and downsized or downgraded several of its health care facilities – the most aggressive cuts in all of the BC Liberals' health authorities.

In the Thompson-Cariboo Shuswap Health Service Area alone, we saw a reduction of 161 acute care and 154 long-term care beds over the past four years.

Also, cutbacks to home health support programs for seniors have left the Interior 18 to 19% *below* the provincial average. And long-term care beds per 1,000 seniors aged 75

and older are down by 25% – the lowest in the province.

The Interior communities – already under stress from the Campbell Liberals' negative policies on forestry, fish farming and logging – received another economic blow when hundreds of health care workers lost their jobs and thousands more had their wages slashed by 15%, causing additional hardships for health care workers, their families and their communities.

And according to reports, visits to a Kamloops food bank doubled last year.

Despite the Campbell Liberals' rhetoric that BC health care workers have inflated wages by national standards, statistics show that wage rates for trades workers, renal dialysis, biomedical, cardio and pharmacy technicians are now more than 10% lower than their Alberta counterparts.

What about the rest of BC?

- 71 hospitals downgraded, downsized or closed
- 26 publicly-funded residential care homes closed
- 2,529 long-term care beds closed
- 1,279 acute care beds closed
- surgical wait lists growing
- 8,000 health care workers fired, mostly women
- home health support programs for seniors and people with disabilities 30% below national average
- and more...

Facilities Impacted

Acute Care

- **Ashcroft & District General Hospital**
- downsized (*acute care closed*)
- **Cariboo Memorial Hospital**
- downsized
- **Dr. Helmcken Memorial Hospital (Clearwater)** - downsized
- **Lillooet Hospital and Health Centre**
- downsized
- **Nicola Valley Health Centre (Merritt)** - downgraded and downsized
- **Queen Victoria Hospital (Revelstoke)** - downsized
- **Royal Inland Hospital (Kamloops)**
- downsized
- **Shuswap Lake General Hospital**
- downsized
- **St. Bartholomew's (Lytton)**
- closed
- **100 Mile District General Hospital**
- downsized
- and more...

Long-term Care

Closures:

- **Cariboo Lodge (Williams Lake)**
- **Fountain View Extended Care Unit (Salmon Arm)**
- **Moberly Park Manor (Revelstoke)**
- **Pioneer Lodge (Salmon Arm)**
- reduced beds, closing this year
- **Ponderosa Lodge (Kamloops)**
- reduced beds, closing this year
- and more...

Gordon Campbell's Liberals

PUTTING OUR HEALTH CARE AT RISK

Authorized by the Hospital Employees' Union, Mary LaPlante registered sponsor under the Elections Act, 604-438-5000

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