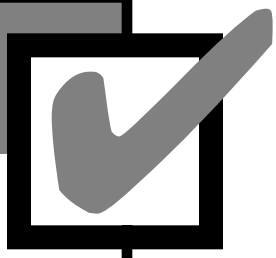


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# Make your vote count



## for Health care in Vancouver Coastal Health

# Vancouver Coastal Health hard hit by Campbell's cuts

Since 2001, the Campbell Liberals' cuts, closures and privatization agenda have severely compromised health care for residents of British Columbia.

The Vancouver Coastal Health Authority (VCHA) shut-down seven long-term care facilities, bulldozed St. Vincent's Hospital, axed 158 acute care beds, eliminated 503 long-term care beds, and downsized or downgraded several of its health care facilities.

Along with cuts to long-term care beds, the VCHA reduced home support programs for seniors and people with disabilities – causing patient gridlock in acute care and emergency wards.

Over the past four years, more than 2,200 skilled, experienced health care workers – from Richmond to Sechelt to Vancouver – lost their jobs to the privatization of laundry, dietary, security and housekeeping services.

K-Bro Linen Systems took over many laundry services with a 10-year,

\$60 million contract. French corporation – Sodexo – landed a 10-year, \$330 million deal to provide patient food services. And a five-year, \$100 million cleaning contract was handed over to an American company – Aramark – who then hired fewer staff at lower wages.

These privatized cleaners have heavier workloads, minimal benefits, no job security and inadequate training, placing them at increased risk for needle-stick and other occupational injuries.

And news reports – particularly in the Lower Mainland – have raised serious concerns about infection control and hospital cleanliness, leading to a province-wide audit of facilities with privatized housekeeping.

Last spring, more than 5,000 front-line staff in the VCHA took another blow when the BC Liberals imposed a collective agreement and a 15% wage rollback on our health care workers.

## 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

- St. Vincent's Hospital - *closed*
- GF Strong Rehabilitation Centre - *downsized*
- Holy Family Hospital - *downgraded and downsized*
- Lion's Gate Hospital - *downsized*
- Powell River General Hospital - *downsized*
- Richmond Hospital - *downsized*
- St. Paul's Hospital - *downsized*
- UBC Hospital - *downgraded and downsized*
- Vancouver General Hospital - *downsized*
- and more...

### Long-term Care

#### Closures:

- Balfour House
- Britannia Lodge
- Cooper Place
- South Granville Park Lodge
- Southpines Private Hospital
- St. Vincent's (Arbutus)
- St. Vincent's (Heather)

## 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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