



August 19, 2021

Honourable Adrian Dix
Minister of Health
PO Box 9050 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2
Sent Via Email: HLTH.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Dix,

Re: Health Staffing Shortages Kamloops – North Thompson

As MLA for Kamloops - North Thompson I would like to bring to your attention, due to various staffing shortages, the recent closures and interruptions to medical services at the Dr. Helmcken Memorial Hospital emergency department and the emergency department at the Barriere Health Centre.

The Residents of the Districts of Clearwater, Barriere and surrounding areas would like to know what is being done to address these shortages. It is never appropriate that these residents would need to travel 1.5 hours plus for health services that should be available in their towns, however as days get shorter and the weather changes the safety risk to seek health services greatly increases.

I know you share my concern with ensuring that the health needs of British Columbians are adequately met, and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Peter Milobar
MLA for Kamloops – North Thompson

Cc: Susan Brown, President and CEO Interior Health Authority
Mayor and Council, District of Clearwater
Mayor and Council, District of Barriere
Carol Schaffer, Director, Electoral Area "A" (Wells Gray Country)
Stephen Quinn, Director Electoral Area "B" (Thompson Headwaters)
Bill Kershaw, Director Electoral Area "O" (Lower North Thompson)