

Peter Milobar, MLA Kamloops Centre

Ward Stamer, MLA Kamloops – North Thompson

> Tony Luck, MLA Fraser – Nicola

Lorne Doerkson, MLA Cariboo – Chilcotin

Rosalyn Bird, MLA Prince George – Valemount

April 28, 2025

Dear Chief, Mayor and Councils,

RE: Request for Support in Redesigning the Kamloops BC Cancer Care Centre

As MLAs for Kamloops Centre, Kamloops – North Thompson, Fraser – Nicola, Cariboo – Chilcotin and Prince George-Valemount, we are writing to request your support and advocacy for the redesign of the Kamloops BC Cancer Care Centre to ensure it provides the same level of care, resources, and services as other cancer centers throughout British Columbia.

Currently, the proposed Kamloops Cancer Centre differs significantly from other provincial cancer facilities in terms of being designed as a site with two different locations, one of which will be overseen by the local health authority and the other site overseen by B.C. Cancer; neither of their data and information software work with each other and lastly, the Kamloops centre will not include a PET-CT scanner.

These inconsistencies create inequitable access to cancer care for residents in our region compared to other areas of the province and will also create major challenges for proper recruitment and retention. Many communities across BC have benefited from comprehensively designed cancer centres that follow a provincial standard. Our community deserves the same level of care and consideration.

Although we have brought this to the Minister of Health's attention by way of letter, an in person meeting and most recently questioning the Minister during debate on budget estimates, we respectfully request that you advocate for this redesign by either using the enclosed letter template or drafting your own letter, requesting the Minister of Health address the concerns being raised by the medical community to ensuring the healthcare needs of the region are being adequately met not only now, but in the years to come.

We kindly ask that you email your letter to us by May 22nd as we are hoping to present your letters en masse to Minister Osborne at the legislature before the end of session.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further and provide additional information as needed.

Sincerely,

Peter Milobar

MLA Kamloops Centre

Ward Stamer

MLA Kamloops - North Thompson

Tony Luck

MLA Fraser - Nicola

Lorne Doerkson

MLA Cariboo-Chilcotin

Rosalyn Bird

MLA Prince George-Valemount

Cc. Chair and Board, Columbia-Shuswap Regional District

Chair and Board, Squamish-Lillooet Regional District

Chair and Board, Thompson Regional Hospital District

Chair and Board, Thompson-Nicola Regional District

Mayor and Council, Village of Ashcroft

Mayor and Council, District of Barriere

Mayor and Council, Village of Cache Creek

Mayor and Council, Village of Chase

Mayor and Council, District of Clearwater

Mayor and Council, Village of Clinton

Mayor and Council, City of Kamloops

Mayor and Council, District of Lillooet

Mayor and Council, District of Logan Lake

Mayor and Council, Village of Lytton

Mayor and Council, City of Merritt

Mayor and Council, Sun Peaks Mountain Resort Municipality

Mayor and Council, City of Williams Lake

Mayor and Council, District of 100 Mile House

Chief and Council, ?Esdilagh First Nation (Alexandria Indian Band)

Chief and Council, Adams Lake Indian Band (Sexgeltgin)

Chief and Council, Ashcroft Indian Band (Nlaka'pamux)

Chief and Council, Bonaparte First Nation (St'uxwtews)

Chief and Council, Boothroyd Band

Chief and Council, Boston Bar First Nation

Chief and Council, Bridge River Indian Band (Nxwisten)

Chief and Council, Cayoose Creek Band (Sekw'el'was)

Chief and Council, Chawathil First Nation (Lexw Siyo:les, Hope)

Chief and Council, Coldwater Indian Band (C'eletkwmx)

Chief and Council, Cook's Ferry Indian Band

Chief and Council, High Bar First Nation (Llenlleney'ten)

T 250.554.5416 | F 250.377.3448

Chief and Council, Kanaka Bar Band (T'eqt"aqtn'mux)

Chief and Council, Lheidli T'enneh First Nation (Fort George Indian Band)

Chief and Council, Lhoosk'uz Dene Government (Kluskus Indian Band)

Chief and Council, Little Shuswap Lake Band (Skwlax te Secwepemculecw)

Chief and Council, Lower Nicola Indian Band

Chief and Council, Lower Similkameen Indian Band (Skichistan)

Chief and Council, Lytton First Nation (Tl'kemtsin)

Chief and Council, Nazko First Nation (Ndazkoh)

Chief and Council, Neskonlith Indian Band (Neskainlith)

Chief and Council, Nicomen Indian Band (Nicoamen, Nicomeen, Nikaomin)

Chief and Council, Nooaitch Indian Band

Chief and Council, Oregon Jack Creek Band

Chief and Council, Peters First Nation

Chief and Council, Shackan Indian Band

Chief and Council, Shxw'ow'hamel First Nation

Chief and Council, Simpcw First Nation (North Thompson River)

Chief and Council, Siska Indian Band

Chief and Council, Skeetchestn Indian Band (Deadman's Creek)

Chief and Council, Skuppah Indian Band

Chief and Council, Soda Creek Indian Band (Xat?? II First Nation)

Chief and Council, T'it'q'et First Nation (Lillooet Indian Band)

Chief and Council, Takla First Nation

Chief and Council, Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc (Kamloops Indian Band)

Chief and Council, Ts'kw'aylaxw First Nation (Ts'kw'aylaxw First Nation)

Chief and Council, Tsay Keh Dene First Nation

Chief and Council, Tsilhqot'in National Government (Chilcotin First Nation)

Chief and Council, Tsq?éscen? First Nation (Canim Lake Band)

Chief and Council, Union Bar First Nation

Chief and Council, Upper Nicola Band (Nicoamen)

Chief and Council, Whispering Pines/Clinton First Nation (Pelltiq't)

Chief and Council, Williams Lake First Nation (T'exelc, U12 T'exelc)

Chief and Council, Xaxli'p First Nation (Fountain Indian Band)

Chief and Council, Yale First Nation

Chief and Council, Yekooche First Nation (Yekoochet'en)

T 250.554.5416 | F 250.377.3448

[Address]
[City, BC Postal Code]
[Municipal Website]

[Date]

Honourable Josie Osborne Minister of Health PO Box 9050 Stn Prov Govt Victoria BC, V8W 9E2

SENT VIA EMAIL: <u>HLTH.Minister@gov.bc.ca</u>

Dear Minister Osborne,

RE: Urgent Request for the Redesign of Kamloops Cancer Care Centre

On behalf of the Mayor and Council of [Municipality], we are writing to express our strong support for the redesign of the Kamloops BC Cancer Care Centre to ensure it meets the same comprehensive standards as other cancer treatment facilities across British Columbia.

Our Council has been made aware of significant concerns raised by medical professionals regarding the current design proposal for the Kamloops Cancer Care Centre. These healthcare experts have clearly articulated that the current design will not deliver the comprehensive Regional Cancer Centre that our region desperately needs. As elected representatives responsible for the wellbeing of our citizens, we find these concerns deeply troubling.

The Interior Health region serves a large geographic area with diverse communities that deserve equitable access to cancer care. Residents of Kamloops and surrounding communities should not have to travel to Kelowna or Vancouver to receive the same level of cancer treatment available elsewhere in the province. A properly designed comprehensive Regional Cancer Centre in Kamloops would:

Ensure equitable access to life-saving cancer treatments for all residents in our region Reduce travel burden on patients and families already facing significant health challenges Enable local recruitment and retention of specialized healthcare professionals Support integrated care that addresses both physical and emotional needs of cancer patients Prepare our region for projected increases in cancer incidence due to our aging population

We respectfully request that you direct your Ministry to engage meaningfully with local medical professionals and stakeholders to address their concerns and revise the current design to ensure the Kamloops Cancer Care Centre is designed on one site, as is the standard of other BC Cancer sites including builds currently under construction across BC.

Our citizens deserve nothing less than the same quality of cancer care provided to British Columbians in other regions of the province. We are confident that with proper consultation and a commitment to equitable healthcare delivery, an appropriate design can be achieved that will serve the needs of cancer patients throughout the Interior for decades to come.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further and to work collaboratively toward a solution that ensures our region receives a cancer centre that truly meets the needs of our communities.

Respectfully submitted,

[Mayor's Name] Mayor of [Municipality]

On behalf of [Municipality] Council: [Councillor Names Listed]

Cc: Peter Milobar, MLA Kamloops Centre
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