



COLUMBIA SHUSWAP REGIONAL DISTRICT

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May 15, 2025

SENT VIA EMAIL: HLTH.Minister@gov.bc.ca

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

Dear Minister:

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

On behalf of the Columbia Shuswap Regional District Board of Directors, 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 Board 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.

ELECTORAL AREAS

A GOLDEN-COLUMBIA
B REVELSTOKE-COLUMBIA

C EAGLE BAY-WHITE LAKE-TAPPEN
D FALKLAND-SALMON VALLEY

E SICAMOUS-MALAKWA
F NORTH SHUSWAP-SEYMOUR ARM
G BLIND BAY-SORRENTO-NOTCH HILL

MUNICIPALITIES

GOLDEN
REVELSTOKE

SALMON ARM
SICAMOUS

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,

Yours truly,

COLUMBIA SHUSWAP REGIONAL DISTRICT

Per:

Natalya Melnychuk
Board Chair

cc: 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