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April 21st, 2016

Dear Mayor Corrigan and Councilors,

This is a formal request to present to the Burnaby City Council, as to why private paid plasma clinics must be banned across Canada. BloodWatch.org is an organization committed to upholding the fundamental recommendations of Justice Krever's landmark inquiry in order to prevent another tainted blood crisis in Canada.

We represent tainted blood survivors, their family members and safe blood advocates across Canada. We are a not-for-profit non-partisan organization.

Over 30,000 Canadians were infected with Hepatitis C and 2,000 with HIV because of contaminated blood and blood products in the 1980's and 1990's. The tainted blood crisis is our countries worst health disaster that has left a wake of unimaginable grief and loss. However, born out of this tragedy was our new blood system. **Canadian Blood Services was given a mandate to uphold Krever's key recommendations: donors should not be paid, blood must remain a public resource, blood and blood products must be free and universal and no part of the national blood operators duties should be contracted out to others.**

The proliferation of private paid plasma clinics is in direct contravention to how our public blood system is run and jeopardizes the integrity of our voluntary blood system. We worked hard to have private clinics banned in Ontario and were successful in having a law passed. We hope to find the same success in BC.

I would like to present on behalf of BloodWatch.org to the council to provide you with pertinent information on this issue.

Sincerely,

Kat Lanteigne
Co-Founder

Copied to:
City Manager
Deputy City Manager