



Office of the City Clerk

D. Back, City Clerk
K. O'Connell, Deputy City Clerk

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
SOCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

DATE: 2016 MAY 03

FROM: DEPUTY CITY CLERK

FILE: 02410-20

SUBJECT: FUNDING FOR SENIORS
NEW BUSINESS, COUNCIL 2016 APRIL 25

Burnaby City Council, at the Open Council meeting held on 2016 April 25, adopted the following recommendation contained therein:

1. **THAT** Item A of the Council Correspondence package be forwarded to the Social Planning Committee for consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kate O'Connell", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Kate O'Connell
Deputy City Clerk

KO:nv

From: Judy Darcy [mailto:judy.darcy.mla@leg.bc.ca]

Sent: April-08-16 4:05 PM

To: Clerks

Subject: Seniors deserve better than they're getting from the Christy Clark government

Dear friends:

We started our week in the legislature Monday by asking the Christy Clark government about problems being faced by one residential care home in Nanaimo.

We spent the rest of the week going into just how bad the problems with senior care are in most of the facilities across the province.

A report from the seniors advocate showed that 82 per cent of residential care homes aren't funded well enough to meet minimum standards for care hours. The province's benchmark is 3.36 hours of direct care per resident per day. Fewer than one in five meet that standard.

Numbers don't tell the whole story, though. It's the results that are most heartbreaking. The result of that insufficient funding is that our loved ones, our mothers and fathers, grandmothers and grandfathers are getting poor quality care. We've heard stories of people being awakened at 6 a.m. – sometimes earlier – for a breakfast that won't come for hours. We've heard stories of seniors being left in the bathroom because the staff doesn't have time to wait with them.

And we're seeing documented cases of what some call "chemical restraint" – seniors being prescribed anti-psychotic medication without a diagnosis of psychosis. They're keeping someone's mother or father drugged because they don't have time to spend with them.

The government's response was frankly outrageous. We were talking about our vulnerable seniors and the health minister talked about the Coquihalla Highway. We wanted to know why frail elderly were being treated without dignity and the premier responded by talking about LNG.

See the video of these exchanges at the following links:

<https://youtu.be/k6fPCHShMMI>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0BGlhDBi9s>

<https://youtu.be/ZEyMBqPJCHI>

<https://youtu.be/LrPluPtBHfw>

John Horgan and the New Democrats are looking for ways to improve care for our vulnerable seniors. Do you know stories of seniors who aren't being treated with the care and respect they deserve? Tell us your story. And please, keep telling the Christy Clark government to properly care for our frail seniors.

Thanks again for supporting quality public health care.

Judy Darcy

MLA for New Westminster

New Democrat Opposition Spokesperson for Health