



**RICHMOND HOSPITAL  
FOUNDATION**

**列治文醫院基金會**

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City Clerk, Richmond City Council  
6911 No. 3 Road  
Richmond, British Columbia  
V6Y 2C1

RE: Delegation Request

Dear Sir/Madam;



On behalf of Richmond Hospital Foundation, I am submitting this delegation request for the General Purpose meeting on February 15, 2016. Our purpose is to present to the Mayor and Council on the need for the City of Richmond to act as a champion with Provincial government and the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority with respect to the need for the replacement of the original, 50 year-old North Tower at Richmond Hospital.

Presenting on behalf of the Foundation; Kyle Shury, Chair of the Board of Directors, Chad Pederson, Chair Stakeholder Relations, and Natalie Meixner, President & CEO.

We will be asking the Mayor and Council to write, on behalf of the citizens of Richmond, to the Premier, the Minister of Health, all local MLA's, and the Board Chair as well as the President & CEO of Vancouver Coastal Health to commit to a new acute care tower for Richmond.

Thank you for the opportunity to raise this significant matter that affects all of the citizens of Richmond, the thousands of people who earn their livelihood in our city each day, and the 20 million passengers who travel into, out of and through YVR each year.

Sincerely,

Natalie D. Meixner  
President & CEO  
Richmond Hospital Foundation

**2016  
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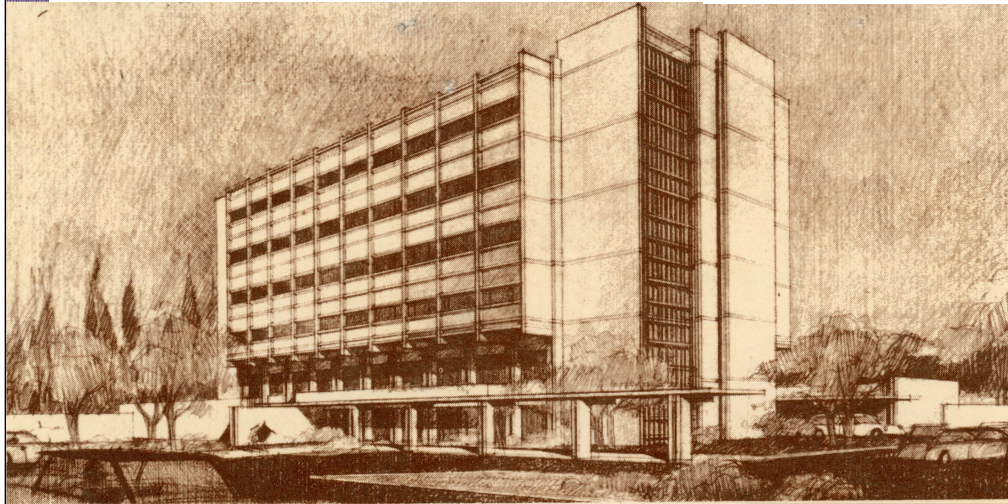
**Jennifer MacKenzie – Director  
(Ex-Officio)**  
Chief Operating Officer  
Vancouver Coastal Health -  
Richmond



RICHMOND HOSPITAL  
FOUNDATION  
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Caring Together for Your Health



## A tipping point at 50 years



- Thank you for the opportunity to present to you today. We would like to thank the Mayor and Councillors for their longstanding personal and professional support of the hospital over many years.
- We come to you today as Richmond Hospital Foundation, representing donors and serving as a community champion whose mandate it is to raise important philanthropic funds to improve health care in Richmond.
- As you know, health care services in Richmond are delivered by Vancouver Coastal Health Authority.
- The most pressing issue Richmond's Acute Care system needs to address is providing adequate inpatient acute care beds and mitigating seismic risk.
- While health care is clearly a provincial responsibility, it's important for all of us in the community to speak with a united voice.
- We are here today to ask for the City of Richmond's help to join us in asking the Provincial Government for a commitment to build a new Acute Care Tower within the next five to seven years.

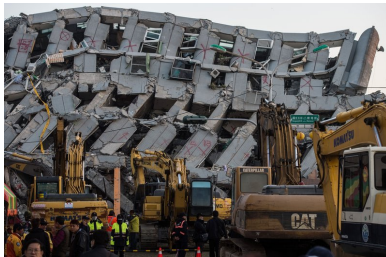
## 50-year-old tower: unsafe & obsolete



Japan 2011



Chile 2015



Taiwan 2016

- Vancouver Coastal Health Authority has commissioned studies showing the original hospital building is severely deficient and would sustain major structural damage with possible localized or complete collapse in a moderate to strong earthquake, with or without liquefaction.
- A moderate earthquake on the Richter scale is 5 to 5.9 and as we all know on Dec. 30, 2015 we were reminded by a 4.7 magnitude earthquake that Richmond is at risk.
- After 50 years, the North Tower is also obsolete, having been rated as 66% deficient.



## Our dramatic growth



- In 1966, when the hospital was first opened, Richmond had 50,000 residents and had 132 beds.
- Today, 50 years later, we have 213,000 residents and YVR has 20 million passengers per year and we have 223 funded beds.
- Our population has more than quadrupled but the number of beds has not even doubled.
- As you all know, the projection for growth in Richmond for five years from now includes another 20,000 people. By 2030, Richmond is expected to surpass 250,000 people.

## Our aging population



- Important to health care, while Richmond is growing, it is also aging.
- We would like to share some unique characteristics of Richmond's aging population
- Richmond has the fastest growing seniors population in the whole of British Columbia.
- In 2014 the total number of people over 65 years was 31,000
- In five years from now, that will jump by a whopping 44% to 45,000.
- By 2030, the number of seniors will be a staggering 65,000.
- In addition, Richmond's seniors have the longest life expectancy in Canada, at 84.9 years.
- As you can imagine, this will place extreme pressure on our hospital's ability to provide acute care services

Source:

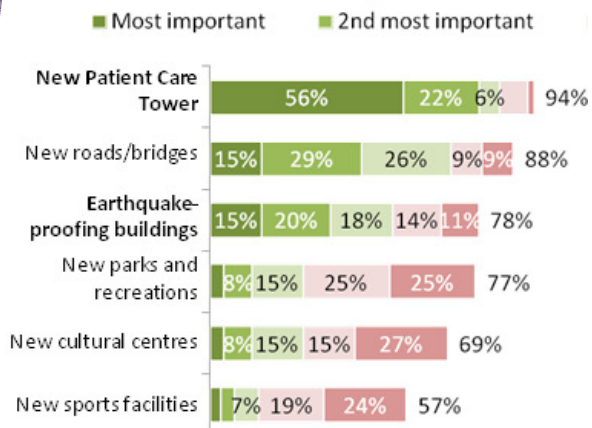
<http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/StatisticsBySubject/Demography/PopulationProjections.aspx>

## **We have reached a tipping point**



- We have reached a tipping point
- Richmond's growth has outpaced Richmond Hospital's capacity
- No other hospital in BC has fewer acute care beds per capita than Richmond
- Richmond Hospital is already recognized as being the most efficient given its population and number of beds. Richmond has the:
  - Lowest number of beds per capita in BC
  - The highest efficiency rate in hospital beds in BC and one of the highest in Canada (which is known in health care as the lowest acute care bed utilization rate, meaning that all beds are effectively utilized for the population)
- There is no room for more patients yet no one will be turned away
- Many of the recently approved hospitals in BC have twice as many beds per capita as Richmond. Our doctors and health care staff know this and many are joining our call for a new acute care tower.

## Our concerns are broadly shared



Both donors and Richmond residents prioritize the construction of a new patient care tower as the most important capital project to improve the quality of life of Richmond residents.

- In 2015 Richmond Hospital Foundation commissioned an independent public opinion poll to better understand what citizens of Richmond felt was the most important infrastructure needs for them and their families.
- Both donors and Richmond residents prioritize the construction of a new patient care tower as the most important capital project to improve the quality of life of Richmond residents.



## Status of replacement tower



- Many other communities across BC have received government approval for new hospital facilities over the past few years alone:
- Kamloops, Penticton, Kelowna, Vernon, Surrey, Courtenay, Campbell River, Burns Lake, Haida Gwaii, New Westminster and Vancouver with the St. Paul's replacement.
- In the Vancouver Coastal Health Region, there has been a commitment made to expanding Lions Gate Hospital in North & West Vancouver.
- In 2014, a new acute care tower for Richmond Hospital was tied with Lions Gate for first place as the most urgent need in our health region. Vancouver Coastal Health decided that there could be only one top priority. We've dropped to second place with no indication of when our plans will be even considered or approved.
- We believe Richmond's needs are equally as strong, if not stronger, and we need the Province to make a commitment to building a new acute care tower in our city.
- But we're not alone. Today, we see other communities demanding improvements as well, such as Burnaby Hospital.



# We Need the Province's Commitment Now

**SAY YES TO  
RICHMOND HOSPITAL!**



- The Foundation and our donors are willing to do their part and raise \$40 million, but this won't move without a provincial funding commitment.
- Even with approval today, it could take anywhere from five to seven years to design and construct a new patient tower.
- In five years from now, Richmond will grow more than 20,000 people.
- It's time to champion the replacement of a building that has reached the end of its 50-year life-cycle.
- We've met with our local MLAs regularly and kept our needs on the front burner, but it's not moving quickly enough.
- We need provincial government commitment ***now***, before an earthquake strikes and before our population outstrips our capacity.
- And we need your voice to help us advance this cause – a cause that we've shown through our research will unite Richmondites.
- Today, we're asking for the City to pass a resolution asking the Province to commit now to a new acute tower for Richmond in the next 5-7 years.