

August 26, 2025

Dermot Kelly, President & CEO
Fraser Health
Suite 400, Central City Tower
13450 – 102 Avenue
Surrey, BC V3T 0H1

Dear Mr. Kelly,

**Re: Congratulations and Invitation to Regular Council Meeting – Delta Hospital
Emergency Department Service Interruptions & Need for Urgent and
Primary Care Centres**

On behalf of Delta Council, I want to congratulate you on your appointment as the President and Chief Executive Officer of Fraser Health. I was encouraged to read in the press release announcing your appointment that your vision for Fraser Health includes a commitment to ensuring care is delivered to communities through stronger relationships and open dialogue.

By way of background, I would like to highlight that the City of Delta has raised several concerns regarding inadequate healthcare services including recent emergency department disruptions at Delta Hospital and the lack of Urgent and Primary Care Centres in Delta. Delta Council has written to Fraser Health and Minister Osborne on these important topics. On July 2, 2025, Council and staff met with Minister Osborne to continue the conversation and express, in person, the need for UPCC's to be established in Delta. I have enclosed a copy of recent correspondence on these matters.

On March 3, 2025, Ms. Cathy Wiebe, Executive Director for Delta Hospital and Health Services, Dr. Sally Barrio, Co-Regional Department Head for Emergency Medicine for Fraser Health, and Dr. Dan Rubin, Site Medical Director for Delta Hospital, gave a presentation to Council about the recent emergency department closures at Delta Hospital. Following that meeting, on March 7, I sent a letter to your predecessor, Dr. Lynn Stevenson, Interim President & CEO of Fraser Health, requesting her attendance at an upcoming Regular Meeting of Council to discuss these issues further. As Dr. Stevenson declined Delta's request, I would like to extend you the same invitation to discuss with Council your vision for Fraser Health and issues specific to Delta.

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The inadequate healthcare services faced by Delta require leader-to-leader discussions. Your participation will provide valuable insights into the steps needed to find solutions to these challenges.

We would welcome your attendance at a Regular Meeting of Council at your earliest convenience. Upcoming meetings include September 15, October 6, and October 20. Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "George V. Harvie", with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.

George V. Harvie
Mayor

Enclosures

cc: Hon. David Eby, Premier of British Columbia
Hon. Josie Osborne, Minister of Health
Hon. Ravi Kahlon, MLA for Delta North
Ian Paton, MLA for Delta South
Hon. Jill McKnight, MP for Delta
Chief Laura Cassidy, Tsawwassen First Nation
Opreet Kang, Interim Board Chair, Fraser Health
Cathy Wiebe, Executive Director for Delta and Peace Arch Hospital
Natalie McCarthy, VP, Regional Care Integration, Fraser Health
Delta Council

March 7, 2025

Dr. Lynn Stevenson, Interim President & CEO
Fraser Health
Suite 400, Central City Tower
13450 – 102 Avenue
Surrey, BC V3T 0H1

Dear Dr. Stevenson,

**Re: Invitation to Regular Council Meeting – Delta Hospital Emergency
Department Service Interruptions & Need for Urgent and Primary Care
Centres**

At the March 3, 2025, Regular Meeting of Delta Council a presentation on the subject of recent service interruptions of the Delta Emergency Department was provided from Cathy Wiebe, Executive Director for Delta and Peace Arch Hospital, Dr. Sally Barrio, co-Regional Department Head for Emergency Medicine for Fraser Health, and Dr. Dan Rubin, Site Medical Director for Delta Hospital. At the meeting, Council unanimously passed a resolution requesting your attendance at an upcoming Council Meeting to further address the urgent concerns that residents of Delta have regarding the recent service interruption at Delta Hospital, and to discuss the critical need for establishing an Urgent and Primary Care Centre (UPCC) in Delta. I have enclosed a copy of a news release containing the motion adopted by Council, for your reference.

Notably, the recent emergency department closures on February 22 and 23 have further highlighted the growing crisis in healthcare access here in Delta. Many residents do not have a family doctor or access to primary care, leaving them reliant on emergency services for minor health concerns, increasing wait times and hospital strain.

As you are aware, Fraser Health currently operates ten UPCCs in neighbouring municipalities, with another opening in White Rock this year. These centres have been effective in reducing unnecessary emergency department visits and improving access to timely care. Given our city's growth and escalating healthcare demands, we urge Fraser Health to prioritize a UPCC in Delta to ensure equitable access to care for our residents.

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On behalf of Council, I respectfully write to formally invite you to attend a Regular Meeting of Council to discuss this matter further. We believe your participation in this meeting will provide valuable insights into the steps needed to address these challenges. In addition to your attendance, the attendance of the Hon. Josie Osborne, Minister of Health and Jim Sinclair, Board Chair of Fraser Health, have also been requested.

Please confirm your availability to attend a Council meeting at your earliest convenience. Upcoming meetings include April 7, April 28 and May 5. Thank you for your attention to this extremely important matter for our community.

Yours truly,



George V. Harvie
Mayor

Enclosure: Delta Council Adopts Motion Calling for Urgent and Primary Care Centres

cc: Hon. David Eby, Premier of British Columbia
Hon. Josie Osborne, Minister of Health
Hon. Ravi Kahlon, MLA for Delta North
Ian Paton, MLA for Delta South
Hon. Carla Qualtrough, MP for Delta
Jim Sinclair, Board Chair, Fraser Health
Cathy Wiebe, Executive Director for Delta and Peace Arch Hospital
Laura Cassidy, Chief of Tsawwassen First Nation
Delta Council
Donny van Dyk, City Manager



CITY OF DELTA

For Immediate Release – March 4, 2025

At the March 3, 2025 Regular Meeting, Delta Council unanimously adopted a resolution advocating for the establishment of an Urgent and Primary Care Centre in Delta.

The motion, moved by Mayor George V. Harvie, addresses the recent overnight closures of the Delta Hospital Emergency Department from February 22 to 24, and acknowledges the growing crisis in health care across the region.

“A significant number of Delta residents do not have a family doctor or access to urgent and primary care centres, sending more people to Delta Hospital for minor emergencies and health concerns,” said Mayor Harvie. “As our community continues to grow, access to health care will become even more challenging, highlighting the critical need for additional health care infrastructure across our City. Urgent and Primary Care centres would provide a greater choice in care for residents, while also diverting traffic away from our busy hospital, and Delta Council is ready to work with Fraser Health to deliver these much-needed facilities in our community.”

Delta Council’s motion includes writing a letter requesting Josie Osborne, Minister of Health, Jim Sinclair, Board Chair, Fraser Health Authority, and Lynn Stevenson, Interim President and CEO, Fraser Health Authority, to attend a public meeting of council to discuss the recent Emergency Department closures and the critical need for an Urgent and Primary Care Centre to service Delta and Tsawwassen First Nation residents—like those that have been provided in neighbouring municipalities.

Currently, Fraser Health Authority operates 10 Urgent and Primary Care Centres throughout the region, including in the communities of Surrey and Langley, with a new facility coming to White Rock. These centres provide an option for residents to seek timely care for non-emergency conditions and chronic health issues, decreasing unnecessary Emergency Room visits and reducing overall health care costs.

For more information on this news release, please contact media@delta.ca.

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Delta Hospital Emergency Department Wait Times Motion

Adopted by Delta Council on March 3, 2025

WHEREAS the Delta Hospital Emergency Department is facing significant wait times and recently was closed for two nights from 9:30 pm to 6:30 am.

WHEREAS the Delta Hospital Emergency Department is experiencing an increase in wait times due to the sizable number of individuals in our community who have nowhere else to go due to not having a family doctor or access to urgent and primary care centres.

WHEREAS there is a growing need in the City of Delta and Tsawwassen First Nation for accessible healthcare facilities to address minor emergencies and routine health concerns without overwhelming the Delta Hospital Emergency Department.



Delta Council Adopts Motion Calling for Urgent and Primary Care Centres

WHEREAS the Fraser Health Authority operates 10 Urgent and Primary Care Centres located in Abbotsford, Burnaby (2), Chilliwack, Langley, Maple Ridge, Mission, Port Moody, Surrey (2) and City of White Rock scheduled for December, 2025.

AND WHEREAS these Centres have provided residents with timely care, reduced overall healthcare costs by decreasing unnecessary Emergency Room visits and improve patient outcomes by providing immediate treatment for non-emergency conditions and managing chronic health issues—jh

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT staff prepare a letter from Council requesting an urgent public Council Meeting with Josie Osborne, Minister of Health, Jim Sinclair, Board Chair, Fraser Health Authority, and Lynn Stevenson, Interim President and CEO, Fraser Health Authority, to discuss the recent closures of the Delta Hospital Emergency Department, and the critical need for establishing Urgent and Primary Care Centres in our City.

AND THAT copies of this notice of motion be sent to Premier David Eby, Josie Osborne, Minister of Health, Carla Qualtrough, Member of Parliament, Ravi Kahlon, MLA North Delta, Ian Paton, MLA South Delta, and Chief Laura Cassidy, TFN.

March 20, 2025

His Worship George Harvie
Mayor, City of Delta
4500 Clarence Taylor Crescent
Delta, BC V4K 3E2

Dear Mr. Mayor:

Thank you for your letter of March 7, 2025 inviting me, Fraser Health's Board Chair and the Minister of Health to attend a future meeting of Delta Council to further discuss the recent service interruptions at the Delta Hospital Emergency Department as well as your request that an Urgent and Primary Care Centre be prioritized for the community.

We are working hard with our partners, the Ministry of Health and Division of Family Practice, to improve and enhance access to primary care in all Fraser Health communities, including Delta. We believe it would be most effective for Fraser Health's local leaders in Delta to connect with you on these topics. Ms. Cathy Wiebe, Executive Director for Delta Hospital and Health Services, and Dr. Dan Rubin, Site Medical Director for Delta Hospital, have our full confidence and are committed to continuing to keep you informed of any changes and advancements to health services in the community. They will engage with their colleagues responsible for Emergency Department staffing and Urgent and Primary Care Centre development, and will ensure you are involved in the discussions as appropriate.

They will be pleased to connect with you directly to ensure the discussions are as helpful as possible. Thank you for your continued advocacy for the residents of Delta.

Sincerely,



Lynn Stevenson
Interim President and Chief Executive Officer

VL/tls

Cc: Hon. Josie Osborne, Minister of Health
Jim Sinclair, Chair, Board of Directors
Larisa Saunders, Acting VP Communications and Public Affairs
Dermot Kelly, VP Community Hospitals and Health Services
Cathy Wiebe, Executive Director, White Rock, South Surrey and Delta Health Services, PAH and DH
Dr. Dan Rubin, Site Medical Director, DH

August 5, 2025

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

Dear Minister Osborne,

Re: Third Service Disruption at Delta Hospital and Lack of Action from Fraser Health

Last night, the Delta Hospital Emergency Department faced another overnight closure. This is the **third** major service interruption in recent months, following overnight closures that occurred between February 22 and 24, 2025. These repeated disruptions are deeply concerning and unacceptable.

This matter cannot be ignored by Fraser Health. Residents of Delta, Tsawwassen First Nation, and the thousands of commuters and workers who rely on Delta Hospital cannot be expected to navigate a system where 24/7 emergency care is no longer guaranteed.

Council has been clear and consistent in its advocacy for the need for urgent care in Delta. We have called repeatedly for the establishment of two Urgent and Primary Care Centres (UPCCs)—one in the North Delta area and one in South Delta or Tsawwassen First Nation. This proposal, jointly supported by the City of Surrey and Tsawwassen First Nation, was submitted to your office on May 6, 2025. Establishing UPCC facilities in Delta would directly alleviate pressure on Delta Hospital and provide essential access to non-emergency care for residents who currently have nowhere else to go.

In addition, Delta Council remains highly concerned by the absence of a meaningful response from Fraser Health leadership. Despite written invitations, neither Dr. Lynn Stevenson, Interim CEO of Fraser Health, nor any member of the Fraser Health board has appeared before Delta Council. This lack of engagement with Delta Council is not only disappointing—it is a failure in public accountability. Delta Council expects more from our health authority's leadership.

Furthermore, it must be acknowledged that structural underfunding is constraining Fraser Health's ability to meet the needs of growing communities like Delta. I have been advised that **Fraser Health serves 39% of British Columbia's population yet**

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receives only 28% of the provincial health budget. In contrast, **Vancouver Coastal Health serves 22% of the population but receives 29% of the health budget.** This significant funding gap directly limits Fraser Health's capacity to expand services and respond to rising demand, especially as more specialized care is being shifted to the Fraser region. Residents of Delta and other Fraser Health communities are being asked to accept growing service delays while receiving less per-capita investment—it is inequitable and unsustainable.

This has led to a situation in which Delta Hospital's emergency department has become so fragile that an illness affecting a single staff member can result in its closure, as occurred last night and for the third time in less than six months. This issue is further compounded for life threatening situations where in our community the BC Emergency Health Services ambulance response times already fail to meet the provincial standards and are currently the worst response times across the region.

As Minister, both the funding inadequacy and Fraser Health's leadership are directly under your purview. I am requesting an urgent meeting with you, the Fraser Health Board, Delta City Council, and local leaders in healthcare including the CEO of the Delta Hospital and Community Health Foundation, Lisa Hogland.

Please have your staff contact our Deputy City Manager, Marcy Sangret at (604) 946-3219 or via email at citymanager@delta.ca to setup a time to meet.

Yours truly,



George V. Harvie
Mayor

cc: Hon. David Eby, Premier
Hon. Ravi Kahlon, MLA for Delta North
Ian Paton, MLA for Delta South
Hon. Jill McKnight, MP for Delta
Laura Cassidy, Chief, Tsawwassen First Nation
Brenda Locke, Mayor, City of Surrey
Delta City Council
Deputy City Manager, Marcy Sangret