



Community News

Adrian Dix, MLA Working For You

February 2008

Happy Lunar New Year!!

Lunar New Year-Year of the Rat

Happy New Year! I would like to wish everyone lots of luck, great health and never-ending happiness this Year of the Rat. Come join me on February 11, 2007 in Chinatown for the annual Chinese New Year Parade starting at 11 am. Bring the whole family and enjoy food, storytelling and crafts.

Liquor Store Update

I would like to thank everyone for their support in our petition against the development application for the Private Liquor Store on 5033 Joyce Street. The City of Vancouver received almost 3000 letters and petitions from residents, businesses and community organizations opposed to this development application. As a result of your support, the city has rejected the application. Thank you again for all your great effort.

B.C. Residents Wait Longer Than National Average for MRIs

A Canadian Medical Association study shows B.C. patients wait far longer for essential diagnostics than the national average. We know the Campbell Liberals cap funding for MRI procedures so there is plenty of unused MRI capacity that sits idle. If we better used that capacity, we could get the wait lists down. The maximum recommended treatment time is 30 days. Patients may need an MRI to determine the extent of damage and if surgery may be required. Waiting can lead to irreparable damage. Patients in B.C. wait in pain an average of 84 days to access an MRIs more than twice as long as Ontario and a month longer than Alberta. The sad part is that this study doesn't even count the time it takes to see a specialist so wait times are even higher.

There should be no reason that B.C. is doing worse than almost every other province. We can solve this problem if the Campbell Liberals invested in public health care. The report, ``The Economic Costs of Wait Times in Canada``, reveals the length of time patients wait for care in just four areas - joint replacement, sight restoration, cardiac bypass surgery and MRI scans' cost Canada \$14.8 billion last year and lowered government revenues by \$4.4 billion during the same period. If you would like to see the report, you can find it online at <http://www.csils.ca/events/CMA-CSLS/BCMA-CMA-waittimes.pdf>.

Seniors Wellness Fair 2008

On Thursday, March 27, 2008, I would like to invite everyone to the Renfrew Collingwood Seniors Wellness Fair at Renfrew Park Community Centre from 10:30 am to 2:00 pm. Enjoy a cooking show, some local entertainment and a community health discussion with seniors and health service providers from around our community. There will be various information and display booths on senior's health and wellness such as heart and stroke, arthritis, optometry, massage therapy, and Chinese medicine. There will also be a screening clinic. The event is free and lunch will also be provided for those who have registered. If you would like to register for this event, please contact Cheryl Pallida at 604-257-8390 or Easter Tocol at 604-660-0314.

Oppose Unfair Transit Hikes

Sign our petition to oppose unreasonable transit fares at:
www.bcndpcaucus.ca