

8. St. Paul's Hospital

The following motion reflects an amendment to the original motion on notice which was accepted by Council.

MOVED by Councillor Geoff Meggs
SECONDED by Councillor Heather Deal

WHEREAS St. Paul's Hospital is a vital part of Vancouver's health services and a provincial centre for tertiary and quaternary health care with an international reputation for excellence for research, teaching and care;

WHEREAS patients from all over the province receive tertiary and quaternary care at St. Paul's;

WHEREAS the medical staff of St. Paul's Hospital have learned that the Provincial Government is considering removing key programs from the hospital and transferring them to other hospitals or health authorities;

WHEREAS such transfers would effectively dismantle core services at St. Paul's with a destructive impact on the HIV/AIDs, cardiology, cardiac surgery, renal, geriatric and other programs British Columbians rely on; and

WHEREAS the loss of St. Paul's Hospital as a provincial teaching and research centre would deal a very serious blow to both the health services and economic benefits to the citizens of Vancouver but a renewal of St. Paul's would provide new impetus to provincial services while enhancing the regional economy;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Vancouver endorse the call of St. Paul's Hospital physicians for an immediate provincial commitment to invest in the hospital's revitalization and renewal, including:

- assurance that St. Paul's Hospital will not be dismantled and its key tertiary/quaternary programs will not be moved to other organizations in whole or in part;
- commitment that St. Paul's will continue to be an Academic Health Sciences Centre, maintaining its UBC-affiliated research and teaching components in the heart of Vancouver;
- support for Providence Health Care's plan for a "bridging strategy" to meet immediate short-term and medium-term needs; and
- commitment that the Provincial Government will begin the process for St. Paul's Hospital's long-term renewal and redevelopment within four years;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City of Vancouver declare its readiness to work with all stakeholders, especially Providence Health Care, the Provincial Government and St. Paul's Hospital to achieve these objectives through redevelopment of both the Burrard and Station Street sites; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT Vancouver City Council communicate this motion to the Premier of British Columbia, the Minister of Health and the Leader of the Official Opposition.

Referred