

ITEM 1  
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 55  
COUNCIL MEETING 90/09/17

TO: Municipal Manager September 11, 1990

FROM: Medical Health Officer

SUBJECT: Correspondence received from Hospital Employees' Union

PURPOSE: To report to Council, as requested, on the correspondence received from the Hospital Employees' Union requesting Council to support its call to the Minister of Health for the appointment of an examining board to look into the reasons for the delay in treatment at the Emergency Department of Burnaby Hospital.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That this report be received for information purposes.

REPORT

BACKGROUND:

As requested at the September 4th meeting of Council, I have reviewed the letter from Chris Allnutt, Assistant Secretary-Business Manager of the Hospital Employees' Union, asking Council for support in a call to the Minister of Health for the appointment of an examining board to look into the reasons for the delay in treatment at the Emergency Department of the Burnaby Hospital, and I report as follows:

With regard to the Hospital Employees' Union request to the Minister of Health to appoint an examining board to look into the reasons for the delay in treatment, I have contacted Mr. N. Barth, President, Burnaby Hospital. He advises that the concept of a review is an acceptable one, and it has already been requested by the hospital with regard to concerns for sufficient funding to meet the community demands for service.

With respect to the particular concern raised about what would be the appropriate staffing in the hospital and whether the Burnaby Hospital refuses to use all the members of the nursing team as Mr. Allnutt's letter states, this is a complex issue on which I do not have sufficient information to comment. My recommendation would be that if Council wishes to pursue it, it may first want to discuss the matter with the Burnaby Hospital Board.

For the information of Council, the Metropolitan Board of Health, on which Council is represented by Alderman Joan Sawicki, will be presenting a brief to the Provincial Health Commission addressing its concern about the broader issues in the health care system which may be contributing to the local difficulties experienced by Burnaby Hospital.

*S. L. Hemming*

S. L. Hemming, M.B.Ch.B., F.R.C.P.(C)  
Medical Health Officer

SLH/ci

cc: Director Administrative & Community Services  
cc: Municipal Clerk