

*Prince George residents face health crisis as doctors flee to warmer pastures in the province*

## Patients shouldn't be exported out-of-town

### Editor:

*A open letter to NDP MLAs Paul Ramsey and Lois Boone, and Reform MPs Dick Harris and Jay Hill*

Do you care that as of Novem-

ber 1 there will be no orthopedic surgeons in Prince George; instead (maybe) we'll have surgeons from Vancouver on an 'on-call emergency' basis only.

The cost per day is over \$5,000

and could end up costing us over \$3 million annually. For \$3 million annually, we could hire 10 to 15 surgeons here. Does this make sense.

Vancouver General Hospital will not be able to take patients

from the North due to budget cuts.

Our doctors and nurses are paying the price of bureaucracy: we lose our finest and presented with this nothingness.

The hospital administrator earns about \$123,000 plus per year and for what? We could have many nurses or doctors for the same.

In the name of budget cuts, we have modern equipment sitting idle and unused; and the morale of the people staffing our hospital is at an all-time low.

So much is at stake and being mismanaged by so many.

Enough is enough. We need the best here, not 500 miles south.

Shirley Irving

## STREETWISDOM

Should beer be available at the Multiplex, and should it be allowed in the seating area?



**Cyril Power**

"They shouldn't allow it anywhere in the seats. Alcohol should only be sold in liquor stores - there are too many places to get beer already."



**Al Ernst**

"I don't drink, but if people want to it's their prerogative. Alcohol's a part of life and everyone has to realize that, but it has to be policed."



**Rick Lisk**

"Beer is fine, they shouldn't sell the hard stuff because that's when the trouble starts. It's fine in the seats as long as there aren't rumbles when it gets spilled."



**Lana Wilson**

"I think it should be allowed in the rink but not in the seats. I saw people get pretty rowdy in the seats once when I went to an Expos game in Montreal."

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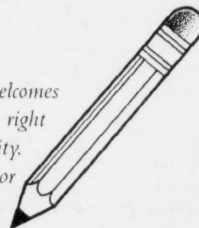
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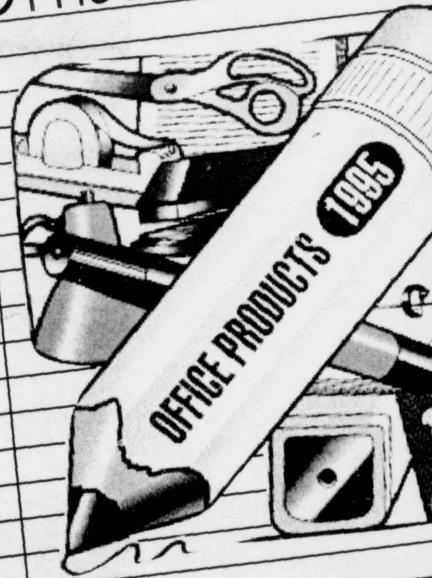
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