



VANCOUVER and DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL



May 27, 2021

VIA Email: The Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Finance
FIN.Minister@gov.bc.ca

The Honourable Adrian Dix, Minister of Health
HLTH.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Ministers,

I am writing today on behalf of the Vancouver and District Labour Council to follow up on our February 18th letter urging the Government of British Columbia to uphold its promise to get private, for-profit companies out of health care for the benefit of both workers and patients/residents.

In our earlier letter we noted your government's election commitment to reunite the health care team and bring frontline healthcare workers back into public health authorities. We support this commitment and have no doubt that it played a crucial role in winning the support of countless healthcare workers and other voters in the election last Fall.

We all recognize the incredible hard work performed by everyone in our healthcare system. During the COVID-19 pandemic, this has been spotlighted like never before. Yet we continue to have workers in our healthcare system that earn less today than they did twenty years ago. These workers experience low wages, understaffing, and unfair scheduling while private companies reap profits at the public expense.

This is the legacy of the BC Liberals and their anti-worker and anti-union privatization agenda. The frontline workers we all count on have suffered from this legacy, as have the users of hospital services. But, with a majority government, secured predominately with the votes of working-class people, and with a mandate for change in the healthcare system, the BC NDP can undo this damage and start a new and more positive legacy.

Thank you for your time.

Yours Truly,

Stephen von Sychowski
President, VDLC

Att: February 18, 2021 Letter
cc: VDLC Executive Board