

August 18, 2022

Elenore Sturko
BC Liberal Candidate
Surrey South Byelection

Dear Ms. Sturko,

Although we are both seeking the same public office and represent different parties, I know we share a common goal. We want to make our community a better place for our family, friends and neighbours.

With that in mind, I hope you will join me in denouncing BC Liberal leader Kevin Falcon's political posturing on an issue that we should all agree on: the need to build a second Surrey hospital in the community of Cloverdale.

Given that Mr. Falcon sold the land where the second hospital was previously slated to be built when he was Minister of Finance, it is shocking that he continues to manufacture ways to delay this project even more than he already has.

This summer, the project reached an important milestone when a request for proposals was issued to PCL Construction and EllisDon Construction to bring forward their plans to build a 168-bed, \$1.7-billion health facility.

This progress was achieved after John Horgan's BC NDP government acquired land near Kwantlen Polytechnic University that provides appropriate space for parking and allows for future expansion.

Under the current timeline, construction would begin next year and would be open by 2027.

The scope of this project is based on the best advice of medical professionals on the most pressing healthcare needs in our community. This state-of-the-art hospital will also include an emergency room with 55 spaces, operating rooms and a regional cancer centre.

I hear on the doorsteps every day that these services are sorely needed. Any delay puts the healthcare needs of our community at even further risk.

Unfortunately, Mr. Falcon seems willing to delay this project. He recently said: "I think the challenge quite frankly with the NDP wanting to put one in Cloverdale, is it's not a great location. I would want to take a hard look at where it's located."

This position would stall progress on the project and add millions to the completion cost. It would mean that cancer patients, who could have been treated in Cloverdale by 2027, would still have to travel to Vancouver for life-saving care. It would mean that B.C.'s fastest-growing community would still only be home to one hospital and one emergency room.

This is not acceptable to me and I cannot see how it can be acceptable to you.

Your position as the BC Liberal candidate in Surrey South provides you the platform to denounce your leader and stand with other residents of this community who want to see this hospital built in Cloverdale.

By taking this principled position, you would be putting our community ahead of politics and I would commend you for it.

Thank you for serious consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,

Pauline Greaves
BC NDP Candidate
Surrey South Byelection