

Article rank | 26 Jan 2012 | Moose Jaw Times Herald

Wishing for more council representation at 'town hall' meeting

To the Editor I am a longtime resident of South Hill, have volunteered, worked and shopped for many years in this wonderful city. I am also a proud SEIU West member.

I wish to express my dismay at the lack of interest shown by our city council to the matter of the closure of the Angus Campbell Centre (ACC), and the opening of the Thunder Creek Rehabilitation Association (TCRA) detox centre. There was a 'town hall' meeting on Tuesday night that was well attended by the neighborhood. There were, however, no council members present.

I know council was busy with the hospital design meeting, but there were some very concerned and frightened neighbours in attendance. The building of the hospital is important and will affect many people, but so will the decision to close the ACC and open the TCRA detox centre. While there is another opportunity to attend a 'town hall' meeting (Thursday at 7 p.m.), let me remind council of the next hospital design meeting Wednesday. There was no reason someone could not have been there. There were many questions that a council member may have been able to answer. As it was, people left feeling frustrated, upset and concerned. Some very straightforward questions were asked while zero detail was given, other than "this was a done deal so accept it, please."

We have within our community a fully functioning facility with trained, professional staff. Staff and former clients have described the facility as being the "perfect" place for it. In Its present location the ACC has the space, comfort, setting and safety for the client, staff and community. Why then did the Five Hills Health Region pull the funding from a fully staffed, fully functional ACC? These staff, our members, have been given notice. While their praises have been sung by all sides, they have not been given any opportunity, at this point, to apply to the new facility.

Our councillors have sat idly by while the ACC lost its funding. They have sat idly by while a neighbourhood is in crisis. Will they continue to sit idly by? [Neil Colmin](#), Moose Jaw

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