



TOWN OF VIEW ROYAL

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April 1, 2021

Honourable John Horgan
Premier of British Columbia
PO Box 9041 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E1

VIA EMAIL: premier@gov.bc.ca

Dear Premier Horgan:

RE: Request for Authority and Training for Hospital Security Staff

It has come to the attention of View Royal Council that there is an excessive use of police resources in hospital emergency waiting rooms as officers must remain with persons apprehended under section 28 of the *Mental Health Act* until the individual is transferred to the care of a physician. This requirement sees costly police resources tied up in emergency waiting rooms often for lengthy periods of time.

As such, we are requesting that hospital security staff be given the authority and necessary training to take custody of patients apprehended under the *Mental Health Act* on arrival at the hospital.

Allowing hospital security staff to assume this role from police officers would not only provide a less costly approach for taxpayers, but would also ease the burden on police resources, enabling them to provide timely services where they are needed in the community.

Thank you for consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

David Screech
Mayor

cc. Hon. David Eby, Attorney General and Minister responsible for Housing
Hon. Adrian Dix, Minister of Health
Hon. Sheila Malcolmson, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions
All UBCM Municipalities



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