

*Charlie Angus*

Member of Parliament / député  
Timmins-James Bay / Timmins-baie James

Ottawa

900 Édifice La Promenade Building  
Ottawa, Ontario

K1A 0A6

Tel/Tél: 613-992-2919

Fax/Télé: 613-995-0747

Constituency / Circonscription

202 - 60 ave Wilson Ave  
Timmins, Ontario

P4N 2S7

Tel/Tél : 705-268-6464

Fax/Télé: 705-266-9125

201 - 30 rue Second St  
Kirkland Lake, Ontario

P2N 1R1

Tel/Tél. : 705-567-2747

Fax/Télé: 705-567-5232



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES  
CANADA

*Dr. Denis Roy, President/CEO  
Health Sciences North / Horizon Santé Nord*

June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2015

**RE: Bringing Children's Health Care Closer to Home in Northeastern Ontario**

Dr Roy,

As Northeastern Ontario New Democrat Members of Provincial and Federal legislatures, we support the expansion of the North Eastern Ontario Health Centre for Kids (NEO Kids). We believe that we must make it a priority to bring medical care for our children closer to home in our region.

In our work, we see the physical, financial, and emotional hardships that long distance travel to Toronto, Ottawa, and London can create when getting children the health care they need. Especially with the closing of the Northlander, Northerners feel the additional stress that travel time can lay on families with sick kids. We regularly see in our offices and through our work the heavy burden laid on families.

We understand that your proposal will offer increased levels of specialty care for sick children in Northeastern Ontario, which will lessen the burden of the extensive travel that is currently required. As you know, the chronic health burden is growing amongst children in Northern Ontario whether it is: cerebral palsy, seizures, inflammatory bowel disease, FASD, ADHD, asthma, obesity, or rheumatoid arthritis.

We understand that patient volume in your current clinic has significantly increased from total visits of 15,000 to 35,000 annually. With only 5 Pediatrician, we understand that your clinic continues to receive an additional 180 referrals each month. We need smarter health care that takes advantage of newer technologies and better infrastructure in order to facilitate greater care in the North.

While health care is a provincial jurisdiction, we believe that the federal government also has an important role to play. And the federal government is one of the largest providers of health care in the country whether it is for First Nations, Veterans, or members of the military.

Rather than travelling long distances, allowing more children to be treated closer to home more of the time is the type of common sense solution that New Democrats support.

Sincerely,



Charlie Angus  
MP Timmins-James Bay



Carol Hughes  
MP Algoma-Manitoulin-Kapuskasing



Claude Gravelle  
MP Nickel Belt



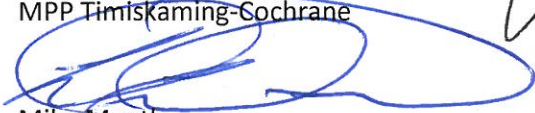
France Gélinas  
MPP Nickel Belt



Gilles Bisson  
MPP Timmins James Bay



John Vanthof  
MPP Timiskaming-Cochrane



Mike Mantha  
MPP Algoma-Manitoulin