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DATE 11 February 1997

TO/DEST. The Chair and Members of Regional Council

FROM/EXP. Medical Officer of Health

SUBJECT/OBJET **DENTAL SERVICES FOR INSTITUTIONAL ELDERLY: A  
JOINT PROJECT BETWEEN ISLAND LODGE AND THE  
DENTAL TREATMENT SECTION**

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform Members of Regional Council of a joint project between the Health Department and Homes for the Aged to establish a dental treatment room and offer dental services to the residents at Island Lodge on a cost recovery basis.

BACKGROUND

During the Fall of 1996, Island Lodge requested assistance from the Health Department with establishing on-site dental services for its residents. A room was set aside at the Lodge and various donations made by families and supply companies to establish a dental treatment room. The principal purposes of the treatment facility are to increase access to dental care for those residents who are unable to leave the residence and reduce the substantial costs associated with transporting residents to other locations.

The Dental Treatment Section will provide staff to this project as required, and assess the needs of the residents. Dental care will be provided when required.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

There was extensive consultation and input from the resident Family Association of Island Lodge. The initiative has been underway for several years and the families have responded with direct donations for the project.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications for this joint venture, as all services will be provided on a cost recovery basis. The service will, however, reduce costs to families associated with escorted travel to outside dental clinics.

*Approved by  
Robert Cushman, MD MBA FRCPC*