

Important to maintain quality patient care standards, says Langdon

The Georgetown hospital board regrets it had to revoke Dr. Ford's hospital privileges said spokesman Judge Langdon. But the hospital board felt it had to maintain standards in quality patient care, he said.

In a lengthy speech, totalling 16 typewritten pages, Judge Langdon said the board does not apologize or seek to defend its actions towards Dr. Ford.

He was asked by the board to reply to letters and enquiries about the director's action April 7 when the revocation took place, the judge said.

He explained how patients, doctors and administrators interact and how the regulatory process works. Then, Judge Langdon told of a number of disciplinary measures that had been taken against Dr. Ford since 1982.

There are limits to what the hospital can disclose because medical records have to be kept confidential and the case is subject to an appeal hearing, he said.

However, he mentioned 15 separate incidents contributed to the decision of the board in making its decision about Dr. Ford.

Some of the incidents include: —An audit by the tissue and audit committee of the Medical Advisory Committee of a specific area of gynaecology was conducted and as a result, the Chief of Staff was to speak.

—In the summer of 1984, the Medical Advisory Committee asked the president of the Medical Staff Organization and the Chief of Staff to conduct an audit of some 80 charts of Dr. Ford's patients. As a result of that, the MAC voted to have an outside physician conduct an audit of certain of Dr. Ford's cases.

—Two meetings with Dr. Ford by the Chief of Staff in October 1983 and April 1984 concerned aspects of his practice.

—In June 1984 Chief of the Pathology Department wrote the Chief of Staff concerning other aspects of the practice of gynaecology.

—Between June and October 1985, internal audits conducted by the Medical Advisory Committee disclosed further causes for concern.

—In February 1986 the Medical Advisory Committee in conducting its an-

nual mandatory review of Dr. Ford's application for privileges recommended to the board of directors his privileges in gynaecology and in one area of obstetrics be restricted.

—Around February 1987 a number of obstetrical cases managed by Dr. Ford were brought to the attention of the hospital's executive director. An outside review by a University of Toronto assistant professor of obstetrics was called in.

The decision of the hospital board made April 7 when the Director's privileges were revoked did not come "Out of the blue," Judge Langdon said. Concerns had been expressed in a period over four years, he said. "The process was part of the regular process of peer review conducted in accordance with the bylaws of the hospital and the Public Hospitals Act," he said.

This annual meeting is the first in 15 years where directors have been elected, the judge said. A similar controversy also sparked the last set of elections.

He welcomed the added numbers to the general meeting and said perhaps this year there would be an election rather than another time of begging members of the community to turn.

But he warned about running as a "single issue" director solely for the purpose of championing the Doctor Ford cause. "I state with certainty that you are doing a disservice to the institution and to yourself. You will promote rather than heal dissent and you will impede rather than promote the aim of the hospital."

There is no provision in the Public Hospitals Act for a notice given to the doctor and there is no hearing before the hospital board for a mid-term review such as in the case of Dr. Ford, he said.

"A restriction or cancellation of privileges on a mid-term application is, in law, effective immediately. It remains in effect until cancelled, revoked or upheld by the Hospital Appeal Board."

"A decision to restrict or cancel is taken because the Board has been persuaded that a physician has failed or refused to meet appropriate standards of clinical competence or has violated rules and regulations of the hospital," he said.



PUT TO THE TEST - Tom Hamamatar Singh (left) and Betty Fisher, seated beside him, spoke to the Georgetown District Memorial Hospital board of directors about the issue of open board meetings. A vote was finally taken and the 'yes' won the tally 107-88. (Herald photo)



INTO THE BOX - The election of complete. There were at least 200 four candidates to fill vacancies on the Georgetown hospital board of annual general meeting. (Herald photo) directors took more than an hour to

Board answers member grievances

Supporters of Doctor Ford had their chance to air grievances after a lengthy speech by Judge Ken Langdon about the doctor's revocation.

Paul McDougall asked why the board didn't send Dr. Ford his written reasons for the withdrawal of his hospital privileges when he said they would.

A lawyer for the board told Dr. Ford supporters April 23 the reasons would be sent the next day.

The chairman replied there was no time limit given on the notice for the letter and the doctor was given the reasons orally the day of the decision. The delay in a written notice doesn't present a delay with the hearings, he said.

A follow-up question was asked about the case pleadings being sent to the Ontario Hospital Appeal Board. The Georgetown hospital also delayed in sending the pleadings, said Mr. McDougall.

The pleadings must be carefully drafted, but it wouldn't delay the proceedings, already scheduled for October 19, 1987. "It will be in on timely fashion," was the reply.

The chairman said for reasons of patient record and confidentiality, the board could not answer who the nursing individual was who apparently filed a complaint with the executive director.

It was acknowledged that many nurses support Dr. Ford, "...but nurses don't make judgements on clinical competence," said Judge Langdon.

Kristine Kogon said she found it hard to believe the concerns about Doctor Ford started as a nursing complaint. The doctor has been supported by the nurses and was voted by them Doctor of the Year in 1986, also in 1983, she said.

Questions were also asked about the board's inability to be more specific and the process of bringing in outside consultants to monitor Dr.

Ford's practice. The board isn't able to give more details about complaints in 1986, all information was collected on Dr. Ford's review and it is a matter of court record which can be obtained for a price, Judge Langdon said.

The board sought out highly qualified physicians for the review process, he said.

After the question period, Paul McDougall commented generally about the meeting and was "reasonably happy" with the turnout. "If anything, this shows how an issue can galvanize the community," he said. The structure of the meeting was cool, calm and deliberate, he added.

The support group spokesman reacted to some of the board's comments, indicating it never mentioned Dr. Ford's suggestion of setting up a hysterectomy committee. "He asked for a committee and it never met."

Many at the meeting were in support of the hospital board's present policies.

"I don't believe in open board meetings. I feel an elected board has got a job to do and you've got to allow them to do it," said Jan Quirk. She attended the meeting also to hear the reasons given to the people who supported Dr. Ford.

Olga Lozovsky and Anne Lawson, two hospital auxiliary members said they were hoping to have the old board members returned. "There's so many people here for the bandwagon. They're not too interested..." they said.

One of the support group candidates, Joan Vachon Robson said she was unhappy with the board's decision to talk about the Dr. Ford case.

"Dr. Ford, out of respect, should have been asked to attend with his lawyer," she said "It was not an appropriate forum to speak about Dr. Ford," she said.



Beavers enjoyed the variety of activities available to them at Ebor Park recently. Beavers from Acton Bailinad, Ashgrove, Georgetown, Glen Williams and Limehouse brought their parents along and joined in with their leaders in celebrating scouting. In the picture above, Beavers are participating in spin painting. (Photo by Jean Layman)

Special magic of Beaver camp Chomping and stomping

By JEAN LAYMAN

The spirit of Scouting held some special magic June 20 and 21 for Beavers who attended the North Hillton District Beaver Camp at Ebor Park Blue Springs.

Beavers from Acton, Bailinad, Ashgrove, Georgetown, Glen Williams and Limehouse brought their parents along and joined in with their leaders in celebrating scouting.

Camp Chief Doug Collins opened the weekend with a big welcome and a trail slap.

The boys were divided into four groups and rotated into different crafts. Butterflies was instructed by Linda Scott of the First Acton Beavers. Plaster molds was left in the able hands of Brian Boyce of the First Ashgrove Beavers.

Kids had fun at the bullring under the leadership of Garry Gaffey of the First Glen Williams and the volleyball group was instructed by Tom Moffat of the Second Acton Beavers.

Quarter-master and co-ordinator of the annual camp Bryan Osatchuk was kept busy overseeing the events in the two-day camp.

Nobody went hungry all weekend as eight Scouters lent their culinary talents to the kitchen. Troop Scouters Brian Sheppard, Ron Fuller and Scouts Andy Fuller, Colin Hay, Glen Osatchuk, Kevin McElhone, Jason Brown and Pathfinder Lisa Waltsma cooked up a storm.

After lunch the Beavers went off on a nature hike to gather material from the property to make some innovative Father's Day cards. Brian Boyce led the charge on the nature hike.

The groups then rotated to spin painting led by Ron Fuller and

with their leaders in celebrating scouting. In the picture above, Beavers are participating in spin painting. (Photo by Jean Layman)

glicky popcorn led by Sue Walton, District Beaver Leader of Acton. Beavers also had fun with the parachute led by Tom Moffat and leaders from all groups.

After the day's events everyone sat down to enjoy a tasty roast beef dinner.

Campfire Chief Mark Rowe, Troop Scouter of First Glen Williams along with his son Mark held the attention of the large gathering of Beavers, parents, leaders and visitors.

Camp Chief Doug Collins A.D.C. of Beavers presented Bryan Osatchuk and Kelly Herbert with small gifts for all of their help with the Beavers. Bryan was A.D.C. of Beavers and will be helping as a District Beaver Leader. Kelly is leaving the Beavers to become a Cub Leader at Fourth Georgetown A pack.

The Scouts own service was held under the leadership of Kelly Herbert with help from Mark Rowe, Beavers and Kevo Stephen Clark.

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Tag-of-war was one of the kids' favorites and Kelly Herbert led those heave ho's.

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Tasty Recipes

RODEO SLAW
• 1 green cabbage, shredded
• 1 red cabbage, shredded
• 1 red onion, thinly sliced
• 2 green peppers, halved, seeded and thinly sliced
• 2 carrots, grated
• 3 stalks celery, thinly sliced diagonally

DRESSING
• 2 tbsp Dijon mustard
• 1 tsp celery seed
• 1 tsp salt
• 1/4 tsp freshly ground black pepper
• 1/4 cup sugar
• 2 tbsp lemon juice
• 1/2 cup red wine vinegar
• 7/8 cup vegetable oil

Combine vegetables in a large heavy plastic bag. With a whisk beat dressing ingredients together until smooth.

Add dressing to vegetables in bag and toss. Press out any air and seal with a twist tie. Marinate salad in refrigerator 12 to 24 hours, turning the bag several times to mix well.

Just before serving, taste salad and add more salt and pepper if necessary.

Danish student Sanne Lind will miss Open Door drop-in

School is out for the summer and so is Open Door but this summer we will be open for activities every two weeks so watch your local paper for dates. Have a happy, safe summer.

We are very fortunate to have lots of talented young people attending Open Door - actors, singers, musicians, playwrights and poets. We would like to share a poem written by Sanne Lind, who is an exchange student from Denmark. She will be returning to her home early in July.

It's been a privilege to know you Sanne and we hope that you will carry home good memories of Open Door, Georgetown and Canada. We think that the following poem catches the essence of Open Door. Thank you Sanne and thank you also to the congregation at St. George's who have kept the "door open" by providing a home for us.

OPEN DOOR
I think I'm happy today
An ordinary Thursday
and I believe the world is good

It is.
I've taken my shoes off.

Laying on the floor enjoying the atmosphere at Open Door.
The music is loud



too loud for the tired speakers they reverberate but the noise satisfies our ears. Dave is playing the harmonica, but only he can see it, he is accompanied by Mike with his dyed hair and untied shoelaces, playing his imaginary guitar. A noticeable laugh is heard. Anna and Kelly are entertaining Cindy. Neil and Tina are both eating popcorn. Peace lives here. I've forgotten everything about school

about the freezing March day outside, about my sorrows, about what I miss, about what I need. Right now everything I need is here. How can I on a very ordinary, boring Thursday in Denmark do without Open Door?

I still don't know.
—Sanne Lind, age 17.
Written March 26, 1987

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