

IT'S YOUR HOSPITAL

In this weeks issue of the News the McCausland Hospital Corporation released a bulletin with regards to their second annual meeting.

The News had approached the Hospital Board and Administration in an effort to receive information of the Board meetings for publication in order that you, the public, could be kept informed. These efforts proved fruitless. With the Board and Administration not giving releases of their meetings throughout the year how can they expect a "keen community participation?"

Recently the McCausland Hospital Corporation has put through a vigorous membership campaign in order to get support for the hospital. With the membership you are given the right to vote at the annual meeting.

While the membership has increased by approximately 240, compared to last year, I wonder how many of those new members know what the McCausland Hospital Corporation is all about or why they are members.

I feel that if the public is a little better informed of the aims and objectives of the Board, possibly they would have stronger support in fund raising campaigns, etc.

While a hospital is a very critical part of our lives, and Terrace Bay has had this privilege since the town was first built, rumour now has it that we may no longer have this privilege.

But no facts are available to us about this or any future plans for our hospital.

Sure - go and vote at the annual meeting and get your dollars worth - but go prepared to ask questions and find out exactly what is being done and what is going to be done - It's Your Hospital

The Editor.

STOKES ENQUIRES INTO MOBILE HOME SUBDIVISIONS

To Mr. G.K. Bain, Director, Local Planning Policy Branch, Ministry of Intergovernmental Affairs, Toronto Ontario

Dear Mr. Bain,

I am writing to enquire about the establishing of mobile home subdivisions in unorganized areas of northern Ontario. Because of the high cost of housing and land assembly in all built-up areas of the province, many people are taking the only avenue open to them of purchasing a mobile home and acquiring space in outlying areas where costs are within their reach.

It would appear that their efforts to provide decent accommodation for their families at rates that are manageable are being thwarted at every turn.

It has been argued that environmental and health standards must be met; this is reasonable.

It has been stated that this type of development causes unnecessary bussing of students and yet we have these vehicles plying our highways in ever increasing numbers since the consolidation of school boards in 1968.

School closures in small towns and villages have put hundreds of children onto the buses supposedly in the cause of equality of educational opportunity

Mobile homes have become an acceptable alternative to high cost, high density urban accommodation and they are the only type of housing unit that many people in low and moderates incomes can aspire to.

There isn't an M.L.A. from northern Ontario who hasn't advocated the establishment of mobile home parks as a viable alternative to high cost housing.

When entrepreneurs are willing to invest sufficient money to provide high quality services at rates that those seeking space are prepared to pay it seems most unreasonable that they should have this alternative denied them.

Please provide me with the rationale behind the present policy and let me know what the present criteria is.

Any assurance you can give that mobile home parks will be permitted where there is a demonstrated need and where a high level of service and acceptability is provided will be most welcome and greatly appreciated.

Jack Stokes, MPP.

Thunder Bay.