

## PRESS RELEASE: HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

The Hospital Board is deeply saddened by the devastating news of the closing of our hospital. The sense of loss to the community of such a fundamentally important resource, and the profound sense of sadness for the highly dedicated and loyal employees of the hospital, many who have worked at the Hospital for decades, are overwhelming. While the sudden manner of its departure is quite surprising and disappointing, the efforts of RHG over the last year and a half to maintain a hospital in our community, and its significant expenditures of funds to try to turn the hospital into a sustainable business are to be commended, the Board certainly understands that Company's resources are not unlimited, and as a result, however painful, we respect its decision. The reasons that our community could not sustain a hospital are complex; multi-faceted; and, subject to now pointless debate. The Board will continue to work on those efforts that it commenced post-sale of the hospital to address remaining creditor issues, and to fully complete its tasks. The support of the community as a whole, and City leaders in particular, over the last many years during the struggle to keep the hospital open have been heartwarming, and are why we are proud to call Wellington our home.