



Health  
Sciences  
Association of  
British Columbia

The Union of Caring Professionals

February 25, 2008

Editor, The Province

*Re: New Abbotsford hospital a big step forward (The Province, February 25, 2008)*

Your columnist Brian Lewis misses the point in his effusive review of the new Abbotsford hospital.

He starts his column by saying that over-used hospitals without enough staff make headlines, and proceeds to take readers on a tour of the new 'state-of-the-art' hospital, telling us the future is about to change.

I have no doubt that the facilities are impressive. That the technology is top-notch. And that the equipment is shiny.

But without the highly trained and skilled health science professionals needed to perform the vital diagnostic tests on that equipment – Fraser Health Authority estimates we will be short by more than 500 full time diagnostic imaging staff by 2015 – all that shiny new technology is just expensive furniture.

Sincerely,

Reid W. Johnson  
President  
**HEALTH SCIENCES ASSOCIATION OF BC**



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