

January 22, 1974

Editor  
The Sun  
2250 Granville Street  
Vancouver 9, B.C.

Dear Sir:

As an organization of past and present consumers of mental health services in this province, we can only concur with Dr. Foulkes when he brands Riverview Mental Hospital a "wretched place," and the mental health system "the most inefficient . . . outdated and discriminatory of all our existing social and medical programs."

He has surely hit a sore nerve when his critics are more provoked by true descriptions of inhumane practices than they are by the practices themselves.

Here's hoping that Health Minister Dennis Cocke will act swiftly on Dr. Foulkes' recommendation to "demolish" institutions like Riverview and to replace them with decent services for citizens in emotional trouble.

Yours truly,

Lanny Beckman  
Coordinator

P.S. For confirmation of the authorship of this letter, please call either the numbers above or 738-9429.