

## LOCAL NEWS

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### Opposition says minister's comments show lack of understanding **LATEST NEWS**

The Telegram

Opposition Leader Yvonne Jones said recent comments made by Health Minister Jerome Kennedy show he does not recognize that lab and X-ray services are needed in rural communities.

Kennedy stated in the media that he is hopeful a resolution can be reached with Lewisporte and Flower's Cove, and depending on the outcome a provincial X-ray review may not be necessary.

"Jerome Kennedy's flippant comments show his lack of understanding and commitment to rural health care," Jones says. "If the minister was truly committed to restoring these services, he wouldn't string people along and ask them to give up other services that have already been approved for their facilities. This approach is insulting and I fear this is another smokescreen set by this government in an attempt to get through two by-elections."

Jones is also questioning government's true agenda when it comes to the lab and X-ray review. All new X-ray purchases and installation has been put on hold, particularly in Roddickton, Forteau, Deer Lake and Springdale.