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Other Communities Bracing for Cuts in Lab and X-ray Services: Jones



Opposition Leader Yvonne Jones says communities around the province are wondering where the axe will fall next, for lab and x-ray services. Health Minister Paul Oram pointed to recommendations from the Cameron Report as reasoning for a need to streamline services to offer the most efficient, effective health care to residents. Jones is not impressed with Oram's interpretation of Justice Margaret Cameron's work. Jones says speculation in the Central region has residents concerned about services in Botwood and St. Alban's, where lab and x-ray services are also available.

Health Minister Paul Oram says three physicians have applied to work in Lewisporte. He was reacting to concerns from NDP Leader Lorraine Michael, who says she can't understand how the Health Minister can be so flippant about the possible departure of a doctor now in the town. The doctor may leave the region if lab and x-ray services are not restored. Michael says recruitment and retention of doctors continues to be a challenge in rural areas and the concerns of those who practise in those areas should be taken into account. Oram says he appreciates the work of all doctors in the province. He says he is very pleased

with the recruitment efforts.