

Transcript of exchange between reporter Bruce Wark with Medavie CEO Bernard Lord and Medavie VP John Ferguson, Tuesday October 17, Moncton public meeting.

Bruce Wark: My name is Bruce Wark and I'm coming here tonight from Sackville. I'm focussing on a couple of words that have been used here. One is efficiency, the other is integration and I have a specific concern that I'm hearing from people in Sackville and that relates to the extramural program that is run, the unit there that serves the Tantramar region out of the Sackville Hospital. Can you tell me tonight that that unit will remain and that the service will not be centralized, perhaps moved somewhere, to Moncton, in the name of efficiency?

Bernard Lord: I can ask our staff to provide more detailed information. The objective here is to maintain the level of, in fact, enhance the level of service and the operations on Day One, so from December 31st to January 1st, not everything changes and over time we will look at the operation. But part of the key of the extramural program, is the fact that it is located throughout New Brunswick, not just in Moncton, Saint John, Fredericton and that means having people close to where people live actually makes it easier for us to deliver the services. I don't have the exact answer for the situation in Sackville. I don't know if our staff have it tonight. If not, we can certainly get it to you. But the idea here is not to centralize everything in Moncton or Saint John or Fredericton or wherever else you may want to suggest. The idea is to better integrate the different services and one thing that is clear is the fact that we need more of those services. And the services that are provided currently independently in all of these silos is excellent service and we've been very clear on this, it's one of the things that attracts us in working and partnering with people on the ground. We also recognize a lot of these services is provided in rural areas in New Brunswick and it has to remain in rural areas in New Brunswick as well as the cities. So, John (Ferguson) do you have the answers precisely for the Sackville....?

John Ferguson: Good evening and thanks for the question. What I can tell you is that I know of and I know there is some activity in Sackville or people who have concerns about this. But, as of right now, I know nothing. As far as people being concerned, I know of nothing that would be suggesting there was going to be any changes in that area.