

Denise Dunn

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**From:** Joyce Penney  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 22, 2007 4:48 PM  
**Subject:** Message to All Staff from CEO - George Tilley  
**Attachments:** CEO Statement ER PR 18 May 2007.pdf

MEMORANDUM

**To:** Staff, physicians and managers  
**Fr:** George Tilley, President and CEO  
**Date:** May 22, 2007

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I'm sure you have been watching the media coverage over the last week regarding the ER/PR test and review. It has been an incredibly busy week for me, beginning on Monday morning with a CBC report that we "withheld" critical information from the public and concluding with my press conference on Friday afternoon.

Today, the Minister announced that the government will be conducting a judicial inquiry into this issue. Frankly, I welcome such a review as I believe it will clear up many things and, in the end, show that we as an organization were not trying to hide from public scrutiny and were acting, as we always do, in the best interests of our patients, clients and residents.

For those of you who would like to read my statement to the press in its entirety, I have attached it to this email.

I would also like you to know I have reiterated in numerous media interviews that I have great confidence in the system and in the team of dedicated professionals working in this organization. The very fact that we undertook such an extensive review in our laboratory speaks, I believe, to our commitment to patient safety and quality care.

You may also have heard today that we have suspended the privileges of a radiologist working on the Burin Peninsula. We have not undertaken such a bold step without careful consideration, but I would like to say that this is a *cautionary* measure intended to protect our patients from any *potential* risk. We will be completing a more extensive chart review in the coming weeks to determine what, if any, future action is required.

Eastern Health is a big organization and we will always have issues to contend with. I certainly hope, however, that we will not continue to experience this sort of intense media scrutiny for too long. More importantly though I hope that this is not distracting for

you in your day-to-day duties and that you are able to stay focused on the reasons why we are all here in the first place.

Unfortunately, I do not have one single and easy way to communicate and share information about these issues with you as a group. We hope that our intranet will be up and running soon at that should help with the flow of information. In the mean time, I have asked that Strategic Communications post information about ER/PR on the "Transition News" website (accessible at work at <http://transition.easternhealth.ca> ).

We will keep you posted.

George  
President and CEO