

**For Immediate Release**  
**September 13, 2006**

**ABBOTT MUST LAUNCH PROVINCE-WIDE MRI INVESTIGATION  
TIMELY MEDICAL PRESIDENT ADMITS TO USING OTHER HOSPITALS**

**VICTORIA** – During an on-air radio interview, Rick Baker of Timely Medical Alternatives admitted that his private health care firm has used public facilities other than St. Paul's but refused to identify them, NDP Health Critic Adrian Dix said today.

"This is a shocking admission," said Dix. "Mr. Baker's assertion that other hospitals are selling time and space to private interests goes against everything the Minister of Health, George Abbott, has told the public. Mr. Abbott needs to tell British Columbians what's really going on or immediately launch a province-wide investigation into this growing scandal."

Dix was a guest on The Bill Good Show on CKNW this morning with Mr. Baker who is the President of Timely Medical Alternatives. Mr. Baker made it clear that other public facilities aside from St. Paul's were engaged in similar activities. A brief example of Mr. Baker's comments is transcribed below.

*Transcribed from CKNW's The Bill Good Show*

**Bill Good:** Is St. Paul's the only hospital that is contracting out services?

**Rick Baker:** No.

**Bill Good:** How many other hospitals are doing so?

**Rick Baker:** I don't know how many are doing it. I only know about the ones that I have had dealings with myself.

**Bill Good:** Which are they?

**Rick Baker:** I can't tell you what they are.

**Bill Good:** Why?

**Rick Baker:** I don't want them to get in the same glue that St. Paul's is in. I feel badly.