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JOSH GUENTER, MLA
BORDERLAND CONSTITUENCY
MANITOBA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Honourable Uzoma Asagwara
Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care Minister
Room 302 Legislative Building
450 Broadway Ave.
Winnipeg, MB, R3C 0V8

Dear Minister Asagwara,

I am writing to you today to express my growing concern with the ongoing operation of the Emerson Health Centre - Personal Care Home. For the past several weeks I have been receiving calls and emails from concerned constituents regarding vacancy management at the Personal Care Home. I have received personal accounts from family members who are trying to have their loved ones moved into the Emerson PCH, only to be told there are no vacancies. These family members are being told they can't move their loved ones into any of the eight vacant suites because of "staffing challenges".

You recently posted on social media about hundreds of nurses, doctors and health care aids recently hired by your government. There are currently six postings for health care aides and five postings for registered nurses at the Emerson PCH in the Southern Health district. Where are these newly hired nurses and health care aides and why aren't they filling desperately needed positions in Emerson?

Families in Emerson are being forced to drive to Morris and Altona to see their loved ones in personal care homes in those communities instead of being able to care for their family members in their home community. These elderly Manitobans have worked their entire lives to be able to enjoy their golden years in the comfort of their home community close to family and friends. There are vacant beds at the Emerson Health Centre - Personal Care Home. Your government says it has hired hundreds of health care workers. There are 11 vacancies posted for nurses and health care aides in Emerson. If your government has the desire to address "staffing challenges" at the Emerson PCH for residents and their loved ones, you also have the means to resolve those challenges.

I urge your office to take immediate action to maintain service levels at the Emerson Health Centre – Personal Care Home for residents and their families. The community relies on this vital facility to care for their loved ones. I urge you to fill the vacancies and open the vacant rooms so Emerson residents can properly care for their elderly loved ones.

Sincerely,

Josh Guenter
Member of the Legislative Assembly for Manitoba
Borderland Constituency

CC - Emerson-Franklin Reeve Dave Carlson