

Submission
No 30

INQUIRY INTO DENTAL SERVICES IN NSW

Organisation: Morisset Senior Citizens & Pensioners Association
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Telephone:
Date Received: 20/05/2005

Theme:

Summary

Morisset Senior Citizens &
Pensioners Association
(The Morisset Branch of the CPSA
of NSW Inc.)
PO BOX 669
MORISSET NSW 2264

18/5/05

Re: Upper House Inquiry on
Dental Services

Case 1:

Two of our members, husband and wife, Phil and Claire, have applied for dental treatment at the Teronto public dentistry clinic.

When they phoned for an appointment they were told they could only get an early appointment if they had severe toothache.

Without acute pain they would have to wait up to 2 years.

When Phil complained that his plate was broken he was told he would have to go to a private dental technician and pay the cost himself.

When Phil finally attended for treatment he was told that a filling was not a prospect and that he could have an extraction only. He would have had to attend

a private dentist for a filling. Case 2. Graeme was on the waiting list for 2 years at Wyong Hospital. Recently, he moved to Wronisset, Wyong. Then struck his name off because he had moved out of their area. He attended a private dentist to have a broken tooth removed.

Case 3: Stuart had a severe toothache. He contacted the Toronto public dentist. (He was later told the dentist could only examine one side of his mouth.) Because the ache had subsided he found the side without the aching tooth was examined. So he is back on the list waiting for a severe ache to recur.

Case 4: Ron went broke in the drought and the bank sold his farm. He is now on the pension. He has applied to the public dentist at each of Newcastle, Wyong and Toronto. Each time with a dislodged filling. Each time extraction was the only service offered.

Case 5: Heather's dentures now don't fit properly. She has waited 7 years, she has attended the public dentist who told her to use a "denture grip" to hold the denture in place.

Case 6: Lottie had trouble with her dentures. She phoned the Toronto public dentist and was given an appointment in 3 days. She had impressions taken and is hopeful of collecting her dentures in the next few weeks.

Clearly, on balance, there are severe problems with the public dental service in our area.

Only one of the people mentioned above was not over a full pension. All are members of our branch.

Yours sincerely
Bob Jay
Hon. Sec.

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