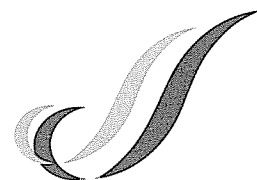


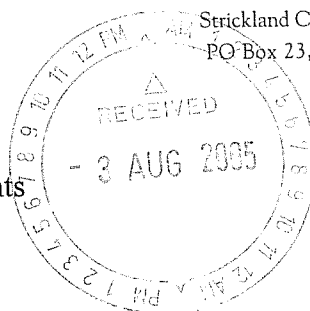
Hospital Award for Excellence - Over 70 Beds Category
2003 APHA Awards for Quality and Excellence
Employer of the Year
2003 ACT Training Excellence Awards



John James Memorial Hospital

1 August 2005

Mr Richard Mulcahy
Chairman, Standing Committee on Public Accounts
GPO Box 1020
CANBERRA ACT 2601



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Dear Mr Mulcahy

Please find attached Letter to the Editor of The Canberra Times in regards to the recent allegations of fraud at Calvary Hospital.

You will recall from my correspondence from 15 July 2005 that I raised similar concerns about the need for independent auditing.

Yours sincerely



PHIL LOWEN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
JOHN JAMES MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

 A.C.T. LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE OFFICE	
SUBMISSION NUMBER	4a
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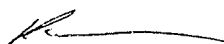
Editor in Chief
The Canberra Times
PO Box 7155
CANBERRA MAIL CENTRE ACT 2610

Dear Editor

Calvary Hospital is somewhat unique in having a private accommodation wing considered to be a stand-alone private hospital, but being located with and using public funded operating theatres and infrastructure. John James Memorial Hospital as a not for profit private hospital has for some time been raising its concerns with the ACT Government over the funding and billing arrangements at Calvary Private Hospital. We were disappointed to be continually told there was not a problem when we knew audit investigations, internal review and staff leaks had pointed to problems as long as three years ago.

Hospital Board Members and I had personally raised these issues with both the Minister and senior officials of ACT Health. We had also formally advised the ACT Auditors of our concerns. John James Memorial Hospital has been worried at the failure to separate the activities of the private and public hospitals and had ongoing concerns that not only is there the problem of the privately insured patient in the public wards being charged to health funds at full private rates but the failure to properly reimburse the ACT community for the use of public operating theatres, delivery suites, human and material resource support infrastructures for private patients. These matters are long overdue for independent enquiry. John James Memorial Hospital has the concern that the activities of Calvary have been anti-competitive, and may have been known to, and condoned by the ACT Government. This brings the private hospital sector into disrepute.

Yours sincerely



PHIL LOWEN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
JOHN JAMES MEMORIAL HOSPITAL