

Letters to the editor

15 Jun, 2010 08:44 AM

Bega only site for
the new hospital

With astonishment I read the article "Health demand to double" (BDN, June 4).

The "blue ribbon" list of experts and their reports failed to impress me, as I am sure they failed to impress the vast majority of Bega Valley ratepayers and residents.

(If Frankie J Holden is the contact for more information) I must ask "just where have you and your experts been these last few years of dramatic climate change, to dream up the enormous increase in population for the area?"

With earthquakes, tornadoes, water spouts, plus rising tidal levels with resultant beach and land erosion, there will most certainly be a great many sea changers over the next decades but, away from the coast down our entire Eastern seaboard.

Bega, the heart of the Bega Valley, will inevitably see a great increase in population.

This fact highlights the urgent need for the large and fully comprehensive hospital for the entire valley to be built in Bega without further delay.

This hospital, centrally situated makes the necessity to maintain the old Pambula Hospital totally unnecessary and unviable.

I must also seriously demand a breakdown of the quoted Census figures, especially regarding the Pambula catchment area.

We, the taxpayers of NSW do not, and will not have our state government fund the health needs of Victorians.

If Mr Holden feels so badly for these "Mexicans", he should lobby the Victorian Government to build a hospital and medical facilities in Genoa or Mallacoota and move to Victoria to join them, or alternately, lobby the Federal Government to alter our border and cede his area entirely to Victoria.

What a relief that would be as most wealthy retirees there are ex-Victorians anyway.

I also noted with disgust how well supplied with doctors and specialists the Pambula catchment is.

Disgusting because these medicos refuse to attend our Bega Hospital where their services are greatly needed, preferring to remain "where the money is" among the wealthy retirees.

Their only exception being to perform operations at the private Bega Day Hospital (\$2000 a day plus their exorbitant fees.)

I would suggest, Mr Holden, that you take a good long look at that and re-think your entire well-meaning but completely erroneous motivations.

Louise Raymond

Bega