

C. LaVie  
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email

Thank you, Mister Speaker.

Today I want to share a Facebook post I saw that really hit home to me from an Island woman named Melanie Fraser who is fighting cancer.

Asking for your Help please share

As many of you know I've been battling cancer for over six years.

Over those six years I have done all the chemo available for my type of cancer offered by pei health care.

I did the treatments for usually six months at a time or until they stopped working.

The last two treatments I never made six months the last treatment only worked for two months.

On April 16th I was told chemo was done working again.

Out of options and treatments available my doctor and I started looking into a drug called Panitumumab (Vectibix).

My doctor fought to get this drug covered for me by drug company but was denied.

I found a trial in Toronto that had this same drug mixed with another drug.

So my doctor put in application for me to get in trial.

So I had to set up a place to live with a family member who lives in Toronto to have me live with them while I leave my family on PEI.

I was stressed through all this while my body keeps getting weaker and sicker. I started to look into moving to Nova Scotia if Toronto trial failed to accept me.

I also had a cousin in Nova Scotia ready to take me in to try to get the med I wanted.

After researching this option it wasn't right for me because to get everything set up it would take too long and when I moved back home I would go through a long process again to be a resident of PEI.

Also when I moved back to PEI I would be without a family doctor or oncologist.

After preparing for maybe a move to Toronto I was told I was not going to get in a trial another disappointment in this fight.

My doctor after all this went on maternity leave which I was happy for her and her family. So I took on the fight alone.

I made more calls since April 16th then I would want to count.

I called Toronto hospitals, Halifax Doctors, drug company's, pharmacies, cancer center, and Minister of Health office of PEI while researching options.

So through talking many many times with drug company I got them to agree to them paying 50% of the cost of this high cost drug.

Vectibix costs 5,763.07 a month.

So out of pocket I have to pay 2,881.54 a month.

Thank God for Robert, my three children and families, Dad and Pauline, Mom and Garth, Janet and Carl, the Campbell family and Johnston family who helped to make this possible for me.

I have my first treatment this Thursday so pray it helps.

PEI is the only Province in Canada that doesn't cover the cost for his drug. When talking with Minister of Health office I asked how many people were fighting for this drug.

I was told I was the only person fighting for it.

So I was only person in all of Canada fighting for this drug at time and was denied coverage shows the greed of drug companies.

I'm fighting for my life while fighting for my rights to have a drug that could prolong my life.

I ask you to please phone your MLA's or Minister of Health office and say we need this drug covered to help people who could benefit from this drug.

Every province in Canada except PEI sees the need for this drug and covers the cost.

If you know of a loved one who fights as I do call for me and them and mention the drug and say more needs to be done for cancer patients and people suffering with other diseases who are out of options for drugs that are covered by province.

Not everyone has insurance and these High cost drugs aren't even covered by many insurances.

As of Thursday I will be only person on PEI at this time getting this drug probably because of cost.

We live in a world that isn't perfect. I'm tired of drug company's and government officials getting rich while we suffer.

I feel we have to start making our politicians start doing more for us the people of PEI and all Canadians.

So as I pay out of pocket for this drug Vectibix I pray all reading this make a call to help the people of PEI.

Thank You, Mister Speaker.