

Sadie North

via email: [REDACTED]

October 22, 2020

Grace Hospital

via: [REDACTED]

To Whom it May Concern,

On September 6th, I Sadie North, attended the Grace Hospital Emergency Room. I was feeling extremely ill to the point that I could not push myself on my walker. My daughter Sheila North dropped me off at the front doors and managed to push me to the first clerk's desk before she was asked to leave as per covid restrictions.

After the first clerk attached my name band on, she directed me to the next clerk or nurse. This person was very rude from the first time she talked to me. She was yelling from behind her desk for me to get to her desk, to help myself. Asking what was wrong with me. I tried to push myself with my feet to get to her, but I simply didn't have enough strength to get to her. When I finally managed to get to her desk (which I barely remember doing), I remember her taking my blood pressure and then directing me to go to a waiting area. I tried to do move but instead I started throwing up on both sides of my shoulders.

I remember starting to pass out and someone coming to help me and wheeled me to a stretcher. I also remember a few people helping and soiling myself because I couldn't control my bodily functions.

The next clearer memory I have is a doctor, who I know now is Dr. [REDACTED] came into my room where I was admitted to on the 3rd floor. Dr. [REDACTED] came in, didn't look at my file in front of me, or my leg that was said to be cellulitis and I had sepsis. Instead of asking me about those conditions, Dr. [REDACTED] starting telling me that I shouldn't be using alcohol because I was diabetic. His tone was very harsh, loud and hurtful.

He said that more than once to the point I had to tell him that since I was very young, my mother told me not to touch alcohol. I told him, because of that, I have never touched alcohol.

It wasn't until then he stopped accusing me of drinking alcohol.

I have been to doctors and nurses many time before. I know that patients being asked about their alcohol and drug consumption is all a normal line of questioning. But this time, Dr. [REDACTED] wasn't asking me, he was accusing me of consuming alcohol, when I never have.

I find both incidents, with the clerk/nurse and Dr. [REDACTED] very disrespectful and racist



because I am Cree elder.

They both displayed attitudes towards me that made me feel like I didn't deserve any care.

I felt helpless and if it wasn't for other caring staff, I would have been worse off. I have been hurt deeply by the comments by the clerk/nurse and Dr. [REDACTED]

It is my belief that these two should not be working in the health care field, let alone Grace Hospital where many of us Indigenous people go for help when we are ill. My family and I would like to see these two people terminated from their jobs. I understand your hospital is working hard to deliver cultural sensitivity training but I think these two need to be let go for harbouring racist attitudes.

I trust you understand my point of view and I ask you to please respect my request. Not only for me and my family, but for other patients who may come across them.

Please email me back at [REDACTED] or call my daughter Sheila North at [REDACTED] if you need any clarification, but I believe I am very clear in what I am calling for.

Thank you, Ekosi

*Sadie M. North*

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