



Jan 7<sup>th</sup> 2018

Dr. Peter Lennox,  
Head, Department of Plastic Surgery,  
University of British Columbia,  
1000-777 W Broadway, Vancouver, BC V5Z 4J7

Dear Dr. Lennox,

I am writing on behalf of the BC Lymphedema Association (BCLA) and the patient who are living with condition in British Columbia. It is the understanding of the BCLA that worldwide, that significant advances have occurred in the surgical management of patients living with lymphedema. Surgeons in Europe, the UK, Australia, Japan, Korea and the USA are reporting and presenting the results of successful surgical management of patients with primary and secondary lymphedema. YOU are probably aware that this includes microsurgery techniques such as lymphovenous anastomosis and lymph node transfers.

A surgical group at Harvard have recently held a meeting demonstrating the value of a team based surgical approach and are encouraging this model across the US. At the moment, access to these techniques and approaches has been limited to a small number of plastic surgeons in the Lower Mainland. More specifically, it is our understanding that your colleague, Dr. Mark Hill has recently announced he is no longer accepting new referrals due to his upcoming retirement.

The BCLA respectfully asks that your group consider how access to these surgical approaches can be improved, either through training, recruitment and/or improved access to surgical time. The directors of BCLA, the majority of who have Lymphedema, would be willing to meet with you or provide more information as required.

I look forward to a response at your earliest convenience.

Best regards

Christine Chandler  
President, BCLA