

# Vancouver Coastal Health wants festivals to pay for medical costs

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Posted Jun 22, 2015 3:48 pm PDT



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## SUMMARY

Should summer festivals have to pay for medical costs?



VANCOUVER (NEWS 1130) – Vancouver Coastal Health wants summer festivals to start paying for medical costs endured during their events.

Ana Marie D'Angelo with the health authority says last year it dished out more than \$125,000 in extra medical costs because of six events – Squamish and Pemberton music festivals, CrankWorx, GranFondo, and Tough Mudder.

“When you consider that these are small communities, it makes a significant impact on

their resources. So we’re looking for a way to share those costs because the health care is not free. We wish for these events to include that consideration in their planning next year,” she explains. “It’s a surge of demand that their budgets are not accommodated for...it’s a consideration to be made when [the event organizers] plan. I mean they plan for a large group of people and all their needs, and health care is another one of those needs that should be addressed.”

She says some of the events are risky.

“Where you do get injuries because they’re mountain biking competitions and that kind of thing where some people do get injured just in the course of the activity.”

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