



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
2010HSERV0026-000474
April 29, 2010

Ministry of Health Services
Interior Health
Provincial Health Services Authority

RFQ FOR CLINICAL SUPPORT BUILDING AT KGH RELEASED

KELOWNA – The Interior Heart and Surgical Centre (IHSC) project took an important step forward today with the release of a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the new clinical support building (CSB) at Kelowna General Hospital. The RFQ is the first step in the process to select a team to design and build the new facility.

The CSB is part of the IHSC Project announced by Premier Gordon Campbell Jan. 25, 2010. It will house laboratory and clinical support departments that will be moved from the existing hospital in preparation for the construction of the IHSC building in 2012.

“This project is an important part of our efforts to build patient care in the Interior – with a total capital investment of almost \$900 million in the central and north Okanagan since 2007,” said Health Services Minister Kevin Falcon.

“It is a great time for health care in the Southern Interior, with new patient-care towers being built at both Vernon Jubilee Hospital and Kelowna General and the development of UBC’s Southern Medical Program, the cardiac services transition project – plus the Interior Heart and Surgical Centre,” said Westside-Kelowna MLA Ben Stewart.

“Each of these projects will have a direct, positive impact on patients and will make health care in the Interior more accessible, and help to provide for our growing population,” said Kelowna-Mission MLA Steve Thomson.

“As we move forward with the construction process for the Clinical Support Building, we are ensuring long-term, quality care for patients and creating more jobs for residents right here in the Okanagan, at the perfect time for our recovering economy,” said Kelowna-Lake Country MLA Norm Letnick.

The RFQ is a competitive process that invites teams to indicate their interest and qualifications to design and build the CSB. Teams that are shortlisted during the RFQ process will then be invited to respond to a Request for Proposals (RFP). Interior Health expects to choose a successful proponent by December 2010, with construction commencing immediately thereafter. The new building will be completed by 2012.

“We’re excited to be getting started on building this project that will provide patients with better access to care and ultimately improve quality of life for Southern Interior residents,” said Norman Embree, Interior Health board chair.

The total value of the IHSC Project is estimated to be \$448 million, and will include a new 12,970 square-metre (139,590 square foot) building to house the Interior Heart and Surgical Centre, this 7,850 square-metre (84,470 square foot) CSB, renovations to the existing Royal and Strathcona buildings, and fit-outs in the new patient-care tower.

“This project will bring a whole new level of service to the Central Okanagan and it will make a significant contribution to the health and well-being of the people who live here,” said Robert Hobson, chair of the Central Okanagan Regional Hospital District, which is contributing \$91.3 million to the IHSC Project.

The new building will be designed to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Gold standards, and will maximize the interior and exterior use of wood, in keeping with the Wood First Act announced in September 2009.

The IHSC Project is part of government’s \$2.6-billion, three-year investment in health capital projects across the province.

The RFQ is available at www.bcbid.ca.

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A backgrounder follows.

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BACKGROUND

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THE INTERIOR HEART AND SURGICAL CENTRE PROJECT

Features of the new Interior Heart and Surgical Centre (IHSC) project include:

- A new, 7,850-square-metre (84,470-square-foot) clinical support building (CSB) to house the lab and support programs that will be relocated from their present locations in the Pandosy building to make way for construction of the IHSC—to be completed in 2012.
- Fitting-out levels five and six of the patient-care tower to house the psychiatric inpatient program and inpatient beds, to be relocated prior to the demolition of the Pandosy building – to be completed in 2012.
- Relocation of programs to new patient-care tower and CSB, demolition of the Pandosy building and site preparation for the new building.
- Renovations of 3,000-square-metres (32,300-square-feet) of the Royal building for the PCI and diagnostic cardiology programs – to be completed in 2013.
- A new, separate 12,970-square-metre (139,590-square-foot) IHSC building to house the cardiac program, as well as the surgical suite and inpatient support units on the site of the existing Pandosy building – to be completed in 2016.
- Renovations of 4,250-square-metres (45,750-square-feet) of the Strathcona building for the inpatient units, critical-care units and support departments – to be completed in 2017.

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