
NEWS RELEASE

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Ministry of Health Services
Fraser Health

SURREY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL EXPANSION PLAN MOVES FORWARD

SURREY – The expansion of Surrey Memorial Hospital (SMH) moved forward today with the release of a request for qualifications (RFQ) for the new emergency department and critical care tower. The RFQ represents the next stage in the competitive selection process to short-list qualified teams to design, build, finance, and maintain a new emergency department and critical care tower.

“The redevelopment and expansion of SMH will help reduce emergency room congestion, increase the number of acute care beds, and establish a centre of excellence in care for high-risk newborns,” said Health Services Minister Kevin Falcon. “All across the province, we are investing billions of dollars in new facilities, expansions and upgrades.”

The emergency department at SMH is one of the busiest in the province with more than 71,000 patient visits each year, and that number is expected to increase to 101,000 by 2020. Construction of a new, state-of-the-art emergency department will help ease congestion at SMH and improve patients’ access to health care now and into the future. The expansion will also demonstrate innovation in the design of great workplaces, which is central to Fraser Health’s strategy to attract and retain health care professionals.

“The project will significantly increase the number of beds at Surrey Memorial Hospital with the addition of 151 units, for a total of 650 beds,” said Dave S. Hayer, MLA for Surrey-Tynehead. “As the population of Surrey continues to grow, these new beds will help meet the health care needs of people living in Surrey and surrounding communities.”

Construction of the critical care tower and emergency department is scheduled to begin in 2010. The new emergency department is planned to open for patients in 2013 with final completion of the tower expected in 2014.

“Our goal is to develop the 20-acre Surrey Memorial Hospital site into a world-class health campus and model medical community that serves the Fraser Health region,” said Dr. Nigel Murray, CEO of Fraser Health. “This new campus will specialize in children’s and women’s maternal health and, with the University of British Columbia, bring an expanded Clinical Academic Campus to the City of Surrey.”

The SMH Emergency Department and Critical Care Tower project is part of an overall, three-year, \$14-billion capital infrastructure program, which includes \$2.5 billion for capital spending in the health sector, supported by the Province, that will create up to 88,000 jobs and help build vital public infrastructure in every region of B.C. Visit www.gov.bc.ca/infrastructure for more information.

The RFQ is available at www.bcbid.ca

Fraser Health Project website: www.fraserhealth.ca/AboutUs/capitalprojects/

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BACKGROUND

ER AND CRITICAL CARE TOWER AT SMH

The SMH redevelopment and expansion: emergency department and critical care tower has two main components that will enhance patient care and meet the current and future health care needs of Surrey and surrounding communities. The emergency department and critical care tower are being delivered as a public private partnership.

Emergency department and critical care tower:

- New emergency department will be designed to accommodate different streams of activity to provide the highest quality of emergency care as quickly as possible:
 - The ER will feature dedicated space to treat pediatric patients in a child-friendly environment.
 - Dedicated space to treat patients with mental health issues.
 - A “fast track” minor treatment unit to ensure patients with minor injuries are treated quickly and released.
 - A major trauma area to treat patients with the most serious injuries and illnesses.
- Perinatal centre of excellence that will provide specialized services to high-risk babies:
 - A total of 48 neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) beds to treat premature infants and newborns in critical distress, plus a dedicated pediatric pharmacy.
- The tower will contain approximately 85 acute care beds for patients recovering from surgery or illness, of which 20 beds are classified as high dependency beds; and a 25-bed adult intensive care unit (ICU).
- Academic space will include classrooms, a library and other educational supports and student amenity space.
- New purpose-built laboratory.
- Rooftop helipad.
- Underground parking and surface parking.

Renovations on portions of the existing hospital:

- Renovations to the existing ICU space to provide more inpatient beds.
- Expanded family birthing unit to add new obstetrics beds, birthing rooms and a second dedicated maternity operating room.
- An expanded pharmacy, data centre and sterile processing unit.
- The main entrance will be renovated to include information services, security services and volunteer resources.

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