

Vernon Jubilee Hospital Inpatient Beds Project



Project Overview

Vernon Jubilee Hospital is one of four regional hospitals within Interior Health's network of health-care facilities. It serves approximately 86,000 residents in the areas of Vernon, Armstrong, Enderby, Spallumcheen, Salmon Arm, Revelstoke and Nakusp.

In October 2011, the new Polson Tower officially opened for patients. The tower includes a new emergency department, new consolidated operating rooms, a new maternity pediatrics ward, a new intensive care unit, a consolidated outpatient department, and two shelled-in floors for future inpatient beds. The Vernon Jubilee Hospital Inpatient Beds Project includes the design and construction of two 30-bed inpatient units in the shelled-in space on the sixth and seventh floors of the Polson Tower.

The majority of the 60 beds will be in private rooms complete with their own washrooms. Units will be furnished with new equipment through the Vernon Jubilee Hospital Foundation's ongoing Tower of Care campaign. Of the 60 beds planned for the units, 14 will be new and the remaining 46 will be relocated from existing older units in the hospital.

The project will provide a modern inpatient ward with appropriate infection control and patient care areas without congested overflow, and will improve the ability to attract and retain staff.

“The benefits to the community are great. This project will improve the environment for patients and working conditions for our nurses, physicians and support staff.”

– Norman Embree, Chair, Interior Health Board of Directors

The project cost of \$29.6 million is being shared between Interior Health, the North Okanagan Columbia Shuswap Regional Hospital District and the Vernon Jubilee Hospital Foundation.

It is anticipated that construction will complete in late fall 2015.

Partnership Highlights

During the design and construction of the project, Interior Health will make monthly progress payments to the Design-Builder. The amount, timing and terms and conditions of those payments are set out in the Design-Build Agreement. Any costs in excess of the fixed-price agreement are the responsibility of the Design-Builder, protecting the taxpayer from cost overruns.

Expected Benefits

Integrating design and construction, enabling effective risk transfer and implementing a fixed-priced contract creates certainty that the project will be delivered on time and on budget.

Benefits of using a Design-Build approach include:

- Responsibility: Responsibility for cost overruns and schedule delays rest with the private partner, not the taxpayer.
- Integration: The private partner is responsible for the design and construction of the project, creating opportunities and incentives to optimize integration of these functions.
- Certainty: Taxpayers know they are going to get a project that is delivered on time and on budget through a pay-for-performance contract.
- Innovation: Bidders compete to propose the most creative and cost-effective way to deliver a project and the bidder with the best proposal is awarded the contract. The competitive nature of the process incents bidders to propose more innovative designs than what might have been achieved if government prescribed its own design.

Public Sector Partners

- Ministry of Health
- Interior Health Authority
- North Okanagan Columbia Shuswap Regional Hospital District
- Vernon Jubilee Hospital Foundation.

Private Sector Partner

Stuart Olson Dominion Construction Ltd., with Parkin Architects

Partnerships BC's Role

Partnerships BC managed the competitive selection process for this project.

Partnerships BC serves its clients through the planning, delivery and oversight of major infrastructure projects such as hospitals, roads, bridges and accommodations projects.