

For Immediate Release | February 11, 2011

Construction begins on East Pandosy Clinical Support Building

KELOWNA – MLAs Steve Thomson and Norm Letnick were joined by hospital officials, staff, community members and health care partners today to celebrate the start of construction on the new East Pandosy Clinical Support Building at Kelowna General Hospital (KGH).

“It is very exciting to watch as development gets underway to bring the Interior’s cardiac program to life,” said Kelowna-Mission MLA Steve Thomson. “This will be the province’s first cardiac centre outside of the Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island, and it will mean Interior residents can get the care that they need without the added stress of travelling away from home and their loved ones.”

The East Pandosy building will support the Interior Heart and Surgical Centre (IHSC) Project by relocating existing hospital departments to allow for the start of construction of the IHSC building beginning in 2012. The East Pandosy building will house laboratory and clinical support departments.

“The Interior Heart and Surgical Centre is building on the considerable investment that we have made to health care in this region, bringing the total dollars invested to nearly \$1 billion,” said Westside-Kelowna MLA Ben Stewart.

The East Pandosy building will be a three-storey, 7,850 square-metre (84,470 square-foot) building connected to KGH by an enclosed bridge across Pandosy Street to the Centennial Patient Care Tower, a 350,000 square-foot expansion that started construction in November 2008.

“The East Pandosy Building is a critical component of the IHSC project, and will help to create good-paying construction jobs for our region – in fact, the entire IHSC project will create about 2,800 jobs over the lifetime of the project,” said Kelowna-Lake Country MLA Norm Letnick.

Graham Design-Build Services was awarded the contract to design and build the East Pandosy building in December 2010. They have been preparing the site for construction by removing the preload material and densifying the soil. Construction will begin this month and will be complete in April 2012. The East Pandosy building and the Centennial building will open together at the end of May 2012.

“The IHSC Project will improve quality of life for Southern Interior residents, and this East Pandosy Building is a key step in that process,” said Interior Health Board Chair Norman Embree. “Interior Health is committed to delivering quality patient care by providing services that are client-focused and support wellness in the workplace. These new buildings support that goal.”

The design for the East Pandosy building proposed by Graham Design-Build Services meets the commitment of British Columbia’s Wood First Act and showcases the use of wood throughout. It has been designed with help from staff and participation from residents of the KGH neighbourhood to ensure it integrates with the natural setting and rich heritage of the area.

“The Central Okanagan Regional Hospital District is happy to see the progress that is being made on this project, as it will ensure first-class health care services to residents of the Okanagan,” said Robert Hobson, Chair of the Regional Hospital District Board, which is a funding partner in the IHSC Project.

The \$47 million East Pandosy Clinical Support Building is part of the \$448 million IHSC Project, which is the next step in the almost \$900 million that the Province has invested in health care capital construction in the Okanagan since 2007. The other major project is the \$432 million Kelowna and Vernon Hospitals Project.

The provincial government is making record investments in health-care facilities in southern B.C. and throughout the province. Over the next three years, British Columbia's health-care system will benefit from investments such as new medical equipment and modernized health facilities as part of a \$2.4-billion health-sector capital plan.

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For more information on the Okanagan hospital construction projects, visit the Building Patient Care website at www.buildingpatientcare.ca.

Backgrounder enclosed.

BACKGROUND

Clinical Support Building – Design-Build Team

Graham Design-Build Services, a JV, leads a team that combines the strength, innovation and experience of Canadian-based construction and architecture firms that have come together to deliver the East Pandosy Clinical Support Building at Kelowna General Hospital.

Graham Construction Ltd. will be responsible for constructing the new facility, while Stantec Architecture Ltd. is responsible for the design of the project.

Graham Design-Build Services, a JV, was chosen in early December as the preferred proponent through an extensive Request for Proposals evaluation. The evaluation team was comprised of industry experts from clinical, technical, financial, architecture and engineering fields.

A fairness advisor, Jane Shackell, QC, of Miller Thomson LLP., was engaged to monitor the entire procurement process. A copy of the fairness advisor's report will be available shortly at www.partnershipsbc.ca

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.