
BACKGROUND

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Office of the Premier
Ministry of Health Services

BC CANCER AGENCY'S ABBOTSFORD CENTRE

- The Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) is a partner in the Abbotsford Regional Hospital and Cancer Centre (ARHCC). PHSA is the health authority providing cancer care services through its specialized agency, the BC Cancer Agency.
- The cancer centre within the ARHCC is known as the BC Cancer Agency's Abbotsford Centre. It is the fifth regional cancer centre in the province and the first to open in the Lower Mainland since 1995.
- The centre represents an important step forward in the BC Cancer Agency's provincewide mission to:
 - Reduce the incidence of cancer;
 - Reduce the mortality rate of people with cancer; and
 - Improve the quality of life of people living with cancer.
- The new cancer centre is the first in Western Canada to be integrated within a hospital "from the ground up." Partnering in care with Fraser Health, along with the facility's state-of-the-art design features and enhanced services, the centre will promote seamless care for patients.
- This centre is an integral addition to the BC Cancer Agency's provincial cancer control services. It provides state-of-the-art services and compassionate care, conducts national and international clinical research trials, and works closely with interdisciplinary teams across the BC Cancer Agency's provincial network.
- The opening of this centre offers Fraser Valley patients the opportunity to receive a spectrum of world-class cancer care services closer to home. It expands the BC Cancer Agency's ability to pursue innovation and research, and to improve patient outcomes.
- Each year, about 6,500 Fraser Valley residents are newly diagnosed with cancer. The BC Cancer Agency's Abbotsford Centre can accommodate up to about 60,000 patient visits annually at full capacity.
- The BC Cancer Agency's Abbotsford Centre offers a full range of cancer control services, including:
 - New patient multi-disciplinary consultation and care planning;
 - 12 chemotherapy chairs;
 - Four linear accelerators for the delivery of radiation therapy and enhanced brachytherapy services;
 - Supportive care, nutritional consultation and rehabilitation;
 - Pain/symptom management and palliative care;

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- Hereditary cancer program;
- Breast health services in collaboration with Fraser Health;
- Patient and community education in cancer prevention;
- Professional education/liaison for community-based cancer control programs; and
- A research-focused mandate that provides patients with access to national and international clinical trials.

The BC Cancer Agency employs about 125 staff at the Abbotsford Centre in a range of medical and radiation oncology roles through to nursing, nutrition, clinical counselling, pharmacy, clinical physics, and clerical and administrative functions.

- For further updates about the BC Cancer Agency's Abbotsford Centre, visit: www.bccancer.bc.ca/RS/AbbotsfordCentre/.

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