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# MEDIA RELEASE

## For Immediate Release

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### **Addictions Housing Contract Awarded to ASK Wellness Centre**

KAMLOOPS – Interior Health is pleased to announce a new contract with the AIDS Society of Kamloops (ASK Wellness Centre) to provide supported housing for up to 15 clients recovering from addictions. This follows a recent public request for proposals.

“We are thrilled to be entering into this longer-term contract with ASK Wellness. They have a solid track record of providing housing and other supports for individuals at risk in this community and we know they will serve clients well,” said Carol Todd, Director for Addiction and Residential Services for the Thompson Cariboo area of Interior Health.

The contract for supported housing for 15 clients – both men and women – took effect July 15<sup>th</sup> and will see ASK Wellness, in partnership with the Canadian Mental Health Association, provide safe, secure community housing in rental suites scattered throughout Kamloops. In addition, ASK Wellness in conjunction with CMHA, will support clients in meeting their obligations as tenants and provide a range of life skills services to support clients in their individual treatment plans. Clients, meanwhile, will access treatment through Interior Health’s day treatment program which runs Monday to Friday. Intensive case management services for clients will also be provided by Interior Health.

“We know through our own outreach services, the provision for safe secure housing must come first as we work to help people recover from their addictions and other behaviors that put them at risk,” said Bob Hughes, Executive Director for ASK Wellness Centre.

Housing support provided through this contract is for up to one year.