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Interior Health awards contract for new residential care beds in Kamloops

After a thorough procurement process, Interior Health has awarded a contract for the development of 48 residential care beds in Kamloops to H&H Total Care Services Inc.

“This is another important investment in seniors care for our community and I’m pleased to see the project moving forward,” said Health Minister Terry Lake. “Expansion of residential care services is crucial as we need to make sure the proper supports are in place for the growing and aging population, especially those with complex care needs.”

Interior Health issued a series of Request for Proposals (RFPs) in September 2016 for the design, construction and operation of 243 new residential care beds in communities across Interior Health.

“Residential care plays a vital role in the care continuum, supporting those who need 24-hour care,” said Kamloops-South Thompson MLA Todd Stone. “It’s great to see the next step taking place towards getting the new beds in place.”

The RFPs called for building environments that are homelike and not institutional-feeling; safe for residents and staff; innovatively designed and flexible in function; operationally efficient; environmentally responsible in design, construction and operations; and include dementia-friendly elements.

“Our population is aging and becoming more medically complex. Conditions such as dementia are on the rise,” said Interior Health Board Chair John O’Fee. “The addition of 243 beds across Interior Health will benefit seniors and others who need around-the-clock care.”

The RFP sought proposals from operators with experience in residential care project development and operation and seniors care, with consideration of First Nations engagement and cultural safety.

Consultation with the local community, including First Nations communities, is required throughout design development and upon completion during operations. The successful proponents must develop a care model that supports the needs of residents, and includes residents and their families in care delivery planning. The care model will also include collaboration with local family physicians.

H&H will expand its current property at The Hamlets to include the additional beds, which are expected to open in summer 2018.

“H&H are excited about the opportunity to grow our partnership with Interior Health in supporting and strengthening the Westsyde community of Kamloops with the planned expansion of The Hamlets at Westsyde,” said Andre Van Ryk, CEO and CFO of H&H.

Interior Health currently has 5,750 residential care beds, providing 24/7 care and support for individuals with complex care needs who are no longer able to live at home independently or with supports. This includes frail and elderly individuals with chronic conditions, such as those with dementia, whose needs may change over time.

Interior Health's plan for residential care services supports the Ministry of Health's strategic direction, which focuses on a more integrated system of primary and community care that better meets the needs of patients, including seniors with frailty and complex medical conditions.

Interior Health is committed to promoting healthy lifestyles and providing a wide range of quality health-care services to more than 740,000 people living across B.C.'s vast interior. For more information, visit www.interiorhealth.ca, follow us on Twitter @Interior_Health, or like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/InteriorHealth.

- 30 -

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