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Local businesses meet with Royal Inland Hospital tower hopefuls

KAMLOOPS – The new patient care tower project at Royal Inland Hospital (RIH) promises to have an economic benefit to the Kamloops construction and trades industry.

On March 27, local businesses, contractors, and suppliers attended a business-to-business (B2B) networking session, where they met with each of the three teams shortlisted to build the new hospital tower.

“The RIH patient care tower project represents an important investment in health care in the Kamloops region and presents a significant opportunity for the local construction industry to benefit by being involved,” says Health Minister Adrian Dix. “The B2B session gave the Kamloops business community a chance to demonstrate their experience and expertise in major project construction to each of the shortlisted proponent teams.”

The three proponent teams (and their construction partners) that have been shortlisted to design, build, partially finance and maintain the new patient care tower at RIH are: EllisDon Infrastructure Healthcare (EllisDon Construction and Building Services); Inter-River Healthcare Partners (Bird Construction); and Plenary Health (PCL Construction).

In order to guarantee equal time with each proponent team, the B2B session was held in a “speed-meeting” format. Participants had three minutes to promote their companies, services and experience to each proponent team.

A total of 51 individuals representing 37 companies attended the B2B session held at the Coast Kamloops Hotel and Conference Centre.

“It was great to see how many local companies came out to the B2B session,” says David Fowler, Director, Major Capital Redevelopment at Interior Health. “They were excited and enthusiastic, and they really took advantage of the chance to promote the services their companies offer.”

The B2B session was held by Interior Health in partnership with the Southern Interior Construction Association (SICA) and the Kamloops Chamber of Commerce.

“Co-hosting this B2B event was a great opportunity for us to help connect our members to the proponent teams vying to build the new patient care tower,” says Jason Henderson, Chief Executive Officer, Southern Interior Construction Association. “Facilitating these meetings could ultimately lead to contracting opportunities for our members and other small businesses in the region.”

“We were pleased to welcome the proponent teams to Kamloops. It was a great opportunity to show them what our local Chamber members have to offer,” says Joshua Knaak, President, Kamloops Chamber of Commerce. “I’m optimistic that the RIH patient care tower project will bring great benefit to the community.”

The estimated \$417-million patient care tower project includes mental health and medical/surgical beds; a new surgical suite; a perinatal centre with labour and delivery rooms, obstetrics and postpartum beds;

and a neonatal intensive care unit. The new tower will include a rooftop helipad and underground parking. Construction is expected to begin in fall 2018, with the tower to open in 2022.

To follow the progress of the new patient care tower at RIH, visit www.buildingpatientcare.ca.

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