

For Immediate Release | March 11, 2015

## Local businesses meet with hospital tower hopefuls

On March 10, 2015, 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 patient care tower at Penticton Regional Hospital (PRH).

“Right from the start, I have wanted an opportunity for our local business community to meet and promote their companies and services to each of the three proponent teams,” said Penticton MLA Dan Ashton. “The B2B session provided the chance for our business community to demonstrate their experience and expertise in major project 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.

“We were very pleased with the number of local companies that attended the B2B session,” said David Fowler, Director, Major Capital Redevelopment at Interior Health. “The participants were enthusiastic and really took advantage of this opportunity to promote their businesses to the shortlisted teams.”

The B2B session was hosted by Interior Health, the Southern Interior Construction Association (SICA), and the Penticton and Wine Country 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 tower, said Clifford Kshyk, VP Operations, Southern Interior Construction Association. “Facilitating these meetings could ultimately lead to contracting opportunities for our members and other small businesses in the region.”

A total of 35 individuals representing 23 companies attended the B2B session held at the Penticton Trade and Convention Centre.

“It was great to have the proponent teams come to Penticton to meet with our local business community,” said Ernie Blumke, president of the Penticton and Wine Country Chamber of Commerce. “Chamber members were enthusiastic to share with the teams all that our region has to offer.”

The three proponent teams that have been shortlisted to design, build, partially finance and maintain the new patient care tower at PRH are: EllisDon Infrastructure; Plenary Health; and Tandem Health Partners.

The \$325-million patient care tower project will include an ambulatory care centre, a surgical services centre, 84 medical/surgical inpatient beds in single patient rooms, a new medical device reprocessing unit, and space for the UBC Faculty of Medicine program.

To follow the progress of the new patient care tower at PRH, visit [www.buildingpatientcare.ca](http://www.buildingpatientcare.ca).