



October 18, 2018

Community Update

Williams Lake – Cariboo Memorial Hospital and Deni House

Interior Health is currently working on two projects in the community of Williams Lake that will enhance care for patients and improve working conditions for staff and physicians.

CMH Redevelopment

Interior Health continues to work on a business plan for Cariboo Memorial Hospital (CMH) redevelopment, as announced by the Ministry of Health in February 2018. Earlier this summer, Interior Health issued a Request for Proposals and awarded four for preliminary design work. Two contracts were awarded to IBI Group, as the managing consultant and to deliver an indicative design for the redeveloped hospital. WSP Group was also awarded two contracts, as the mechanical and electrical consultants.

CMH redevelopment proposes to create more functional space for patients and health-care providers, increase capacity to serve more patients and improve the physical environment to bring the hospital up to modern standards of care. Identified needs for the hospital include improvements to the inpatient unit, maternity, emergency services, ambulatory care and pharmacy. Space will also be provided for the UBC Faculty of Medicine.

Members of Interior Health's Capital Planning department have been in Williams Lake several times this summer and fall, meeting with stakeholder groups including staff, physicians, community members and Indigenous groups.

The business plan is expected to be complete by spring 2019, at which time Interior Health will submit it to the provincial government for consideration. Once Interior Health is approved to proceed to the next step for the project, detailed design, procurement and construction will follow.

Sacred Space Redevelopment

The Sacred Space at Deni House long term care in Williams Lake is in the process of being redeveloped with a plan to have a new Sacred Space available for individuals, families and staff by the spring of 2019.

The new Sacred Space will be located in the Sunshine Room at Deni House, on the grounds of Cariboo Memorial Hospital. This will be a multi-faith room, welcoming to those who are seeking solace in difficult times.

The redevelopment of the Sacred Space is taking place with input from local First Nations and inter-faith organizations in Williams Lake along with the Interior Health Spiritual and Aboriginal Health programs.

A Sacred Space planning committee will guide the redevelopment, ensuring it is inclusive and welcoming to all people looking for refuge in times of need. Some of the features of the space will be more natural light, a large space for families and improved access. The space will be able to accommodate traditional Aboriginal smudging ceremonies.

The Sacred Space redevelopment is in line with Interior Health's vision to integrate various spiritual and religious perspectives along with Aboriginal community perspectives into its patient-centered model of health-care delivery.

- 30 -