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## Contractor chosen for Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital work

TRAIL — Interior Health is pleased to announce that Ledcor Construction Ltd. has been selected as the general contractor overseeing construction of the emergency department and electrical redevelopment project at Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital (KBRH). Ledcor is an international company with branch offices throughout B.C., including in Kelowna.

“Our government is taking action to make sure important upgrades at Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital are completed,” said Health Minister Adrian Dix. “The selection of the general contractor for the project means actual construction work is one step closer.”

“Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital and its health-care workers have served people in the area well since it opened in 1954,” said Kootenay West MLA Katrine Conroy. “The work that is going to be done will better support the emergency health-care needs of people in Trail and throughout the region.”

Plans for the emergency department redevelopment include a single-storey addition to the existing building that will significantly expand the size of the existing department to address immediate space and service challenges, and to accommodate projected patient care needs for years to come. The redevelopment will feature updated and expanded trauma bays, exam rooms and procedure rooms, and will add an airborne isolation and secure room to the emergency department.

Significant transformer and electrical upgrades are also included.

“This is an important investment in quality care for Trail and all the communities that surround it,” said Interior Health Board Chair Doug Cochrane. “Our staff and physicians do outstanding work providing excellent emergency care in the region. This project will allow them to do work in a care environment that has improved privacy and enhanced infection control measures.”

Construction is expected to start in the weeks ahead and the new emergency department is expected to open to patients in 2020.

The Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital emergency department and electrical redevelopment project is anticipated to cost approximately \$19.05 million, to be shared by the Province of British Columbia through Interior Health, the West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital District (WKBRHD), and the KBRH Health Foundation.

“The WKBRHD supports the upgrades to our regional hospital,” said Aimee Watson, Chair of the West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital District. “As upgrades are essential to the viability of services that all our residents, from Rock Creek to Crawford Bay, depend on, we are faced with hard decisions. Health care is expensive, even more so when we are looking at infrastructure. We are advocates for health care in the region to be optimal and, as a rural area, see better service delivery for all residents. These upgrades will lead us to improved regional health care services.”

“The KBRH Health Foundation is pleased to support the Emergency Department expansion at KBRH with the launch of our \$1 million Emergency Department Campaign,” said Lisa Pasin, Director of Development for the KBRH Health Foundation. “We believe this capital project will greatly enhance patient care in the Kootenay Boundary and are truly humbled by the support we have received from our

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communities to date for this priority project. We look forward to working with our government and community partners as we raise funds to purchase state-of-the-art medical equipment for the new Emergency Department.”

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