



Government of Yukon

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FOR RELEASE #11-053

April 27, 2011

Whitehorse General Hospital Campus to undergo mid- and long-term planning

WHITEHORSE—The contract to develop a Strategic Facilities Plan and Master Plan for Whitehorse General Hospital Campus has been awarded to Stantec Architecture Ltd. of Vancouver, Health and Social Services Minister Glenn Hart and Yukon Hospital Corporation Board Chair Craig Tuton announced today.

The Yukon Hospital Corporation (YHC) and Government of Yukon first announced plans to look at significant changes to the Whitehorse General Hospital (WGH) buildings and site in February. The Strategic Facilities Plan will examine existing facilities and determine needs for the future. Future use recommendations, cost projections, life cycle costs, and options for new spaces and buildings are anticipated.

The Master Plan will develop a site specific physical plan and will look at many key components including phasing plans, infrastructure and transportation planning, circulation, parking, security, construction estimates and sustainability into the future.

"Recognizing the current pressures on the health care system and the hospital itself, we are very glad to have Stantec on board to begin this process," said Hart. "This will allow us to clearly look to the future health and space needs of the community and the territory, as we continue to grow."

While the Strategic Facilities Plan and Master Plan will address mid- and long-term pressures, Yukon government has also provided funding to the hospital to open six additional in-patient beds to help alleviate immediate pressures at the hospital. This will take the hospital from a 49-bed facility to a 55-bed facility.

"WGH has been under a great deal of pressure over the past 18 months and we are very pleased to have these remaining six beds available for our patients" said Tuton. "Stantec recently designed the Dawson City Hospital as well as the Thomson Centre renovations for the Corporation, and we have been extremely pleased with their work."

Eight proposals were reviewed and evaluated by a Joint Working Group which forwarded its recommendation on to the Joint Steering Committee which represents the hospital corporation, Yukon government, physicians, the Council for Yukon First Nations and the community, for approval. The recommendation was also supported by the Yukon Hospital Corporation Board of Trustees.

Stantec's fees and estimated costs are \$360,286 to be split between Health and Social Services and the YHC. The Strategic Facilities Plan is scheduled for completion by the end of June and the Master Plan is expected to be completed by the end of October.

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