



FOR RELEASE
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Whitehorse continuing care facility moves forward with RFQ release

WHITEHORSE—Phase one of the new Whitehorse continuing care facility took an important step forward yesterday with the release of a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to design and build the facility in Whistle Bend. The RFQ is the first step in the competitive selection process to select a qualified design-build team.

"I am excited to see this project move forward," Health and Social Services Minister Mike Nixon said. "Construction of this new continuing care facility enables us to meet the growing need for more beds for Yukon residents who have specialized health care needs or dementias."

The facility will be designed to be well integrated with the Whistle Bend community. It will feature neighbourhood squares and a village centre, offering residents a sense of home and community.

The 300-bed continuing care facility will be built in two phases. Phase one includes 150 continuing care beds and the support spaces – such as offices, common areas, a loading area, kitchen and laundry – needed to sustain the facility. Phase two includes the addition of 150 beds.

"This project is an important investment in Yukon's future, and a valuable addition to the new subdivision in Whistle Bend," Minister of Highways and Public Works Scott Kent said. "It's going to be a world-class facility and we're excited to be one step closer to getting underway with this essential construction project."

See background below.

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Background

Phase one of the Whitehorse continuing care facility will be delivered using a design-build approach to leverage private sector competition, innovation and expertise while ensuring cost and schedule certainty for Yukon taxpayers. Partnerships BC is supporting Yukon government's delivery of this project through the sharing of its advice, expertise, procurement and project management best practices. Upon completion Yukon government will own and operate the new facility.

The RFQ is accessible at www.bcbid.ca, and closes on May 6. The Yukon government will conduct a rigorous evaluation of the RFQ responses it receives, and expects to announce a shortlist of three teams this summer. The shortlisted teams will be invited to participate in the Request for Proposals (RFP) stage in which they will compete to propose a design and construction solution that will best meet Yukon government's requirements. One of the three teams will be selected as the preferred proponent in December. It is expected that construction of the new facility will commence in the spring of 2016, with completion anticipated in spring, 2018.

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