



FOR RELEASE

June 8, 2015

Whistle Bend continuing care project moves ahead

WHITEHORSE—Three qualified teams have been shortlisted to proceed to the next stage in the competitive selection process to design and build a 150-bed continuing care facility in Whitehorse.

"Today's announcement takes us one step closer to upholding our commitment to Yukon seniors and people who require a higher level of care, with the construction of a new facility to meet the growing demand for long-term care," Minister of Health and Social Services Mike Nixon said.

Six design-build teams responded to the Whistle Bend Continuing Care project Request for Qualifications, which closed on May 6. The responses were evaluated, and three qualified teams have been invited to move forward to the Request for Proposals (RFP) stage. The three shortlisted teams are:

- Lark Group
- PCL Construction
- Sage Healthcare Partners (Bird/Clark Joint Venture)

Once RFP submissions are received and evaluated, the Yukon government will select a preferred proponent and award a design-build contract. Construction is expected to begin in early 2016, with a completion target of mid-2018.

"The number of highly skilled companies that came forward to participate in this project speaks to the significance of this essential new facility," Minister of Highways and Public Works Scott Kent said. "This is going to be one of Yukon's largest-ever capital projects. Among our top priorities now is ensuring that projects like this continue to deliver benefits that support our local industries."

To help ensure the project's benefits are retained locally, the three design-build teams will participate in a business-to-business networking event with Yukon service companies and construction contractors on June 22. Co-sponsored by the Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce and the Yukon Contractors Association, the event will provide an opportunity for local businesses and suppliers to promote their companies and services to all three proponents.

"Our service and construction industries are the engines of the Yukon economy. When the shovels hit the ground, we want to ensure that Yukon companies take full advantage of the opportunities that multiple seasons of construction will bring," Kent added.

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See backgrounder below.

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BACKGROUND

Six teams responded to the RFQ to design and build the Whistle Bend Continuing Care project. After a thorough evaluation of the submissions against the criteria outlined in the RFQ, three teams were shortlisted. In alphabetical order, they are:

Lark Group

- DGBK Architects
- Site Lines Architecture Inc.
- Lark Projects Ltd.
- NGC Builders (Northern Construction Partner)

PCL Construction

- CEI Architecture
- Derek Crawford Architect Inc.
- PCL Constructors Westcoast Inc.

Sage Healthcare Partners (Bird/Clark Joint Venture)

- Stantec Inc.
- Bird Design-Build Construction Inc.
- Clark Builders Northern Inc.

A fairness advisor, John Singleton Q.C. of the law firm Singleton Urquhart LLP, reviewed the RFQ process and found that the evaluation met the criteria of fairness, openness, transparency and integrity.

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