

July 5, 2011

Construction firm selected for Chinook Regional Hospital redevelopment

Edmonton... The Government of Alberta has selected Stuart Olson Dominion Construction Ltd. to manage the construction of the \$112.7-million redevelopment of Chinook Regional Hospital in Lethbridge.

"We are making progress with consultation and planning as the architects and project team continues their work, but for many people, progress is most tangible when they see heavy equipment and workers on an active construction site," said Ray Danyluk, Minister of Infrastructure. "With the selection of the construction management firm, I am pleased to report that this is exactly the phase we are entering."

"Our Health Capital Plan, which complements our 5-Year Health Action Plan, is the most aggressive approach to health infrastructure planning in Canada," said Gene Zwozdesky, Minister of Health and Wellness. "We are increasing access, reducing wait-times, and continuing to build the best-performing publicly funded health system in Canada."

"I am excited that the construction phase is beginning," said Greg Weadick, Minister of Advanced Education and Technology and MLA for Lethbridge-West. "This is a significant milestone for the redevelopment of our hospital, and I look forward to working with our stakeholders to ensure the delivery of quality health infrastructure and care to our city and region."

One of the first steps for the construction manager will be to meet with the prime consultants, Perkins and Will, to review planning and initial design work. By September, the contractor will mobilize on site, setting up offices and preparing for construction. The first work on site will be the interior demolition of the former cancer clinic, which will become an expansion to the day procedures area. Foundation work for the expansion is expected to begin later this fall.

Design work, in consultation with physicians, clinical and other staff and stakeholders is underway. The project is expected to be complete and open by spring 2015. Construction began in August 2010 on a separate \$30 million parkade funded by Alberta Health Services.

Stuart Olson Dominion Construction Ltd. brings extensive hospital renovation experience. They have been responsible for the construction of several health facility projects, including the 2005 Peter Lougheed Hospital Expansion; the Fort St. John Hospital; the Lethbridge Cancer Center; and the Red Deer Hospital renovation. Stuart Olson Dominion Construction Ltd. has over 70 years construction experience in western Canada.

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Chinook Regional Hospital redevelopment details

- The Chinook Regional Hospital redevelopment project will provide a new 19,000 square metre, multi-story addition to the hospital, and will include ambulatory/outpatient care, respiratory, day surgery and pre-op assessment, labour and delivery, and the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.
- About 3,500 square metres of renovations to portions of the existing health centre will also be done. This includes expansion and redevelopment of the day procedures department, the emergency department, and minor renovations on the existing inpatient unit floors.
- The Construction Management Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued to firms short-listed through the Request for Qualifications process on May 25, and closed June 7. Functional programming is expected to be completed mid-summer.
- Alberta Infrastructure is using a construction management approach for the Chinook Regional Hospital redevelopment project. This is a team-based collaborative approach in which the construction manager works closely with the architects from an early phase in the project.
- A construction management approach allows the project managers, clients, architects and the construction manager to strike an early partnership in the process, and to identify potential issues and challenges prior to construction proceeding too far. The construction manager will also oversee all sub-trade tenders, including mechanical and electrical.
- Alberta Infrastructure is working closely with Alberta Health and Wellness and Alberta Health Services to ensure the facility meets the needs of the community and is constructed in a cost-effective manner.
- Alberta Infrastructure is providing technical and professional support to the project team, and is working with Alberta Health Services through a rigorous planning, design and commissioning process to ensure that the new facility meets the project objectives. The project team is also working closely with a clinical liaison from Alberta Health Services.

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