Building a better Alberta



July 5, 2011

Construction firm hired for new High Prairie healthcare centre

Edmonton... The Government of Alberta has selected Graham Construction Ltd. to manage the construction of High Prairie's new healthcare centre.

"We are making progress with consultation and planning as the architects and project team continue their work with stakeholders. The selection of a construction management firm is another important step forward in the process," said Ray Danyluk, Minister of Infrastructure."

"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."

"Our community, including the High Prairie facilities committee, has worked for many years to bring this new healthcare facility to fruition," said Pearl Calahasen, MLA for Lesser Slave Lake. "I look forward to continuing to work with them to ensure we deliver quality health care which meets the people's needs in our new hospital."

Alberta Infrastructure is using a construction management approach with High Prairie's new health complex. 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 work on potential issues and challenges as the project develops.

One of the first steps for the construction manager will be to review planning and design work with the prime consultants, Stantec Architecture Ltd. By September 2011, the contractor will set up offices on site and prepare for construction. The first work on site will include construction of a storm water pond, building access and service roads, and installing and connecting sewer and water lines.

Design work and consultation is continuing, and project completion is anticipated by spring 2013.

Graham Construction Ltd. is a joint-venture multi-disciplinary construction company that has operated in western Canada since 1926. Graham Construction Ltd. has successfully delivered health care-related projects over the last decade through a variety of delivery models including construction management, fixed price, design/build, and public private partnership. The firm also has a dedicated director for health care projects.

Backgrounder: High Prairie healthcare centre project details

Media inquiries may be directed to:

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To call toll free within Alberta dial 310-0000.

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High Prairie healthcare centre project details

- 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 9, 2011.
- Alberta Infrastructure is working closely with Alberta Health and Wellness and Alberta Health Services to ensure the facility meets the needs of the community of High Prairie and region, and is constructed in a cost-effective manner.
- Alberta Infrastructure is providing technical and professional support to the project team, and will work with Alberta Health Services through a rigorous planning, design and commissioning process to ensure that the new facility meets the highest standards.
- The project team is also working closely with a clinical liaison from Alberta Health Services.

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