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Grande Prairie, High Prairie hospitals approved to plan for expansion

Grande Prairie... Peace Country Health will receive funding to complete programming studies for potential health capital projects in Grande Prairie and High Prairie. The exact amount of funding will be determined through a Request for Proposal for each study.

In Grande Prairie, the study will investigate possible redevelopment of the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital with a view to expanding the emergency and day procedure departments. In High Prairie, the replacement of the 25-bed acute care wing at the High Prairie Health Complex will be studied.

"The northern region of the province is experiencing significant growth, and with that comes the need for more health services," said Infrastructure Minister Ty Lund. "We want to ensure Albertans have appropriate access to health services no matter where they live in the province, and this announcement shows our commitment to that goal."

Programming studies outline the scope and cost of capital projects and ensure multi-phase projects are coordinated. The studies are one of the first steps in planning for future capital projects.

"It is critical that Albertans continue to have good access to health care services. To do that, we need to anticipate future demand on the system," said Health and Wellness Minister Gary Mar. "The additional funding for programming studies will help the region more effectively plan for services that regional residents will need."

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