

July 5, 2011

Construction firm hired for new Edson healthcare centre

Edmonton... The Government of Alberta has selected Stuart Olson Dominion Construction Ltd. to manage the construction of Edson's new \$108 million healthcare centre.

"We are making progress with consultation and planning, 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. "I am pleased to report that this is exactly the phase we're 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."

"The importance of the role our community healthcare centre plays in the Edson area cannot be overstated, and I am pleased that this project is now in the construction phase," said Robin Campbell, MLA for Yellowhead West. "Our community has worked together to bring this project to life, and I look forward to continuing to ensure we deliver quality health infrastructure and care for our region."

One of the first steps for the construction manager will be to review planning and initial design work with the prime consultants, Dialog. By September, the contractor will set up offices on site and prepare for construction. The contractor will begin clearing the site, installing sewer and storm water lines, and preparing both internal contractor road systems and a general access road to the site.

Design work and consultations with physicians, clinical and other staff and stakeholders are underway, and are expected to be complete in early 2012. An initial design is expected to be unveiled by early fall 2011. Project completion is anticipated in 2014.

Stuart Olson Dominion Construction Ltd. has built a number of health facilities throughout Alberta, and is knowledgeable in the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standards required for this healthcare centre. LEED is internationally-recognized green building certification system.

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Background: Edson healthcare centre project details

Media inquiries may be directed to:

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- Edson's new health care facility will consolidate services for community health and wellness, primary care, and acute care, significantly improving both access and quality of care in the community.
- Shared space and co-location of various health professionals in the health centre design will support a robust primary care model and bring a whole care team to individuals and families in one location.
- The new facility will improve access and quality of emergency department services and bring advanced technology, facilitating leading edge treatment and care in the community.
- 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. Functional programming is expected to be completed this summer.
- Alberta Infrastructure is using a construction management approach for Edson's new healthcare centre. 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.
- The existing Edson Healthcare Centre opened in 1968.

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