
NEWS RELEASE

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Office of the Premier
Ministry of Health

CELEBRATION MARKS COMPLETION OF HOSPITAL RENOVATIONS

KAMLOOPS – Premier Gordon Campbell today officially marked the completion of a \$27.5-million renovation project that will help provide Thompson Cariboo Shuswap patients with better, more timely care at Royal Inland Hospital (RIH).

“Two years ago, our government joined the community in celebrating the opening of the state-of-the-art Emergency and Medical Imaging Departments. These were significant and needed improvements,” said Campbell. “Today, we are celebrating the fact that patients will be better served by the redesigned, expanded and renovated second floor at Royal Inland Hospital.”

The renovations include a large enclosed and heated ambulance bay, a new and refocused main entrance, a new admissions area, and new and larger spaces for the Orthopedic Clinic and for the Cardiopulmonary Department. Renovations have also allowed all lab and diagnostic services to move to a single floor, resulting in easier access to service for patients.

“As a tertiary hospital and a referral centre for residents throughout the region, it’s exciting to see Royal Inland Hospital and the community benefit from such a large investment,” said Kamloops MLA Claude Richmond.

“The 2nd Floor Redevelopment Project has been a passion for so many individuals for many years. Through funding provided by provincial and local government, and the community at large, I’m glad to see the dream realized,” added Kamloops-North Thompson MLA Kevin Krueger.

The \$27.5-million project is the result of a funding partnership involving the Province and Interior Health (\$13.9 million), the Thompson Regional Hospital District (\$10.5 million) and the Royal Inland Hospital Foundation (\$3.1 million).

“We’re very proud of this project,” said Interior Health Board chair Alan Dolman. “The updates reflect the high calibre of services we provide every day and the redesign is more user-friendly for our patients.”

“This new second floor will serve the needs of our growing region for many years to come,” added John O’Fee, chair of the Thompson Regional Hospital District.

As a partner in the project, the Royal Inland Hospital Foundation raised funds over and above its contribution to the capital costs of the project. A total of \$9.8 million was raised through the New Century Campaign to purchase equipment for health services provided in the renovated areas and expanded floor. The Afternoon and Evening Auxiliaries made the largest campaign gift in the history of the hospital – \$1.25 million. Appropriately, the new second floor will also house a new office for the RIH Foundation.

“The support from the community, from individuals to large corporate donors, and from hospital staff, was unprecedented,” said Rick Arnish, chair of the New Century Campaign. “All involved knew how important this project was to serve the present and future health care needs of our communities.”

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