



## NEWS RELEASE

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## LAND TRANSFER FOR NEW SURREY OUTPATIENT HOSPITAL

SURREY – Another milestone has been reached in the planning and construction of the new Surrey Outpatient Hospital, with the transfer of 2.3 hectares (5.8 acres) of Crown land to Fraser Health upon which the new approximately 14,000-square-metre (150,000-square-foot) facility will be built.

"Across British Columbia, we are investing hundreds of millions of dollars in modern, state-ofthe-art facilities to deliver safe, high quality patient care today and for the future," said Health Minister George Abbott. "As we are seeing with the Abbotsford Regional Hospital and Cancer Centre and the Gordon and Leslie Diamond Health Care Centre, public-private partnerships can give taxpayers financial protection in a very competitive construction market."

Surrey Outpatient Hospital will be located on the corner of 140<sup>th</sup> St. and the Fraser Highway, at an estimated capital cost of \$151 million. The site is Crown land that was owned by the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands and transferred to Fraser Health for \$1 million.

"Surrey is one of the fastest growing cities in British Columbia with outpatient visits at Surrey Memorial expected to grow by 60 per cent by 2020," said Surrey-Tynehead MLA Dave Hayer. "We are moving forward in our plans for new outpatient hospital as part of our strategy to meet the health care needs in Surrey and decrease congestion at Surrey Memorial Hospital."

The transfer took place after the land to be granted was surveyed and the survey description of the right of way across the land was done.

"As minister responsible for the management of Crown land, I am committed to making Crown land decisions based on balancing social, environmental and economic interests," said Minister of Agriculture and Lands Pat Bell. "The decision to transfer Crown land for the new Surrey Outpatient Hospital was the right one, as the facility will serve the community for years to come."

Construction is expected to begin in 2008, with completion targeted for early 2010.

Three short-listed proponents were selected in May 2007 to design, build, finance and maintain the new Surrey Outpatient Hospital. The three groups are BC Healthcare Solutions, Infusion Health and Plenary Health.

The new outpatient hospital is part of the Surrey Health Services Capacity Initiative with a value of more than \$200 million to address Surrey's future health needs and ease congestion at Surrey Memorial Hospital. The initiative includes plans for a new state-of-the-art emergency and urgent care facility at Surrey Memorial Hospital to triple existing floor space; a new perinatal care facility above the new emergency facility; and, renovations at Surrey Memorial Hospital and new construction to create more renal stations and additional acute care beds.

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