

For Immediate Release | August 4, 2011

Interior Health awards contract for North Okanagan residential care beds

The building of 46 publicly funded residential care beds in the North Okanagan moved forward today with the signing of a contract with inSite Housing, Hospitality & Health Services (inSite), Vernon-Monashee MLA Eric Foster has announced.

"This is great news for the North Okanagan," said MLA Foster. "This is a brand new facility that will be built in Lumby adjacent to the Health Centre, making it a very convenient location."

In response to Interior Health's request for proposals for the design, construction and operation of the new beds, eight proposals were submitted. After careful evaluation, inSite emerged as the successful proponent.

"Interior Health is pleased to once again be working with inSite," said Norman Embree, IH Board Chair. "We know that this new facility will provide the appropriate level of care in the best possible setting."

The RFP sought proposals from operators with experience in residential care project development and operation. inSite operates senior's independent, supportive, and assisted living communities throughout the province. Interior Health has partnered with inSite in the past to operate or mentor assisted and residential care villages in Sicamous, Revelstoke, Lake Country, Kelowna, Keremeos, Golden, Barriere, Ashcroft, and Grand Forks. They were also recently announced as the successful proponent to build 71 new publicly-funded residential care beds in Salmon Arm.

"We enjoy a strong working relationship with Interior Health and we look forward to expanding this relationship to the community of Lumby," said Carole Holmes, inSite's Board Chair.

Work on the new facility is expected to begin in November 2011 with estimated completion in November 2012. The new facility will be built on two lots adjacent to Interior Health's Lumby Health Centre on Norris Avenue.

The 46 beds are part of 527 residential care beds announced by Interior Health last December. The new units are needed to meet the growing needs of an aging population.

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