



WEST KOOTENAY-BOUNDARY REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT

Spotlight

November 2012

CASTLEGAR HEALTH CENTRE

On November 21st, the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Board and Staff toured the Castlegar & District Community Health Centre. The centre provides emergency services from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily and serves over 10,000 patients a year.

The site also offers a vast array of services:

- Acquired Brain Injury
- Blood Pressure Monitoring
- Community Rehabilitative Services
- Diabetic Education
- Diagnostic Imaging
- Healthy Heart Program
- Home and Community Care
- Home Care Nursing
- Home Support Services
- Laboratory
- Mental health
- Nutrition Counseling
- Physiotherapy
- Public Health
- Residential Care
- Respiratory Services
- Screening Programs (e.g. Osteoporosis)
- Sexual Health Clinic
- Smoking Cessation Program
- Volunteer Services
- Well Baby Clinic
- Women's Health Exams



Hospital Board Directors see a Telehealth demonstration.

The Board saw a demonstration of Telehealth, which enables patients, their families and their health care providers to connect with clinical specialists and physicians in larger centres. Every health facility in our hospital district has this capability which is important for residents and health care providers in rural areas.

Cheryl Whittleton, Acting Administrator of Integrated Community Health Services, and Jennifer Moll, a speech-language pathologist, showed the Board how easy it is to connect with patients using this technology. Ms. Moll said that 30—50% of her appointments are conducted via Telehealth.

Ms. Whittleton also showed the Board a room which is currently being renovated to house an electroencephalogram (EEG), which measures electrical activity of the brain. The Castlegar Hospital Auxiliary is funding the renovation of the room.

The Hospital Auxiliary has also funded the purchase of several pieces of equipment at the centre. The Board appreciates the incredible efforts of all of our hospital auxiliaries—your efforts to improve health care in our region are truly appreciated and valued.

Ms. Whittleton concluded the tour of the centre at Talarico Place, which provides long-term care for 60 residents who require 24-hour assistance.

The Board thanks Ms. Whittleton and her staff for the comprehensive and informative tour and congratulates them on delivering so many important services to area residents.

For more information about the health centre, please visit <http://www.castlegarhospitalfoundation.org/health-care-services/castlegar-district-community-health-centre/>



WKBRHD TO HELP PURCHASE NEW CT SCANNER



The WKBRHD will contribute \$200,000 to fund the purchase of a new CT scanner for Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital. The reliability of the existing scanner has not been optimal, thus prompting the need for a replacement. The manufacturer of the scanner has offered to replace the unit with a new Optima 660 model for \$500,000 (approximately half the cost of a scanner). The unit has the benefit of emitting lower doses of radiation, a feature that is not currently offered. Interior Health will fund the remaining \$300,000.

RETIRING BOARD SECRETARY HONOURED

Board Secretary Jim Gustafson attended his last WKBRHD meeting on November 21st as he has retired.

“Thank you for your dedication, support and commitment to the Board,” said Chair Rotvold.

Todd Mastel and Ingrid Hampf of Interior Health also made a presentation to Mr. Gustafson and commended him on helping to improve the relationship between the hospital board and the health authority.

Mr. Gustafson praised the Board, saying it “has always conducted its affairs with enthusiasm, decorum and most importantly, a collective sense of well-being for the people of the entire hospital district.”



Todd Mastel and Ingrid Hampf of Interior Health with Jim Gustafson (right)

FACILITY STUDY UNDERWAY

The WKBRHD is pleased to report that the facility study, which has been a Board priority, is being undertaken by the Ministry of Health and the Interior Health Authority. Consultants are currently assessing the condition of health facilities in our regional health district and will report their findings in May 2013. Stay tuned for more information.



Jim Gustafson (left), Brian Carruthers (middle), Chair Rotvold (right)

NEW BOARD SECRETARY WELCOMED

Mr. Brian Carruthers, who was recently hired as the CAO of the Regional District of Central Kootenay, was welcomed as the new Board Secretary. Mr. Carruthers looks forward to working with the hospital board and Interior Health.



BOARD LOOKING AT ITS FINANCIAL FUTURE

Former Secretary Jim Gustafson submitted a report to the Board regarding its future capital needs. [*The mandate of the hospital board is to provide funding for hospital equipment and capital projects*].

Mr. Gustafson suggested the Board to build its reserves to maintain and improve its facilities, as “major” expenditures are anticipated in the future. Currently, the Board sets aside \$1 million per annum for reserves. Mr. Gustafson recommended that the Board discuss and assess its present fiscal position and determine whether or not the annual contribution to reserves should stay at \$1 million per year or be increased.

The issue will be discussed at the January Board meeting in Castlegar. The public is invited to attend.



Did You Know...

That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District is the **largest** hospital board in the Province with 30 Directors representing two regional districts?



UPCOMING 2013 BOARD MEETINGS

January 23	6 p.m.	Castlegar Community Complex
February 27	6 p.m.	Castlegar Community Complex
March 27	6 p.m.	Castlegar Community Complex
May 22	6 p.m.	Kaslo (<i>site to be determined</i>)
October 23	6 p.m.	Castlegar Community Complex
November 27	6 p.m.	Castlegar Community Complex

The public is invited to attend Board meetings.



SPECIAL GUEST AT NEXT BOARD MEETING

Andrew Neuner, Interior Health Vice President—Community Integration will present a portfolio update at the January 23rd, 2013 WKBRHD Board meeting in Castlegar. The meeting will start at 6 p.m.

If any community groups wish to make a presentation to the hospital board at the meeting, please contact Anitra Winje before January 15th at 250.352.8166 or awinje@rdck.bc.ca.