

# Spotlight

November 2013

## INTERIOR HEALTH UNVEILS STUDY ON HEALTH FACILITIES IN OUR REGION

Interior Health presented the highly anticipated *Facility Condition Index* at the November 27<sup>th</sup> meeting of the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District. The Index is an assessment tool or indicator that will help Interior Health identify capital priorities. As the WKBRHD funds up to 40% of capital projects as prioritized by Interior Health, the report will be a resource for the hospital board when IH comes with requests.

The report does not address services, only buildings. It provides a current snapshot of a facility's condition compared to what it was like when it was first constructed. The Index is one tool to use when considering whether a health facility should be upgraded or replaced.

Not all of the facilities listed in the assessment fall within the WKBRHD's mandate.

The WKBRHD was the first to go through the facility condition assessment, which is a government-mandated process.

"Taxpayers will need to pay in order to just sustain our health care facilities at their current level," noted Chair Marguerite Rotvold.

Interior Health said it will post the Facility Condition Index on its website at [www.interiorhealth.ca](http://www.interiorhealth.ca).



## 2014 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

January 22	Castlegar Community Complex	6 p.m.
March 26	Castlegar Community Complex	6 p.m.
June 25	Castlegar Community Complex	6 p.m.
October 22	Castlegar Community Complex	6 p.m.
November 26	Castlegar Community Complex	6 p.m.

The public is welcome to attend Board meetings. Agendas & refreshments are available at meetings.



## WKBRHD & KLH Foundation to buy X-ray machine

The WKBRHD and the Kootenay Lake Hospital Foundation are partnering to purchase a new



C-Arm portable X-ray machine for the Kootenay Lake Hospital. Originally, Interior Health had intended on funding 60% of the cost of the unit. However, now that the Foundation is covering that share, Interior Health will use its funds for a renovation project on the fourth floor of the hospital. A win-win for everyone! Thank you to the Foundation for continuing to so generously support health care in the community.



*The Board and Staff of the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season and an equally wonderful 2014!*

## Getting & Keeping Doctors

How to attract physicians and medical specialists to rural areas was the focus of a meeting on November 22<sup>nd</sup> in Kelowna. Chair Rotvold attended the workshop along with fellow elected officials, staff from Interior Health and the Ministry of Health, and physicians. She reported that various methods have been successfully used by communities to recruit physicians. Many doctors are now willing to work part-time and share practices. In Princeton and Elkford, five or six doctors provide services previously delivered by two physicians. Chair Rotvold will forward the written report to the Board once it has been made available.

“Sustaining health care services today is more challenging than it has been in the past and it will become even more challenging,” said Chair Rotvold. “We all have to work together as we are all partners in health care.”

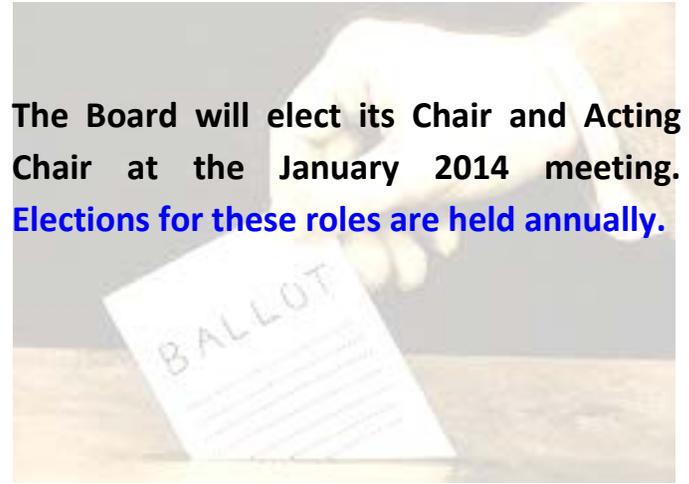


## Rural Doctors Apply Here!

Physicians recruited to rural communities within Interior Health may be eligible for the following incentives offered by the Rural Practice Programs Office of the Ministry of Health: Rural Recruitment Incentive, Rural Retention Premium/Flat (quarterly bonus), Rural Continuing Medical Education funding (CME), and Rural GP and/or Specialist Locum Program. Please visit the Interior Health website for more information: <http://www.interiorhealth.ca/AboutUs/Physicians/Pages/PhysicianRecruitment.aspx>



## Upcoming Business



**The Board will elect its Chair and Acting Chair at the January 2014 meeting. Elections for these roles are held annually.**



The Board is requesting that Interior Health staff attend the March 2014 meeting and provide a service delivery model and analysis of health care needs in the WKBRHD.



The Board will also invite a representative from the Patient Care Quality Review Board office to a future Board meeting to discuss complaints that have arisen concerning facilities in the regional hospital district.



## Did you know...

That in 2008, the Provincial introduced the *Patient Care Quality Review Board Act* to establish a clear, consistent, timely and transparent approach to managing patient care quality complaints in British Columbia. This process provides patients in BC with the opportunity to better resolve concerns and further improve the quality of the health care system.

If you have a concern about the quality of care that you or a loved one is receiving, it is best to raise this concern at the time and place care is being provided. However, if this does not address your concern, or you would like to make a formal care quality complaint, you are encouraged to contact the [Patient Care Quality Office](http://www.patientcarequalityreviewboard.ca/) in your health region. – text from the following website: <http://www.patientcarequalityreviewboard.ca/>

