

Spotlight

March 2014

TAXES DOWN, RESERVES UP WKBRHD Board passes Budget

Taxpayers in the hospital district will pay 16% less in taxes in 2014 while still contributing \$2 million to the Board's capital reserve fund.

That was the decision of the Board at its meeting on March 26th.

Hospital Board Treasurer Stuart Horn presented the Board with three budget scenarios, all of which would have resulted in a tax reduction.

"The capital funding request from Interior Health was approximately \$900,000 less than last year's ask," said Horn. "Therefore, the Board is able to reduce taxation."

The average tax rate for households in 2013 was \$0.35 per \$1000 of assessment. That has dropped to \$0.29 per \$1000 in 2014.

The annual budget for the hospital district in 2014 is \$7,026,896. Currently, the Board has \$5.7 million in its capital reserve fund.

To view the 2013 Financial Statements of the Board, Please visit <http://www.rdck.ca/EN/main/wkbr-hospital.html>



2014 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

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.

Spotlight is a publication of the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District. For more information about meetings or the Board, please call Anitra Winje at 250.352.8166 or visit <http://www.rdck.ca/EN/main/wkbr-hospital.html> to view agendas, minutes, meeting schedules and newsletters.

Board Welcomes New Directors



Mayor Joe Danchuk of the Village of Montrose has been appointed to the WKBRHD. The Board extends a warm welcome to Director Danchuk. The alternate director for the Village of Montrose is Don Berriault.



Director Nipper Kettle of the City of Greenwood has been re-appointed to the hospital Board. Welcome back, Director Kettle! Director Kettle's alternate is Darla Ashton.



Plan to be at June Meeting

Interior Health staff Donna Lommer, Chief Financial Officer, and Norma Malanowich, Chief Project Officer & Corporate Director, Capital Planning & P3 Projects, will attend the June 26th meeting to provide a service delivery model and analysis of health care needs in the regional hospital district.



All A-Board

The hospital Board will be coming to the following communities in 2015 to conduct its meetings:

- Nelson
- Trail
- Grand Forks
- Nakusp
- Kaslo
- Castlegar

Currently, meetings are held in Castlegar. However, the Board wants to engage more of the public in their communities and improve accessibility to meetings. This approach also allows Directors to view the health facilities in the WKBRHD and assess their needs.

A schedule of these meetings will be published late in 2014.

YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK

The Board approved all of Interior Health's requests for capital funding for 2014/2015 (please see the last issue of *Spotlight* for major capital projects jointly funded by the WKBRD: <https://rdck.crayon.ca/web/RDCK/RDCK/Templates/standard.aspx?id=76>) Included in the budget are Global Grant Items, which are those projects that cost between \$5,000 and \$100,000:

Boundary Hospital	Diagnostic Imaging	Single CR Reader	\$77,000	\$30,800	\$30,800
Boundary Hospital	Laboratory	Urinalysis Analyzer	\$9,100	\$3,640	\$3,640
Castlegar Community Health Centre	Diagnostic Imaging	Single CR Reader	\$61,000	\$24,400	\$24,400
East Shore Community Health Centre	Laboratory	ECG Analyzer	\$17,300	\$6,920	\$6,920
Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital	Medical	Acute Care Bed	\$7,800	\$3,120	\$3,120
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Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital	Medical	Acute Care Bed	\$7,800	\$3,120	\$3,120
Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital	Surgical	Acute Care Beds	\$7,800	\$3,120	\$3,120
Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital	Surgical	Acute Care Beds	\$7,800	\$3,120	\$3,120
Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital	MDR	Instrument Washer 444	\$59,500	\$23,800	\$23,800
Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital	Electrocardiography (ECG)	Stress Testing System	\$52,400	\$20,960	\$20,960
Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital	Laboratory	Micro - Anoxomat	\$25,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital	Laboratory	Urinalysis Analyzer	\$60,000	\$24,000	\$24,000
Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital	Laboratory	Centrifuge	\$20,000	\$8,000	\$8,000
Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital	Diagnostic Imaging	Console Upgrades for KBH	\$32,000	\$12,800	\$12,800
Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital	Operating Room	System 6 cordless power tools	\$26,300	\$10,520	\$10,520
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Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital	Laboratory	Fume Hood	\$37,000	\$14,800	\$14,800
Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital	Surgical	Cardiac Output Monitor - ERACS	\$28,000	\$8,160	\$8,160
Kootenay Lake Hospital	Emergency	Cast Cutter with vacuum	\$5,400	\$2,160	\$2,160
Kootenay Lake Hospital	Laboratory	Stress Test System	\$58,200	\$23,280	\$23,280
Kootenay Lake Hospital	Diagnostic Imaging	Single CR Readers x 2	\$99,000	\$39,600	\$39,600
Kootenay Lake Hospital	Laboratory	Fume Hood	\$28,500	\$11,400	\$11,400
Kootenay Lake Hospital	Operating Room	Colonoscopy or EGD scope	\$35,500	\$14,200	\$14,200
Kootenay Lake Hospital	Food Services	Dishwasher	\$86,600	\$34,640	\$34,640
Slocan Community Health Centre	Laboratory	Chemistry Analyzer	\$30,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
Slocan Community Health Centre	Residential Care	Ceiling lift motors x 4	\$16,000	\$6,400	\$6,400
Victorian Community Health Centre of Kaslo	Laboratory	ECG Machine	\$19,200	\$7,680	\$7,680
TOTAL			\$956,100	\$379,400	\$379,400

TRAIL HOSPITAL UNDER THE MICROSCOPE



Interior Health is investigating current pressures and challenges facing KBR Hospital in Trail. Interior Health told the WKBRHD Board that the facility has flow and space issues in ambulatory care, the pharmacy and the emergency department.

Interior Health has contracted professionals to assess these areas; the health authority will report the findings to the hospital Board at its June meeting.

"We want to ensure we can provide good care at KBRH over the next 10 years in an efficient manner," said Ingrid Hampf, Acute Care Director for Kootenay Boundary. She noted that as the assessments are operational in nature, that Interior Health would be funding the studies.

Attention Pointed at Arrow Facility

The Board resolved to send a letter to Cheryl Whittleton of Interior Health expressing the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District's desire that the Arrow Lakes Hospital emergency department upgrade be considered a planning priority.

WKBRHD takes Act-ion

The WKBRHD asked the Ministry of Health for interpretation on language in the *Hospital District Act*, which is the governing legislation of hospital districts in the Province. Specifically, the Board desired clarity around hospital districts' prescribed mandate. The Act contains the word "operate" and the Board wanted to know how this term should be interpreted.

The Ministry of Health has advised the WKBRHD that Regional Hospital Districts "were created with the purpose of providing funds and sharing the capital cost of hospital projects with the Province of British Columbia" and that the "primary role of RHDs is to provide the municipal share of capital funding for health facilities, medical equipment, and information management technology required to deliver health services."

The Ministry affirmed that the "mandate of RHDs does not include operating health facilities or participation in health authorities' decisions regarding delivery of health services."

The Ministry informed the WKBRHD that it has commenced a review of the Act in order to amend that language which is unclear or confusing.

In response, the WKBRHD has asked if it intends to consult with Regional Hospital District regarding the review of the legislation.

To read the Hospital District Act, please visit http://www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/00_96202_01