



## WEST KOOTENAY-BOUNDARY REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT

### WEST KOOTENAY BOUNDARY REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

#### Open Meeting Agenda

**Date:** Wednesday, January 28, 2026

**Time:** 6:00 pm

**Location:** Hybrid Model - In-person and Remote

Directors will have the opportunity to participate in the meeting electronically. Proceedings are open to the public.

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Pages

#### 1. ZOOM REMOTE MEETING INFO

To promote openness, transparency and provide accessibility to the public we provide the ability to attend the WKBRHD meetings in-person or remote (hybrid model).

##### Meeting Time:

6:00 p.m. PST

##### Join by Video:

<https://rdck-bc-ca.zoom.us/j/92552748566?pwd=Wxv0pyVwN6b1QknuGNqRcLbxd26dz.1>

##### Join by Phone:

833 958 1164 Canada Toll-free

\*6 to unmute or mute

\*9 to raise or lower your hand

**Meeting ID:** 925 5274 8566

**Meeting Password:** 174991

**In-Person Location:** The Confluence - 1995 6th Ave. Castlegar BC

#### 2. CALL TO ORDER

Stuart Horn, Secretary/Treasurer, will assume the chair at \_\_\_\_ p.m.

#### 3. ELECTION

### **3.1 ELECTION OF BOARD CHAIR**

1. Call for Nominations (3 Times)
2. Opportunity for Candidates to Address the Board - Two minutes per address.
3. Vote by Secret Ballot (in accordance with Electronic Voting in Section 5 of the WKBRHD Procedures Bylaw)
4. Declaration of Elected or Acclaimed Board Chair
5. Destroy Ballots

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the ballots used in the election of the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital Board Chair be destroyed.

### **3.2 ELECTION OF ACTING CHAIR**

1. Call for Nominations (3 Times)
2. Opportunity for Candidates to Address the Board - Two minutes per address.
3. Vote by Secret Ballot (in accordance with Electronic Voting in Section 5 of the WKBRHD Procedures Bylaw)
4. Declaration of Elected or Acclaimed Acting Chair

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the ballots used in the election of the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Acting Chair be destroyed.

### **3.3 CHAIR'S ADDRESS**

### **3.4 ACTING CHAIR'S ADDRESS**

## **4. COMMENCEMENT OF BOARD MEETING**

### **4.1 TRADITIONAL LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT**

We acknowledge and respect the Indigenous peoples within whose traditional lands we are meeting today.

### **4.2 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the agenda for the January 28, 2026 West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Board meeting be adopted as circulated.

### **4.3 RECEIPT OF MINUTES**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The June 26, 2025 West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital Board

meeting minutes be adopted.

## 4.4 WKBRHD APPOINTMENTS

### 4.4.1 Appointment of Directors

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the following Regional District Directors/Alternate Directors be appointed as **Directors** of the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District for 2026:

#### **Regional District of Central Kootenay**

Garry Jackman, Electoral Area A  
Aimee Watson, Electoral Area D  
Cheryl Graham, Electoral Area E  
Tom Newell, Electoral Area F  
Hans Cunningham, Electoral Area G  
Walter Popoff, Electoral Area H  
Andy Davidoff, Electoral Area I  
Henny Hanegraaf, Electoral Area J  
Teresa Weatherhead, Electoral Area K  
Brian Bogle, City of Castlegar  
Suzan Hewat, Village of Kaslo  
Aidan McLaren-Caux, Village of Nakusp  
Keith Page, City of Nelson  
Leonard Casley, Village of New Denver  
Diana Lockwood, Village of Salmo  
Leah Main, Village of Silverton  
Ezra Buller, Village of Slocan

#### **Regional District of Kootenay Boundary**

Ali Grieve, Electoral Area A  
Linda Worley, Electoral Area B  
Grace McGregor, Electoral Area C  
Linda Kay Wiese, Electoral Area D  
Sharen Gibbs, Electoral Area E  
Bill Wenman, Village of Fruitvale  
Everett Baker, City of Grand Forks  
John Bolt City of Greenwood  
Richard Dunsdon, Village of Midway  
Paul Caron, Village of Montrose  
Jeff Weaver, City of Rossland  
Terry Martin, City of Trail  
Frank Marino, Village of Warfield

### 4.4.2 Appointment of Alternate Directors

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the following Regional District Directors/Alternate Directors be appointed as **Alternate Directors** of the West Kootenay-

Boundary Regional Hospital District for 2026:

**Regional District of Central Kootenay**

Gina Medhurst, Area A  
Victoria McAllister, Area D  
Josh Smienk, Area E  
Eric White Area F  
Isabelle Herzig, Area G  
Amanda Verigin, Area H  
Andy Ozeroff, Area I  
Rick Smith, Area J  
Paul Peterson, Area K  
Maria McFaddin, City of Castlegar  
Robert Lang, Village of Kaslo  
Tom Zeleznik, Village of Nakusp  
Jesse Woodward, City of Nelson  
John Fyke, Village of New Denver  
Payton Mckellar, Village of Salmo  
Tanya Gordon, Village of Silverton  
Jessica Lunn, Village of Slocan

**Regional District of Kootenay Boundary**

Kirby Epp, Area A  
Bill Edwards, Area B  
Cam Donergan, Area C  
Mona Mattai, Area D  
Grant Harfman Area E  
Catherine Guesford, Village of Fruitvale  
Rod Zielinski, City of Grand Forks  
Gerry Shaw, City of Greenwood  
Judy Willsey, Village of Midway  
Mike Walsh, Village of Montrose  
Andy Morel, City of Rossland  
Colleen Jones, City of Trail  
Carolyn Amantea, Village of Warfield

#### **4.4.3 Appointment of the Executive Committee**

*Note: If an Executive Committee election occurs, the same election procedures used for Chair and Acting Chair will apply.*

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the following Directors, in addition to the Chair and Acting Chair, are hereby appointed to the Executive Committee of the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital Board for 2026:

Arrow  
Lakes/Slocan/Castlegar/Nakusp: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kootenay (Kaslo/Nelson/Salmo): \_\_\_\_\_  
Boundary: \_\_\_\_\_  
Greater Trail: \_\_\_\_\_

## 4.5 DELEGATIONS

### 4.5.1 Interior Health Authority

Matt Wilkie, Corporate Director, Business Operations  
Lannon de Best, Executive Director, Clinical Operations – Kootenay Boundary

#### 4.5.1.1 Capital Project Status Report

20 - 58

The presentation dated January 28, 2026 from Lannon de Best and Matt Wilkie, re: Capital Project Status Report West Kootenay Boundary, has been received.

#### 4.5.1.2 2026/27 Capital Funding Request

59 - 89

The presentation dated January 28, 2026 from Lannon de Best and Matt Wilkie; re: 2026/27 Capital Funding Request, has been received.

## 4.6 BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES

### 4.6.1 For Information: WKBRHD Letter - Health Connections Transit Times

90

At the June 26, 2025 WKBRHD Board meeting, the following resolution was passed:

*60/25 That the Board request that the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Transportation and Transit increase health connection transit times to improve rural health access.*

The letter was sent to the Minister of Transportation and the Minister of Health on August 19, 2025.

### 4.6.2 For Information: Ministry of Transportation and Transit Response Letter - Health Connection Services

91 - 92

The response letter dated November 18, 2025 from Minister Farnworth, Ministry of Transportation and Transit, re: Health Connection Service, has been received.

### 4.6.3 For Information: WKBRHD Letter - Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital (KBRH) Secondary Access Road

93 - 94

At the June 26, 2025 WKBRHD Board meeting, the following resolution was passed:

*59/25 That the Board endorses an immediate risk assessment by the Interior Health Authority for a second access to the Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital to address a risk and liability.*

The letter was sent to Interior Health on August 19, 2025.

## 4.7 NEW BUSINESS

4.7.1	<b>Chair's Report</b> The Chair's Report from 2025 WKBRHD Board Chair Baker, has been received.	95 - 98
4.7.2	<b>Interior Health Capital Funding Request for the 2026/27 Fiscal Year</b> The letter dated December 22, 2025 from Nicole Elliot, Chief Financial Officer, re: Capital Funding Request for the 2026/27 Fiscal Year, has been received.	99 - 104
	<b>RECOMMENDATION:</b> That the WKBRHD Board consider funding each of the items in the Interior Health Authority's 2026 funding request and that staff be directed to prepare the necessary bylaws for Board review and decision at the March 25, 2026 Board meeting.	
4.7.3	<b>WKBRHD Accounts Payable Summary</b> The WKBRHD Accounts Payable Summary from the RDCK Finance Department for June - December 2025, has been received.	105 - 108
4.7.4	<b>For Information: 2025 UBCM Provincial Meeting Summary Notes</b> The Report dated September 24, 2025 from Stuart Horn, Secretary/Treasurer, re: 2025 UBCM Provincial Meeting Summary Notes, has been received.	109 - 110
4.7.5	<b>2026 WKBRHD Board Meeting Dates</b> Note: As October meetings are typically cancelled due to a lack of business, and given the general local election this year, staff recommend that the October meeting not be scheduled.	
	<b>RECOMMENDATION:</b> That the 2026 WKBRHD Board meeting dates be set as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wednesday January 28,</li><li>• Wednesday March 25,</li><li>• Wednesday, June 24.</li></ul>	
4.8	<b>QUESTION PERIOD FOR PUBLIC AND MEDIA</b> The Chair will call for questions from the public and members of the media at _____ p.m.	
4.9	<b>ADJOURNMENT</b> <b>RECOMMENDATION:</b> The meeting be adjourned at _____ p.m.	



# WEST KOOTENAY-BOUNDARY REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT

## REGULAR OPEN MEETING MINUTES

The **third** regular meeting of the Board of the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District for the year 2025 was held on Thursday, June 26, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. through a hybrid meeting model.

Quorum was maintained for the duration of the meeting.

### ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Chair E. Baker	RDKB City of Grand Forks	In-Person
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#### (RDCK)

Director G. Jackman	Area A	In-Person
Director A. Watson	Area D	
Alternate Director J. Smienk	Area E	
Director H. Cunningham	Area G	In-Person
Director W. Popoff	Area H	In-Person
Director A. Davidoff	Area I	
Director B. Bogle	City of Castlegar	In-Person
Director S. Hewat	Village of Kaslo	In-Person
Director A. McLaren-Caux	Village of Nakusp	
Director K. Page	City of Nelson	In-Person
Director D. Lockwood	Village of Salmo	
Director L. Main	Village of Silverton	In-Person
Director E. Buller	Village of Slocan	In-Person

#### (RDKB)

Director A. Grieve	Area A	
Director L. Worley	Area B	In-Person
Director G. McGregor	Area C	In-Person
Director L. Wiese	Area D	In-Person
Director S. Gibbs	Area E	In-Person
Director C. Guesford	Village of Fruitvale	In-Person
Director C. Rhodes	City of Greenwood	
Director J. Willsey	Village of Midway	In-Person
Director J. Weaver	City of Rossland	
Director T. Martin	City of Trail	In-Person

Director F. Marino

## Village of Warfield

## **ELECTED DIRECTORS ABSENT:**

Director C. Graham	RDCK Area E
Director T. Newell	RDCK Area F
Director H. Hanegraaf	RDCK Area I
Director T. Weatherhead	RDCK Area K
Director L. Casley	Village of New Denver
Director B. Wenman	Village of Fruitvale
Director D. Berriault	Village of Montrose

## STAFF PRESENT

## INTERIOR HEALTH

T. Mastel	Corporate Director, Business Operations
M. Wilkie	Corporate Director, Business Operations
J. Chernoff	Chief Operation Officer, IH South
L. de Best	Executive Director, Clinical Operations – Kootenay Boundary

## GUESTS

Honourable Brittney Anderson	Minister of State for Local Governments and Rural Communities, MLA Nelson-Creston
Honourable Steve Morissette	Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Development, MLA Kootenay-Monashee
MLA Donegal Wilson	MLA Boundary-Similkameen

## 1. ZOOM REMOTE MEETING INFO

To promote openness, transparency and provide accessibility to the public we provide the ability to attend the WKBRHD meetings in-person or remote (hybrid model).

## Meeting Time:

6:00 p.m.

## Join by Video:

<https://rdck-bc-ca.zoom.us/j/92552748566?pwd=Wxv0PyVwN6b1QknuGNqRcLbzxd26dz.1>

### Join by Phone:

833 958 1164 Canada Toll-free  
\*6 to unmute or mute  
\*9 to raise or lower your hand

**Meeting ID:** 925 5274 8566  
**Meeting Password:** 174991

**In-Person Location:** The Confluence - 1995 6th Ave., Castlegar, BC.

**2. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Baker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**3. TRADITIONAL LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT**

We acknowledge and respect the Indigenous peoples within whose traditional lands we are meeting today.

**4. MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (MLA) SESSION**

(See Appendix A for detailed session notes.)

**4.1 Chair's Opening Remarks**

The Chair welcomed the Honourable Brittny Anderson, Minister of State for Local Governments and Rural Communities, MLA Nelson-Creston; Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Development Steve Morissette, MLA Kootenay-Monashee; and MLA Donegal Wilson, Boundary-Similkameen to the Board meeting.

**4.2 Introductions**

The MLA's provided a brief introduction of themselves to the Board.

**4.3 Question and Answer Period**

The Chair asked the MLA's pre-prepared questions from the Board regarding rural health care and took questions from the floor.

**4.4 Chair's Closing Remarks**

The Chair thanked the MLA's for attending the Board meeting.

**RECESS/** The meeting recessed at 7:09 p.m. for a break and reconvened at 7:20 p.m.  
**RECONVENE**

**5. COMMENCEMENT OF BOARD MEETING**

**5.1 Adoption Of The Agenda**

Moved and seconded,  
And resolved:

56/25 The agenda for the June 26, 2025 West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital Board meeting be adopted as circulated.

**Carried**

**5.2 Receipt of Minutes**

**5.2.1 WKBRHD Board Meeting Minutes - March 26, 2025**

Moved and seconded,

And resolved:

57/25

The March 26, 2025 West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital Board meeting minutes be adopted.

**Carried**

**5.2.2 WKBRHD Executive Meeting Minutes - May 22, 2025**

The minutes from the May 22, 2025 WKBRHD Executive Committee meeting have been received for information.

**5.3 DELEGATIONS**

**5.3.1 Interior Health Authority**

Todd Mastel, Corporate Director, Business Operations

Matt Wilkie, Corporate Director, Business Operations

Lannon de Best, Executive Director, Clinical Operations – Kootenay Boundary

Jaymi Chernoff, Chief Operation Officer, Interior Health (IH) South.

Todd Mastel introduced Matt Wilkie, who will be replacing him in his role when he retires and Jaymi Chernoff.

**5.3.1.1 Capital Project Status Report**

The presentation dated June 26, 2025 from Todd Mastel, Corporate Director, Business Operations; Matt Wilkie, Corporate Director, Business Operations; Lannon de Best, Executive Director, Clinical Operations; and Jaymi Chernoff, Chief Operating Officer, Clinical Operations, re: Capital Project Status Report, has been received.

Lannon de Best provided an update to the Board regarding the Nelson Health Campus.

Todd Mastel provided an overview to the Board regarding the Global Grant Summary - Capital equipment less than \$100K.

**5.3.1.2 Clinical Operations Update**

The presentation dated June 26, 2025 from Lannon de Best, re: Clinical Operations Update to WKB Regional Hospital District, has been received.

Lannon de Best provided an update to the Board regarding the clinical operations. He reviewed the small site renewal program, seasonal preparedness, health human resources and measles.

#### **5.4 NEW BUSINESS**

##### **5.4.1 Chair's Report**

Chair Baker provide an overview to the Board the Interior Health/Regional Health District Chairs meeting he attended in April.

##### **5.4.2 Appointment Of Alternate Director - Village of Fruitvale**

Moved and seconded,

And resolved:

58/25

That Catherine Guesford be appointed as an Alternate Director of the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District for 2025 representing the Village of Fruitvale.

**Carried**

##### **5.4.3 2025 UBCM Meeting Priority Topics**

The 2025 WKBRHD Briefing Note from Stuart Horn, Secretary/Treasurer, has been received for information.

The Board had a discussion regarding the UBCM meeting priority topics. Additionally, they discussed advocating for secondary access to the Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital and the need for increased health connection transit times.

Moved and seconded,

And resolved:

59/25

That the Board endorses an immediate risk assessment by the Interior Health Authority for a second access to the Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital to address a risk and liability.

**Carried**

Recorded unanimous.

Moved and seconded,  
And resolved:

60/25

That the Board request that the Ministry of Heath and the Ministry of Transportation and Transit increase health connection transit times to improve rural health access.

**Carried**

**5.4.4 WKBRHD Accounts Payable Summary**

The WKBRHD Accounts Payable Summary from the RDCK Finance Department for March - May 2025, has been received.

**5.4.5 2024 WKBRHD Audited Financial Statements**

The West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Financial Statements dated December 31, 2024, has been received.

Moved and seconded,  
And resolved:

THAT the audited financial statements for the West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital District for the year ended December 31, 2024 be approved

**Carried**

**5.5 QUESTION PERIOD FOR PUBLIC AND MEDIA**

The Chair will call for questions from the public and members of the media at 8:15 p.m.  
No public or media had question.

**5.6 ADJOURNMENT**

Moved and seconded,  
And resolved:

61/25

The meeting be adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

**Carried**

**Digitally approved**

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Everett Baker, Chair

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Christine Hopkyns, Meeting Coordinator



# WEST KOOTENAY-BOUNDARY REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT

## REGULAR OPEN MEETING - MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (MLA) SESSION

### 4.1 Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed the Honourable Brittny Anderson, Minister of State for Local Governments and Rural Communities, MLA Nelson-Creston; Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Development Steve Morissette, MLA Kootenay-Monashee; and MLA Donegal Wilson, Boundary-Similkameen to the Board meeting.

### 4.2 Introductions

#### Honourable Brittny Anderson

Honourable Brittny Anderson introduced herself and provided an overview of her role as Minister of State for Local Governments and Rural Communities. She shared she will be working with local government and rural communities, and her goal is to provide a broader rural lens.

Honourable Brittny Anderson acknowledged the challenges in rural health care and shared some of the wins within our communities:

- Long Term Care opening in Nelson;
- Upgrades to Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital in Trail;
- Upgrades to the Trauma Centre in Grand Forks,
- A lot of work going into recruitment and retention of health care workers.
- Building of the first medical school in Western Canada and expanded medical student seats at UBC.
- Successful campaign to attract American health care workers and foreign trained doctors to practice in BC more easily

She concluded by sharing her gratitude for Minister of Health, Josie Osborne, who is from a rural community and local government, bringing a stronger lens on rural health care.

#### Honourable Steve Morissette

Honourable Steve Morissette introduced himself and shared his background in local government. He is bringing his local government experience forward in his role as Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Development. In this role, MLA Morissette brings the rural perspective and the rural voice to the table.



## WEST KOOTENAY-BOUNDARY REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT

He recognizes the challenges in rural health care and the need to continue to work to improve health care in Kootenay-Boundary. He wants to hear about the challenges in the communities and he happy to advocate for rural issues.

### MLA Donegal Wilson

MLA Wilson introduced herself and thanked the Board for advocating for their communities. She shared her background growing up in a rural community. Having family going through health care system has been an important motivator for her focus on rural health care issues.

MLA Wilson's goal is to be visible and to listen to the concerns being brought forward. She shared that the best solutions come from the communities, and she will be there to advocate.

### **4.3 Question and Answer Period**

The Chair asked the preprepared questions from the Board.

#### **Question #1:**

Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital (KBRH) needs a second access road as demonstrated by the adjacent wildfire there a couple of years ago - this presents a significant risk for all and has for many years. Will you support and lobby for the funds needed for this second access road now, or in the near future as our wildfires seasons increase in frequency and severity? This is a regional hospital and should be a concern for all of us. Submitted by Director Grieve, RDKB – Area A Director.

#### MLA Donegal Wilson

MLA Wilson shared if secondary access for wildfire safety has been highlighted as something our community needs for the regional hospital, she would support advocating for this.

#### Honourable Steve Morissette

Honourable Steve Morissette shared he is familiar the need for a secondary access for flooding and wildfire safety. He is happy to advocate with the understanding that there is balancing act that occurs for between funds for a secondary access verses other needs, such as more beds. He shared the first step is to look a planning and costing for a secondary access.

#### Honourable Brittny Anderson

Honourable Brittny Anderson shared this request would go through Ministry



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of Transportation and Transit. She asked if the Board would bring forward a resolution and ask around the need for a secondary access at KBRH.

### **Question #2 (two-part question)**

Part 1: Will you support our asks and join us for our Minister meeting at UBCM in Victoria as well as providing ongoing support for these asks? Please see the WKBHRD Board briefing note attached for your reference. Submitted by Director Hewat, RDCK – Village of Kaslo Director.

Part 2: Will you work with us to advocate for seniors living in rural areas in the following areas? Submitted by Director Hewat, RDCK – Village of Kaslo Director

a) The construction and staffing of additional assisted living facilities and long-term care beds for rural seniors so they can stay closer to their family and friends to prevent social isolation as they age?

b) Will you assist in advocating for better rural health care transportation options, including but not limited to a funding increase to the Health Connections funding program through BC Transit, with the funding being targeted specifically at residents living in the more rural and remote parts of our region? There is not enough service being provided outside of the main transportation routes.

#### Honourable Brittny Anderson

Part 1: Honourable Brittny Anderson shared due to her role as Minister, she will be attending her own meetings at UBCM. She is unable to attend the WKBHRD Minister meeting, suggesting MLA Morissette attend.

Part 2: She is touring the region looking at the need for long term care service in our communities. She will continue to advocate for Health Connections funding program through BC Transit.

#### Honourable Steve Morissette

Part 1: Honourable Steve Morissette shared he is happy to attend any of the Minister meetings.

Part 2: Regarding senior's care in rural areas, he agreed with the challenges and the need to look for solutions to keep seniors in their communities.

#### MLA Donegal Wilson

Part 1: MLA Wilson is available to will attend any meetings to help with advocacy.



## WEST KOOTENAY-BOUNDARY REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT

Part 2: She would strongly advocate for seniors aging in their own communities.

### Question #3

The Boundary Hospital in Grand Forks recently underwent a renovation for the trauma room, but the overall emergency department needs upgrading. Having a modern ER and CT scanner are imperative to attract and keep doctors. A working group is fundraising for a CT scanner however, how can we better advocate for upgrades to the ER? Submitted by Director Gibbs, RDKB – Area E Director.

#### MLA Donegal Wilson

MLA Wilson shared she knows the importance of the importance of a CT scanner in Grand Forks. She has met with local group fundraising, and they communicated the need to have the CT scanner on the WKBHRD Board IH asset list.

#### Honourable Steve Morissette

Honourable Steve Morissette agreed there is a need these services in the Boundary region.

#### Honourable Brittny Anderson

Honourable Brittny Anderson confirmed with Minister Ma office, this request will go through the next budgeting cycle and there is an opportunity for advocacy.

### Question #4 (two-part question)

Part 1: There is an increasing number of unhoused individuals in Nelson, Castlegar and Trail now. How can you support our ask of considering any type of treatment facility within the corridor which would provide the necessary services to assist patients with recovery? Submitted by Director Martin, RDKB – City of Trail Director.

Part 2: There are temporary shelters in each of the three municipalities which provide a minimum number of beds and basic needs but no actual treatment. The number of beds in these shelters is far below the actual number of individuals on the street. Could our area be considered for such a treatment center that could be used as a model for the rest of rural BC? Submitted by Director Martin, RDKB – City of Trail Director.

#### Honourable Brittny Anderson

Honourable Brittny Anderson agreed there is a need treatment centres. The



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region has been working collaboratively on this. She noted that there is new supportive housing coming to Nelson

### MLA Donegal Wilson

MLA Wilson shared there is a need for a more holistic treatment approach is needed. She agreed to find the immediate support and commented that those solutions can come from the communities.

### Honourable Steve Morissette

Honourable Steve Morissette agreed there is a need for treatment centres in the West Kootenay-Boundary. He shared that shelters are the first stepping stone, the need for treatment centres and housing is the next steps.

The Chair took questions from the floor.

### **Director Davidoff**

Question: Regarding the tariff situation, how it is affecting procurement of the hospital equipment? What are you most concerned about related to procurement?

### Honourable Steve Morissette

Honourable Steve Morissette responded that the Treasury Board has not dove into procurement policy. They are building a budget for next year. He has been gathering input from around the province. This input will inform the 2026. Tariffs are always a concern, the impact so far has been a slow down.

### Honourable Brittny Anderson

Honourable Brittny Anderson shared that broadly the uncertainty causes challenges, such as affecting where people invest and uncertainty in the business community.

### **Director Grieves**

Question for Interior Health: Has there been a risk assessment done for the need for a secondary access at KBRH?

### Lannon de Best, Interior Health Authority (IHA)

Lannon de Best provided an update, sharing that the most recent risk assessment is a couple years old. He noted the there are ongoing conversations happening between IHA and the City of Trail. He shared it is a partnership between IHA and City, and the discussion will continue.

### **Director Main**

Question 1: To what extend and to what manner is the province working with the



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Federal Government to ease the inter-provincial licencing barriers for all health care professionals.

Honourable Brittny Anderson

Honourable Brittny Anderson did not have that information in front of her and will get back to Director Main.

Question 2: Does anyone want to say anything about Life Labs being an American own company?

Honourable Brittny Anderson

Honourable Brittny Anderson did not think this was a ministerial decision and forwarded the question to IHA.

Lannon de Best, Interior Health Authority (IHA)

Lannon de Best shared that there is a partnership with Life Labs is between the Ministry and the Health Authority. He noted that Life Labs was originally a BC company, it has been in the province for approximately 50 years. It was purchase be an American company.

Question 3: The information out there, the Health Authority lab jobs were taken by Life Labs?

Lannon de Best, Interior Health Authority (IHA)

Lannon de Best responded that the Heath Authority's priority is serves to the public. In communities where there are two lab services, Health Authority labs are for critical services at the hospital and jobs are not being moved to Life Labs.

**Director Marino**

Comments:

- Director Marino shared he believes we should have one certification for health care professionals across Canada.
- He thanks the Ministry of Health and Interior Health funding new Community Health Care Center in Trail. He is on the Board and shared that it opens in one month.
- He would like to sit down with Interior Health to discuss options for the Lab to stay in downtown Trail.

**Director Lockwood**

Question for Interior Health – Regarding technology, the public now needs to



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access two different platforms for Health Authority and Life Labs to get their standing orders. How will you support this transition?

**Lannon de Best, Interior Health Authority (IHA)**

Lannon de Best noted there is not the ability to transferred between platforms. Patient will need to access both platforms. There is a customer service representative at the labs to support patients.

**Director Popoff**

Question: With mental health issues in throughout the province, is there a possibility to have follow up services for mental health patients?

**Honourable Brittny Anderson**

Honourable Brittny Anderson agreed with the challenges. She shared the Province will be reviewing the Mental Health Act and will continue to build out mental health services in BC.

**MLA Donegal Wilson**

MLA Wilson agreed one of the challenges is that not everyone needs to be put in involuntary care, and the follow up care is an imperative. The need more treatment options in the province.



# Capital Project Status Report

## West Kootenay Boundary

Jan. 28, 2026

**Lannon de Best**, Executive Director, Kootenay Boundary

**Matt Wilkie**, Corporate Director, Business Operations

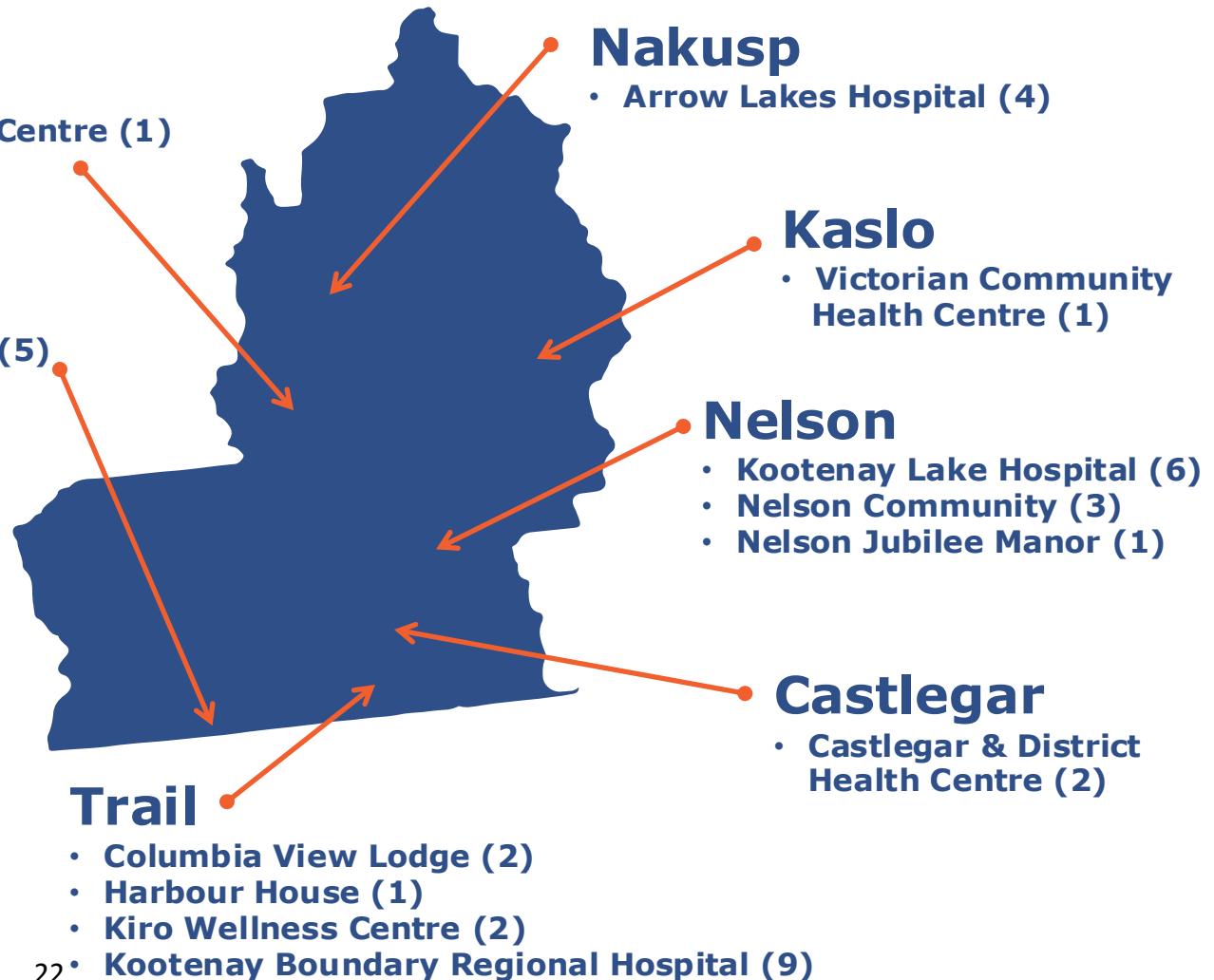
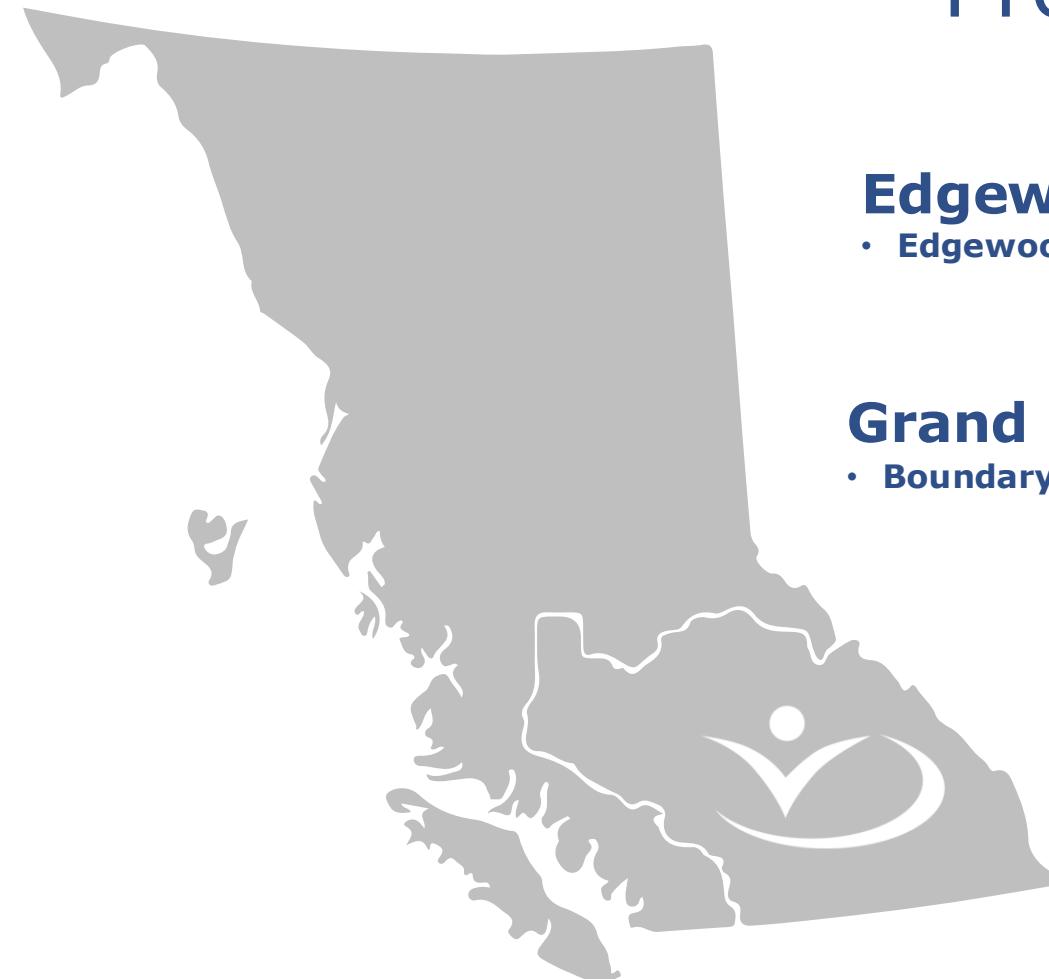


# Land Acknowledgement

Interior Health would like to recognize and acknowledge the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the Dãkelh Dené, **Ktunaxa, Nlaka'pamux, Secwépemc, St'át'imc, syilx, and Tshilhqot'in** Nations where we live, learn, collaborate and work together.



# West Kootenay Boundary Project Updates



# Grand Forks



# Boundary Hospital

**\$954,776**  
Total Budget

**\$369,200**  
WKBRHD Contribution

## Replace Multizone Air Handling Unit

- Fiscal Year Request: 2023/24 and 2025/26
- Estimated Completed Date: January 2026



# Boundary Hospital cont'd



## Air Handling Unit

- Fiscal Year Request: 2024/25
- Estimated Completed Date: June 2026

**\$99,000**  
Total Budget

**\$39,600**  
RHD Contribution



## Refrigerator Blood Bank

- Fiscal Year Request: 2025/26
- Estimated Completed Date: March 2026

**\$17,921**  
Total Budget

**\$7,168**  
RHD Contribution



# Boundary Hospital cont'd

## **Washroom Renovation, Accessibility**

- Fiscal Year Request: 2024/25
- Estimated Completed Date: December 2025

**\$96,000**  
Total Budget

**\$38,400**  
RHD Contribution

## **Washroom Renovation, Accessibility**

- Fiscal Year Request: 2025/26
- Estimated Completed Date: April 2026

**\$90,000**  
Total Budget

**\$36,000**  
RHD Contribution



# Trail



# Columbia View Lodge



## Chiller & Cooling Tower Replacement

- Fiscal Year Request: 2022/23
- Estimated Completed Date: December 2025

**\$1,317,935**  
Total Budget

**\$527,200**  
RHD Contribution



## Replace Roof Top Handlers

- Fiscal Year Request: 2023/24
- Estimated Completed Date: April 2026

**\$95,000**  
Total Budget

**\$38,000**  
RHD Contribution



# Harbour House

## Drainage

- Fiscal Year Requested: 2020/21
- Estimated Completed Date: January 2026

**\$95,000**  
Total Budget

**\$38,000**  
RHD Contribution



# Kiro Wellness Centre

## Replace Rooftop Air Handlers

- Fiscal Year Request: 2019/20
- Estimated Completed Date: December 2025

**\$55,000**  
Total Budget

**\$ 22,000**  
RHD Contribution

## Staff Duress System

- Fiscal Year Request: 2023/24
- Estimated Completed Date: January 2026

**\$75,000**  
Total Budget

**\$30,000**  
RHD Contribution



# Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital

**\$35,864,000**  
Total Budget

**\$13,945,000**  
WKBRHD Contribution

## **MRI Suite**

- Fiscal Year Request: 2023/24
- Estimated Completed Date: September 2028



# Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital

**\$917,000**  
Total Budget

**\$366,800**  
WKBRHD Contribution

## Meal Delivery System

- Fiscal Year Request: 2023/24
- Estimated Completed Date: January 2026



# Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital

**\$4,651,634**  
Total Budget

**\$1,874,100**  
WKBRHD Contribution

## Relocation and Replace Supply Fan

- Fiscal Year Request: 2023/24 and 2025/26
- Estimated Completed Date: April 2026



# Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital

**\$3,727,758**  
Total Budget

**\$1,491,200**  
WKBRHD Contribution

## CT Scanner

- Fiscal Year Request: 2025/26
- Estimated Completed Date: March 2026



# Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital (cont'd)



## Exterior Mechanical Room Access

- Fiscal Year Request: 2021/21
- Estimated Completed Date: TBD

**\$66,500**  
Total Budget

**\$26,600**  
RHD Contribution



## Steam Plant Retrofits

- Fiscal Year Request: 2021/22 and 2023/24
- Estimated Completed Date: July 2026

**\$2,520,461**  
Total Budget

**\$1,008,184**  
RHD Contribution



# Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital (cont'd)



## Direct Digital Control System Modernization

- Fiscal Year Request: 2025/26
- Estimated Completed Date: March 2026

**\$99,500**  
Total Budget

**\$39,800**  
RHD Contribution



## Dining Room Solarium Replacement

- Fiscal Year Request: 2025/26
- Estimated Completed Date: October 2026

**\$90,000**  
Total Budget

**\$36,000**  
RHD Contribution



## Freezer, Laboratory

- Fiscal Year Request: 2025/26
- Estimated Completed Date: February 2026

**\$23,860**  
Total Budget

**\$9,544**  
RHD Contribution



# Castlegar



# Castlegar District & Health Centre



## Fire Alarm System

- Fiscal Year Request: 2024/25
- Estimated Completed Date: April 2026

**\$1,608,427**  
Total Budget

**\$550,100**  
RHD Contribution



## Heating Water Distribution Upgrade

- Fiscal Year Request: 2025/26
- Estimated Completed Date: July 2026

**\$99,500**  
Total Budget

**\$39,800**  
RHD Contribution



# Nelson



# Kootenay Lake Hospital

**\$4,250,000**  
Total Budget

**\$1,700,000**  
WKBRHD Contribution

## CT Scanner

- Fiscal Year Request: 2025/26
- Estimated Completed Date: September 2026



# Kootenay Lake Hospital (cont'd)

## Medical Device Reprocessing – Renovation Planning

- Fiscal Year Request: 2023/24
- Estimated Completed Date: TBD

**\$350,000**  
Total Budget

**\$ 140,000**  
RHD Contribution

## Medical Device Reprocessing Renovation

- Fiscal Year Request: 2025/26
- Estimated Completed Date: March 2026

**\$93,000**  
Total Budget

**\$37,200**  
RHD Contribution



# Kootenay Lake Hospital (cont'd)



## Waste & Cardboard Compactor

- Fiscal Year Request: 2019/20 & 2024/25
- Estimated Completed Date: December 2025

**\$522,000**  
Total Budget

**\$208,800**  
RHD Contribution



## Humidification for Operating Room

- Fiscal Year Request: 2021/22 & 2025/26
- Estimated Completed Date: July 2026

**\$235,000**  
Total Budget

**\$94,000**  
RHD Contribution



## Fluid Cooler for Heat Pump 2

- Fiscal Year Request: 2025/26
- Estimated Completed Date: February 2027

**\$677,752**  
Total Budget

**\$271,200**  
RHD Contribution



## Nelson MHSU

**\$500,000**  
Total Budget

**\$200,000**  
WKBRHD Contribution

### **Mental Health & Substance Use (MHSU) Tenant Improvements**

- Fiscal Year Request: 2025/26
- Estimated Completed Date: February 2026



# Nelson Community Health Campus



## Tenant Improvements for LTC, Nelson

- Fiscal Year Request: 2023/24
- Estimated Completed Date: March 2026

**\$12,940,000**  
Total Budget

**\$2,000,000**  
RHD Contribution



## LTC & Community Clinic Equipment, Nelson

- Fiscal Year Request: 2023/24
- Estimated Completed Date: March 2026

**\$5,068,500**  
Total Budget

**\$2,027,400**  
RHD Contribution



# Nelson Jubilee Manor

## Electrical System Upgrade

- Fiscal Year Requested: 2025/26
- Estimated Completed Date: May 2026

**\$87,000**  
Total Budget

**\$34,000**  
RHD Contribution



# Edgewood, Nakusp & Kaslo



# Edgewood Health Centre

## Emergency Generator-Transfer Switch

- Fiscal Year Requested: 2020/21
- Estimated Completed Date: August 2026

**\$150,000**  
Total Budget

**\$29,200**  
RHD Contribution



# Arrow Lakes Hospital



## **Washroom Renovation, Wheelchair Access**

- Fiscal Year Request: 2019/20
- Estimated Completed Date: March 2026

**\$95,000**  
Total Budget

**\$38,000**  
RHD Contribution



## **Packaged Air Handler Replacement**

- Fiscal Year Request: 2025/26
- Estimated Completed Date: May 2026

**\$85,000**  
Total Budget

**\$34,000**  
RHD Contribution



# Arrow Lakes Hospital (cont'd)



## Staircase to Rooftop

- Fiscal Year Request: 2025/26
- Estimated Completed Date: January 2026

**\$63,600**  
Total Budget

**\$25,400**  
RHD Contribution



## Combi Oven, Rational

- Fiscal Year Request: 2025/26
- Estimated Completed Date: February 2026

**\$37,344**  
Total Budget

**\$14,938**  
RHD Contribution



# Victorian Community Health Centre

## Kitchen Air Handler

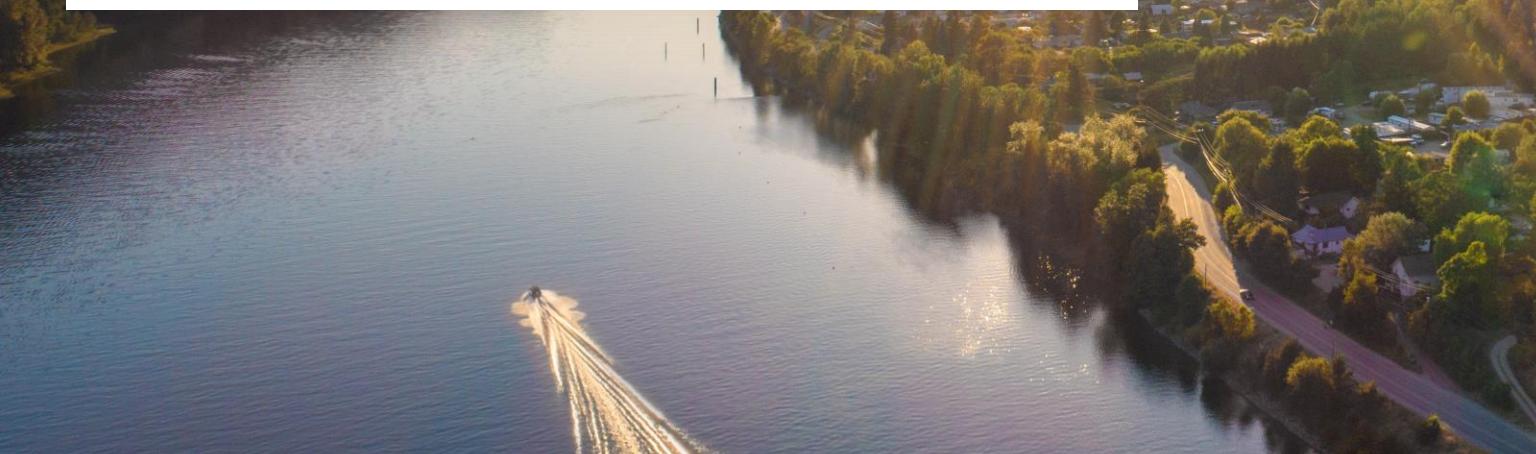
- Fiscal Year Requested: 2024/25
- Estimated Completed Date: May 2026

**\$75,000**  
Total Budget

**\$30,000**  
RHD Contribution



# Thank You WKBRHD For Your Support



# Appendices



# Castlegar, Edgewood, and Grand Forks Projects

## Castlegar District Health Centre (Castlegar)

Project	Fiscal Year Request	Total Budget	WKBRHD Contribution	Estimated Completion Date	Comments
Fire Alarm System	2024/25	\$1,608,427	\$550,100	Apr-26	Contractor has been mobilized. Construction work has commenced
Heating Water Distribution Upgrade	2025/26	\$99,500	\$39,800	Jul-26	Schematic Design underway

## Edgewood Health Centre (Edgewood)

Project	Fiscal Year Request	Total Budget	WKBRHD Contribution	Estimated Completion Date	Comments
Emergency Generator-Transfer Switch	2020/21	\$150,000	\$29,200	Aug-26	Schematic Design review complete

## Boundary Hospital (Grand Forks)

Replace Multizone Air Handling Unit	2023/24, 2025/26	\$954,776	\$369,200	Jan-26	New air handling unit has been installed and expected to be operational at the end of Jan 2026
Air Handling Unit	2024/25	\$99,000	\$39,600	Jun-26	Scope of Work is being finalized
Washroom Renovation, Accessibility	2024/25	\$96,000	\$38,400	Dec-25	Completed. Close out process to be initiated
Washroom Renovation, Accessible	2025/26	\$90,000	\$36,000	Apr-26	Work to commence in February
Refrigerator, Blood Bank	2025/26	\$17,921	\$7,168	Mar-26	Received on site



# Nelson Projects

## Kootenay Lake Hospital (Nelson)

Project	Fiscal Year Request	Total Budget	WKRHD Contribution	Estimated Completion Date	Comments
Waste & Cardboard Compactor	2019/20, 2024/25	\$522,000	\$208,800	Dec-25	Project closeout has been initiated
Humidification for Operating Room	2021/22, 2025/26	\$235,000	\$94,000	Jul-26	Planning to go to tender
Medical Device Reprocessing - Renovation Planning	2023/24	\$350,000	\$140,000	TBD	Awaiting Ministry of Infrastructure approval to proceed with project
CT Scanner	2025/26	\$4,250,000	\$1,700,000	Sep-26	95% design development review scheduled for late January 2026
Fluid Cooler for Heat Pump 2	2025/26	\$677,752	\$271,200	Feb-27	Project has commenced design
Medical Device Reprocessing Renovation	2025/26	\$93,000	\$37,200	Mar-26	Work commencing in January

## Nelson Community (Nelson)

Project	Fiscal Year Request	Total Budget	WKRHD Contribution	Estimated Completion Date	Comments
Tenant Improvements for LTC, Nelson	2023/24	\$12,940,000	\$2,000,000	Mar-26	Building opened in September 2025. Deficiencies being addressed and completed
LTC & Community Clinic Equipment, Nelson	2023/24	\$5,068,500	\$2,027,400	Mar-26	Final equipment ordered
Mental Health & Substance Use (MHSU) Tenant Improvements	2025/26	\$500,000	\$200,000	Feb-26	Site is operational. Some additional work is being completed



# Nelson Projects

## Nelson Jubilee Manor (Nelson)

Project	Fiscal Year Request	Total Budget	WKBRHD Contribution	Estimated Completion Date	Comments
Electrical System Upgrade	2025/26	\$87,000	\$34,800	May-26	Scope review underway



# Kaslo & Nakusp Projects

## Victorian Community Health Centre (Kaslo)

Project	Fiscal Year Request	Total Budget	WKBRHD Contribution	Estimated Completion Date	Comments
Kitchen Air Handler	2024/25	\$75,000	\$30,000	May-26	Design review underway

## Arrow Lakes Hospital (Nakusp)

Project	Fiscal Year Request	Total Budget	WKBRHD Contribution	Estimated Completion Date	Comments
Washroom Renovation, Wheelchair Access	2019/20	\$95,000	\$38,000	Mar-26	Awaiting Building Permit to be issued
Packaged Air Handler Replacement	2025/26	\$85,000	\$34,000	May-26	Design review underway
Staircase to Rooftop	2025/26	\$63,600	\$25,400	Jan-26	Invoicing submitted for final reconciliation
Combi Oven, Rational	2025/26	\$37,344	\$14,938	Feb-26	Equipment being delivered



# Trail Projects

## Columbia View Lodge (Trail)

Project	Fiscal Year Request	Total Budget	WKBRHD Contribution	Estimated Completion Date	Comments
Chiller & Cooling Tower Replacement, Columbia View Lodge	2022/23	\$1,317,935	\$527,200	Dec-25	Construction is complete, final balancing and deficiencies to be complete in January
Columbia View Lodge, Replace Roof Top Handlers, Castlegar	2023/24	\$95,000	\$38,000	Apr-26	Work on tender underway

## Harbour House (Trail)

Project	Fiscal Year Request	Total Budget	WKBRHD Contribution	Estimated Completion Date	Comments
Drainage	2020/21	\$95,000	\$38,000	Jan-26	Waiting for consultant's final invoicing

## Kiro Wellness Centre (Trail)

Project	Fiscal Year Request	Total Budget	WKBRHD Contribution	Estimated Completion Date	Comments
Replace Rooftop Air Handlers	2019/20	\$55,000	\$22,000	Dec-25	Project complete
Staff Duress System	2023/24	\$75,000	\$30,000	Jan-26	Project complete



# Trail Projects

## Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital (Trail)

Project	Fiscal Year Request	Total Budget	WKRHD Contribution	Estimated Completion Date	Comments
Exterior Mechanical Room Access	2020/21	\$66,500	\$26,600	TBD	Scope and budget being reviewed.
Steam Plant Retrofits	2021/22, 2023/24	\$2,520,461	\$1,008,184	Jul-26	Procurement of equipment is complete, and procurement of contractors has commenced
MRI	2023/24	\$35,864,000	\$13,945,000	Sep-28	Construction contract has been awarded. Construction to start in January 2026
Meal Delivery System	2023/24	\$917,000	\$366,800	Jan-26	System is operational. Ongoing work to address deficiencies. Cladding to be installed first week of February
Relocation and Replace Supply Fan	2023/24, 2025/26	\$4,651,634	\$1,874,100	Apr-26	Temporary Air Handling Units are now supporting both departments and new Air Handling Units have arrived and are placed on their pads. Demolition in mechanical room will follow
CT Scanner	2025/26	\$3,727,758	\$1,491,200	Mar-26	Renovations are complete and all equipment installed successfully. Temporary Occupancy is granted by RDKB and CT is operational. Installation of rooftop unit is planned for first week of March
Direct Digital Control System Modernization	2025/26	\$99,500	\$39,800	Mar-26	Final work to be completed pending contractor schedule
Dining Room Solarium Replacement	2025/26	\$90,000	\$36,000	Oct-26	Procurement for consultant underway
Freezer, Laboratory	2025/26	\$23,860	\$9,544	Feb-26	Awaiting equipment delivery





# Supporting Safe, Reliable Health Care in the West Kootenay Boundary

2026/27 Capital Funding Request

Jan. 28, 2026

**Lannon de Best**, Executive Director, Kootenay Boundary

**Matt Wilkie**, Corporate Director, Business Operations



# Land Acknowledgement

Interior Health would like to recognize and acknowledge the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the Dãkelh Dené,

**Ktunaxa, Nlaka'pamux, Secwépemc,**  
**St'át'imc, syilx, and T̄silhqot'in** Nations where  
we live, learn, collaborate and work together.



# Presenters



**Lannon de Best**

Executive Director,  
West Kootenay Boundary



**Matt Wilkie**

Corporate Director,  
Business Operations



# Thank You For Your 2025-26 Contributions

**\$241M**  
IH-Wide Annual  
Capital  
Investment

**\$90.1M**  
IH-Wide  
RHD Funding  
Request

**\$5.6M**  
West Kootenay  
Boundary  
RHD Funding Request

Watch video



# Nelson Health Campus Fairview Gardens Long-Term Care Facility and Community Health Services Centre

**\$18.9M**

Project Total

**\$4.0M**

RHD Contribution

Interior Health was thrilled to celebrate a milestone moment in early October when Mr. William Zaitsoff became the very first resident to move into Nelson Fairview Gardens where comfort, community, and care come together. William settled into the Birch neighbourhood, one of five beautifully themed living areas in the facility inspired by the trees and natural beauty of the Nelson area.



Celebrating Recent Investments

# Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital MRI Suite Expansion – Construction Underway

**\$35.9M**

Project Total

**\$13.9M**

RHD Contribution

"This new MRI suite expansion marks a major step forward from our ageing trailer-based MRI service, transforming how we care for our patients. By improving patient flow and expanding the range and quality of MR imaging we can offer on site, it allows our team to work more efficiently and deliver a better experience and better outcomes for our community."

- Dr. Gonzalo Ansede, Medical Director, Medical Imaging, KBRH



# Boundary Hospital Multizone Air Handling Unit Replacement

**\$0.95M**

Project Total

**\$0.37M**

RHD Contribution

"When people come to an Interior Health site, they deserve to feel safe and comfortable. Thanks to recent heating and cooling upgrades, our teams are making that happen. My hope is that the public can rest assured IH is contributing to community and provincial efforts to reduce energy usage and lower carbon emissions."

- Shari Imada, Manager, Thermal Energy



# Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital Patient Choice Meal System

**\$0.92M**

Project Total

**\$0.37M**

RHD Contribution

"This modernization represents a significant investment in both patient care and staff well-being. By enhancing food quality and ensuring safe, efficient service, the project aligns with our commitment to continuous improvement in the patient experience."

-Savanna Brown, Director, Quality, Standards and Initiatives for Support Services



# Interior Health in West Kootenay Boundary

## Regional Services



**8,258+**  
IH Staff



**7**  
IH Long Term  
Care Facilities  
632 publicly-funded beds



**4**  
Hospitals



**22**  
Health Care  
Facilities

**88,966**  
Total  
Population

## IH-Wide Recruitment

### Nursing and allied health



26% increase in  
regular front-line  
employees from  
15,147 to 19,124\*  
(5-year Period 2020-2025)

Top areas of growth

- RN: 19%
- LPN: 8%
- Care Aide: 7%

### Physicians



16% increase in full-  
time equivalent  
positions\*



29% increase in  
physician contracts\*

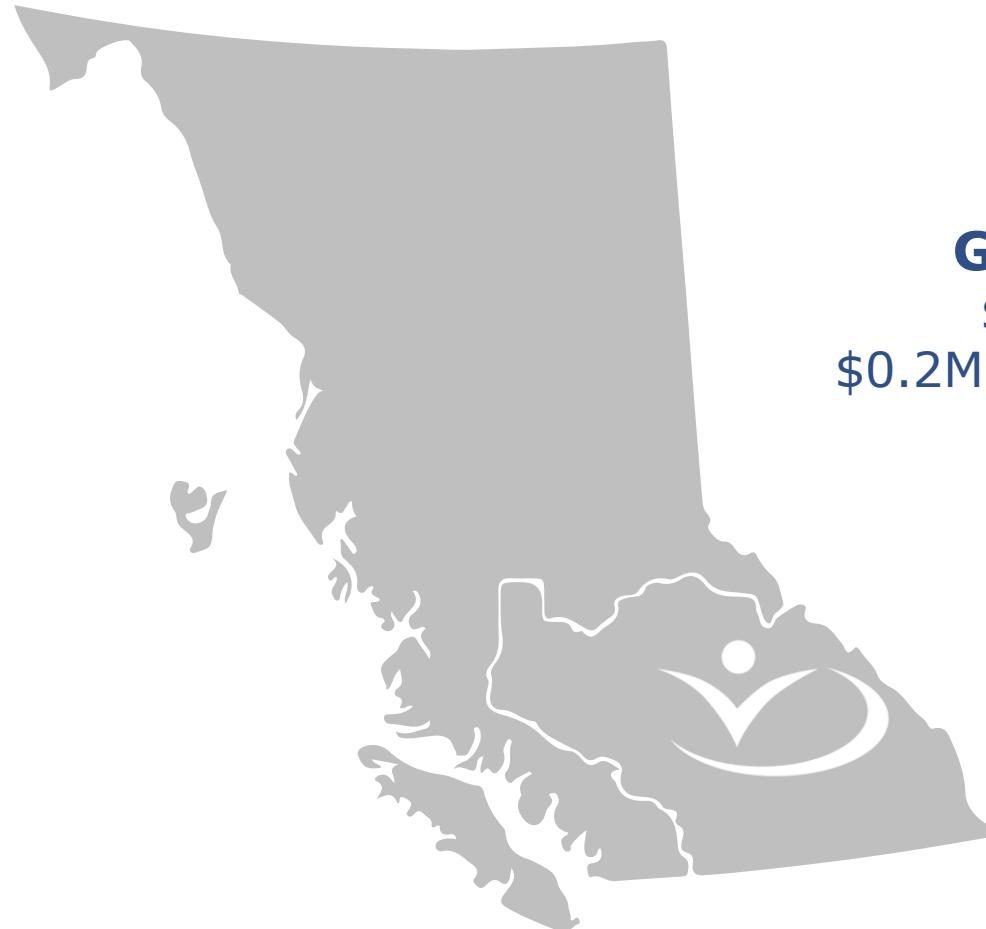
### West Kootenay Boundary top areas of recruitment

- Family Practice
- Emergency Medicine (FP-EM)
- Surgical (General Surgeon, Ortho)
- Nephrology

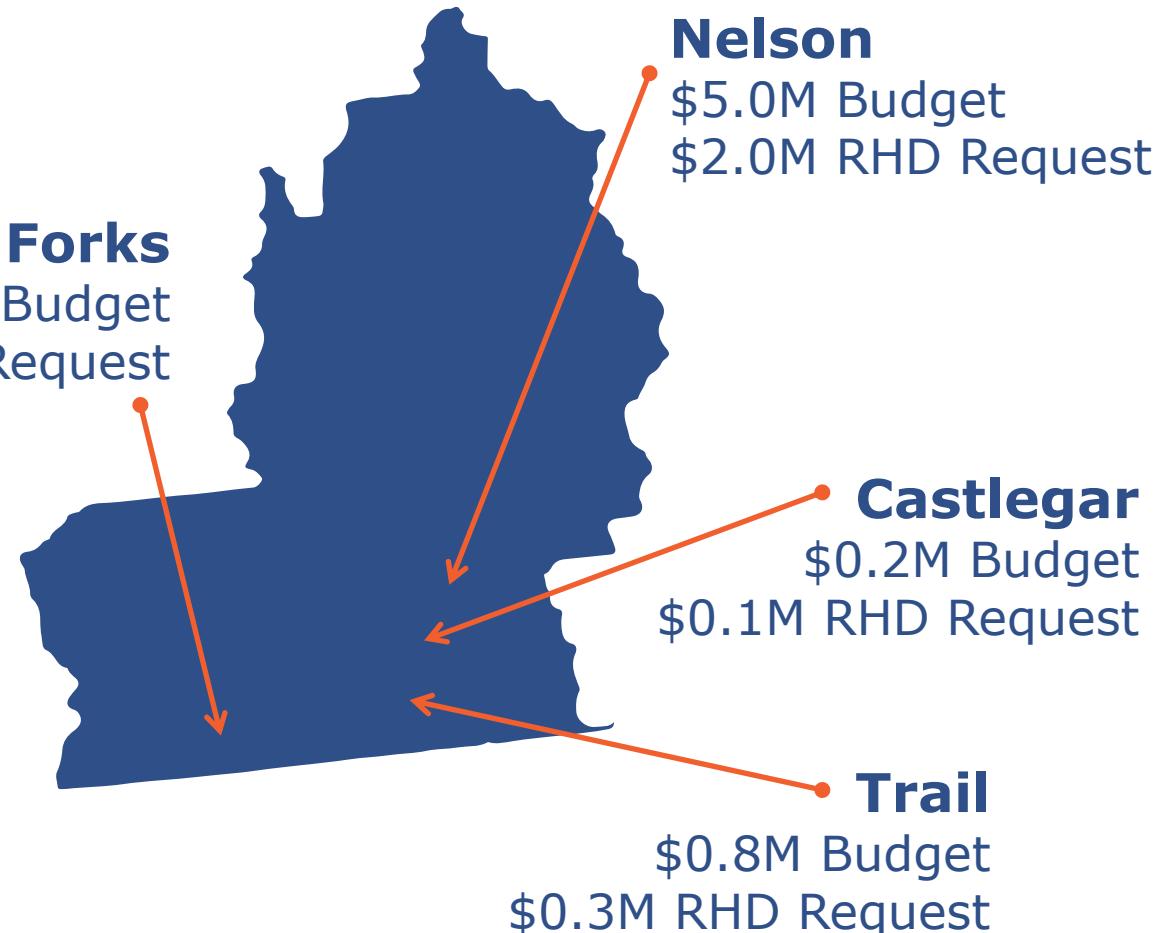
# 2026-27 Construction & Equipment Projects

## West Kootenay Boundary

Item 4.5.1.2



**Grand Forks**  
\$0.5M Budget  
\$0.2M RHD Request



# Investment Themes



# 2026-27 Highlighted Projects for West Kootenay Boundary



# Grand Forks Boundary Hospital

**\$543,500**

Budget

**\$217,400**

RHD Request



## Elevator Modernization

- Provides reliable patient and equipment transport
- Creates redundancy and operational continuity
- Supports safe patient flow throughout the facility

**Budget \$444,000**  
**RHD \$177,600**

## Laundry Air Handling Unit Replacement

- Ensures proper ventilation
- Helps prevent infection
- Provides a safe working environment

**Budget \$99,500**  
**RHD \$39,800**



# Nakusp Arrow Lakes Hospital

**\$99,000**

Budget

**\$39,600**

RHD Request

## Wheelchair Accessible Bathroom

- Improves accessibility and dignity for patients
- Ensures safety for staff and patients
- Aligns with care standards



# Nelson Kootenay Lake Hospital

**\$1,657,000**

Budget

**\$662,800**

RHD Request



## Permanent Doors for Patient Rooms in Emergency Department

- Improves patient dignity, privacy and safety
- Enhances infection control
- Provides a modern emergency care environment

**Budget \$1,000,000**  
**RHD \$400,000**

## Physiological Monitoring System

- Provides continuous, real-time patient monitoring
- Helps clinicians assess a patient's progress

**Budget \$587,000**  
**RHD \$234,800**

## Seclusion Room Door in Emergency Department

- Improves safety and durability
- Support for appropriate patient management
- Reduces risk of injury

**Budget \$70,000**  
**RHD \$28,000**



# Nelson Jubilee Manor

**\$3,303,700**

Budget

**\$1,321,500**

RHD Request

## Heating Boilers Replacement

- Replaces old units with modern boilers
- Improves reliability and performance
- Provides patient and staff comfort

**Budget \$3,303,700**  
**RHD \$1,321,500**



# Trail Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital

**\$756,300**

Budget

**\$302,500**

RHD Request



## Minimally Invasive Surgery Towers

- Provides reliable visualization during surgery
- Supports minimally invasive procedures
- Improves surgical efficiency and outcomes

**Budget \$406,600**  
**RHD \$162,600**

## Thulium Laser

- Improves hemostasis
- Enhances surgical precision and safety
- Provides better patient outcomes

**Budget \$250,700**  
**RHD \$100,300**

## Lower Main Conditional Power Distribution

- Provides reliable power distribution
- Complies with modern safety standards
- Supports uninterrupted patient care

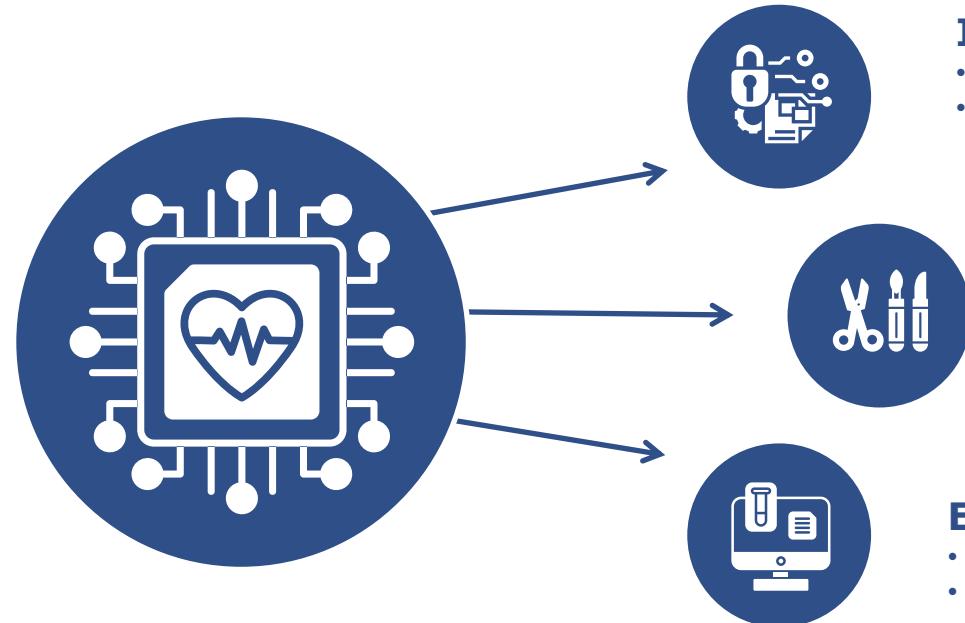
**Budget \$99,000**  
**RHD \$39,600**



# 2026-27 Digital Health Projects



# IH-Wide Digital Health



**\$819,400**

Budget

**\$327,800**

RHD Request

## Infrastructure & Cybersecurity Upgrades

- Refresh aging data centre storage and servers.
- Replace enterprise firewalls for cybersecurity and cloud connectivity.

## MEDITECH Surgical Module Modernization

- Replace Picis platform with integrated MEDITECH solution.
- Connects with Community Wide Scheduling, MyHealthPortal, and Patient Connect.

## Electronic Results Distribution Upgrade

- Modernize routing of lab and imaging results.
- Improves accuracy, provider confidence, and patient safety.

**These initiatives represent a strategic investment in digital health, operational resilience, and patient centered care.**



# Arrow Lakes Hospital

**\$678,700**

Budget

**\$271,500**

RHD Request

## Rural Emergency Department Project

- Supports LINK-ED pilot project – blending in-person and virtual care
- Allows full electronic charting
- Modernizes rural emergency services



To learn more, visit  
[engageih.ca/link-ed](http://engageih.ca/link-ed)  
or scan:



# Remaining Investments & Funding Requests



# Construction Projects **OVER \$100,000**

## Castlegar & District Health Centre

### Fire Alarm System

- Provides a reliable, code-compliant life-safety system
- Integrates fully with building security
- Reduces risk of system failure during emerge

**\$ 233,200**

**\$ 93,300**



# Equipment Projects **UNDER** \$100,000

## West Kootenay Boundary Region

### Global Grant Equipment

- Supports equipment purchases under \$100K
- Supports the purchase of essential care equipment (e.g., beds, lifts, monitors, etc.)

**\$1,112,800**

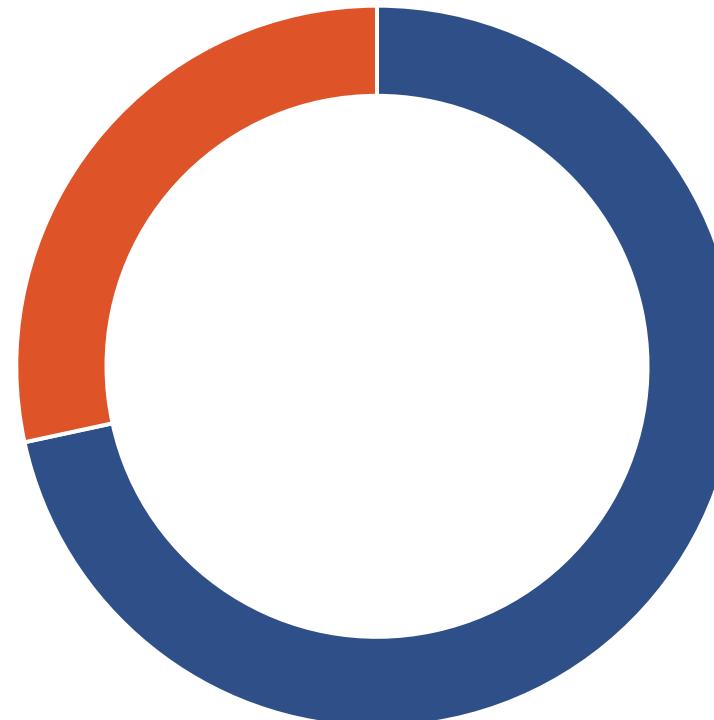
**\$445,100**



# Capital Funding Request 2026/27

## West Kootenay Boundary Summary

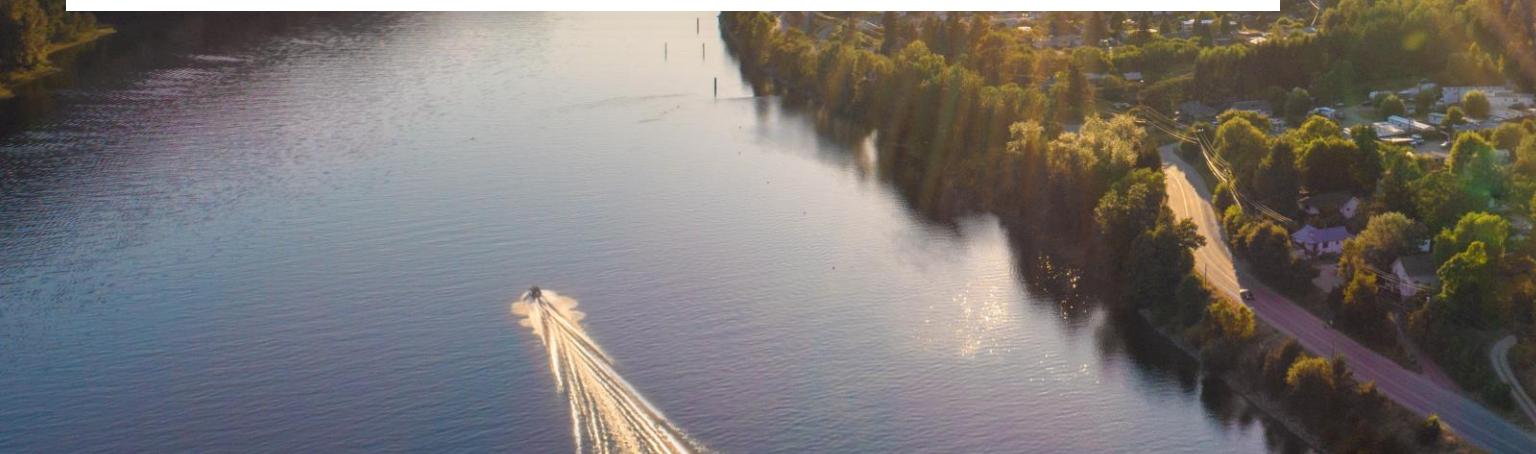
**WKBRHD  
Funding Request:  
\$3.7M**



**Interior Health  
Capital Budget  
\$9.2M**



# Next Steps & Closing Remarks



# Financial Summary Appendices



## Appendix 1: Construction – more than \$100K

### Boundary Hospital

Project	Budget	RHD Funding Request
Elevator Modernization	\$444,000	\$177,600

### Castlegar District Health Centre

Project	Budget	RHD Funding Request
Fire Alarm System	\$233,200	\$93,300

### Kootenay Lake Regional Hospital

Project	Budget	RHD Funding Request
Permanent Doors on Patient Rooms in Emergency Department	\$1,000,000	\$400,000

### Nelson Jubilee Manor

Project	Budget	RHD Funding Request
Heating Boilers Replacement	\$3,303,700	\$1,321,500



## Appendix 2: Construction – under 100K

### Arrow Lakes Hospital

<b>Project</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>RHD Funding Request</b>
Acute room 2 Wheelchair Accessible Bathroom	\$99,000	\$39,600

### Boundary Hospital

<b>Project</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>RHD Funding Request</b>
Laundry Air Handling Unit Replacement	\$99,500	\$39,800

### Kootenay Lake Regional Hospital

<b>Project</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>RHD Funding Request</b>
Seclusion Room Door	\$70,000	\$28,000

### Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital

<b>Project</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>RHD Funding Request</b>
Lower Main Conditional Power Distribution Redesign and Replacement	\$99,000	\$39,600



## Appendix 3: Digital Health

### Digital Health over \$100K

Project	Budget	RHD Funding Request
Rural Emergency Department Project	\$678,700	\$271,500

### IH-Wide Digital Health

Project	Budget	RHD Funding Request
Various	\$819,400	\$327,800



## Appendix 4: Equipment

### Equipment over \$100K

Project	Budget	RHD Funding Request
Thulium Laser (KBRH)	\$250,700	\$100,300
Minimally Invasive Surgery (MIS) Towers (KBRH)	\$406,600	\$162,600
Monitoring System, Physiological (KLRH)	\$587,000	\$234,800

### Equipment under \$100K

Project	Budget	RHD Funding Request
Equipment under \$100,000	\$1,112,80	\$445,100



**END OF PRESENTATION**



## WEST KOOTENAY-BOUNDARY REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT

**Box 590, 202 Lakeside Drive  
Nelson, B.C. V1L 5R4**

**Telephone (250) 352-6665  
Fax (250) 352-9300  
Toll Free 1-800-268-7325**

File: 01-0270-02

August 14, 2025

Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Health  
Via email: [HLTH.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

Honourable Mike Farnworth, Minister of Transportation and Transit  
Via email: [TT.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:TT.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

Dear Honourable Josie Osborne and Honourable Mike Farnworth:

### **RE: KOOTENAY BOUNDARY REGIONAL HOSPITAL (KBRH) - HEALTH CONNECTIONS TRANSIT TIMES**

On behalf of the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District (WKBRHD) Board, I am writing to request that the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Transportation and Transit increase Health Connections transit times to improve rural health access.

Many individuals in our region face challenges travelling to medical appointments due to the lack of reliable and affordable transit options. This transportation barrier particularly affects seniors, people with disabilities, and those with low incomes who may not have access to private vehicles.

Improved Health Connections transit times would make a meaningful difference in ensuring timely access to care. Without adequate service, individuals are at risk of missing vital treatments, delaying diagnoses, or forgoing care altogether, which can worsen health outcome and increase long-term healthcare costs.

The WKBRHD Board requests your offices to explore ways to improve transit times communities to and from major healthcare facilities in our region. Community health and well-being depend on equitable access, and transportation is a key part of that equation.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter. We would be happy to meet with your staff if that would be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Everett Baker  
WKBRHD Board Chair



November 18, 2025

Everett Baker, Board Chair  
 West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District  
 Box 590  
 202 Lakeside Drive  
 Nelson BC V1L 5R4

Reference: 336076  
 Your file: 01-0270-02

Dear Chair Baker:

**Re: Health Connections Service**

Thank you for your letter regarding the Health Connections transit service. I am also responding on behalf of my colleague, the Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Health.

Our government understands the importance of ensuring people have affordable and reliable transportation options to access regional services such as health care. As you may know, the Interior Health Authority provides annual funding to BC Transit to fund Health Connections routes. BC Transit collaborates with the Interior Health Authority to provide the Health Connections service. The Ministry of Health has no authority over the management of the Interior Health Authority's Health Connections program.

I have shared your request for enhanced service with BC Transit. Staff in the ministry's Transit Strategy and Policy Branch work closely with BC Transit on the delivery of transit services across the province, and they would be happy to meet with you to understand more about your request. Please feel free to have your staff contact Project Director Gillian Moxham at 778 698-9497 or at [Gillian.Moxham@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Gillian.Moxham@gov.bc.ca) to discuss this matter further.

I also encourage you to reach out to the Interior Health Authority about the service.

As you may know, the Ministry of Health's [Travel Assistance Program \(TAP\)](#) is one of the primary public programs for medical travel in B.C. TAP helps alleviate some of the transportation costs for eligible B.C. residents who must travel within the province for non-emergency medical specialist services not available in their own community upon referral by a physician or nurse practitioner.

.../2

TAP is a corporate partnership between the Ministry of Health and private transportation carriers (air, rail, bus and ferry service) who agree to waive or discount their regular fees. Patients must obtain approval prior to travel and present a completed TAP application form to the transportation carrier at the time of travel. Meals, accommodation, mileage, fuel and local transportation expenses are not included in TAP and are the responsibility of the patient.

Detailed information about TAP, including eligibility, how to apply and a complete list of travel partners is available on the [TAP BC website](#).

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,



Mike Farnworth  
Minister

Copy to: Honourable Josie Osborne  
Minister of Health  
MLA, Mid Island-Pacific Rim

Gillian Moxham, Project Director  
Transit Strategy and Policy Branch



**Box 590, 202 Lakeside Drive  
Nelson, B.C. V1L 5R4**

**Telephone (250) 352-6665  
Fax (250) 352-9300  
Toll Free 1-800-268-7325**

File: 01-0270-02

August 19, 2025

Matt Wilkie, Interior Health Authority, Corporate Director, Business Operations  
Via email: [Matt.Wilkie@interiorhealth.ca](mailto:Matt.Wilkie@interiorhealth.ca)

Lannon DeBest, Interior Health Authority, Executive Director – Clinical Operations, Kootenay Boundary & IH Cancer Care Network  
Via email: [Lannon.DeBest@interiorhealth.ca](mailto:Lannon.DeBest@interiorhealth.ca)

Dear Matt Wilkie and Lannon DeBest:

**RE: KOOTENAY BOUNDARY REGIONAL HOSPITAL (KBRH) – SECONDARY ACCESS ROAD**

On behalf of the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District (WKBRHD) Board, I am writing to advocate for the development of a risk assessment by the Interior Health Authority for a second access to the Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital (KBRH) to address a risk and liability.

KBRH is currently served by only a single access road. Given the increasing frequency of severity of climate-related events, such as wildfires and flooding, this situation poses a significant risk to patient safety, hospital operations, and overall community resilience. KBRH serves a critical role as the primary hospital providing core medical and surgical specialty services for the region.

In the event that the existing access route is obstructed or rendered impassable – whether due to fire, flood, or other emergencies – ambulances, emergency personnel, and critical supplies would be unable to reach the hospital. Furthermore, patients and staff could become trapped, with no alternate evacuation route available. This vulnerability not only presents a direct threat to human life and health but also exposes both the health care provider and associated government agencies to significant liability risks.

A second access road would ensure uninterrupted emergency services during natural disaster, enhance evacuation options for patients and staff, improve delivery of essential medical supplies and fuel and reduce legal exposure due to known and avoidable risk factors.

WKBRHD Board requests that the Interior Health Authority to prioritize this issue. The investment in as second access to KBRH is not only a matter of risk mitigation, it is a proactive measure to protect lives, property and public trust in our healthcare system.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,



Everett Baker  
WKBRHD Board Chair

## West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Chair's Report - 2025

### January 28, 2026 Board Meeting

#### Nelson Community Health Campus Celebration

I participated in the celebration of the new **Nelson Community Health Campus**, an important milestone for health services in the region. The campus features a **state-of-the-art facility with two purpose-built towers**, each designed to improve access to care and better support people of all ages. This investment strengthens local health infrastructure and reflects ongoing commitment to high-quality, community-centered services.

#### WKBRHD Regional Hospital Board – Trail Engagement

I also attended the **West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District (WKBRHD) Regional Hospital Board** activities, including the **open house for the Lower Columbia Community Health Centre in Trail**. The event highlighted the centre's role in expanding primary care capacity and improving coordinated services for residents across the Lower Columbia region.

#### New Interior Health Pres/ CEO

The Retirement of Pres/ CEO IH Susan Brown and appointment of Sylvia Weir letters were sent on behalf of the Board.

#### UBCM

As chair of The West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital District (WKBRHD) along with members of the executive we met with MLA Debra Toporowski Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Health Topics.

#### **Key Topics Discussed**

- **Supporting Seniors in Rural Communities**  
We emphasized the ongoing need for strong support systems for seniors, particularly around **service access, transportation, and continuity of care**. Rural seniors face unique challenges and ensuring they can access the services they need remains a top priority.
- **Impact of Cuts to Hope Air and Travel Reimbursement Gaps**  
Recent reductions to Hope Air services and gaps in travel reimbursement programs are creating barriers for residents who must travel for specialized care. These changes are being felt across our communities, and we highlighted the need for stable, predictable support for medical travel.
- **Delays in Hospital Capital Projects**  
We raised concerns about delays affecting major projects at **Kootenay Lake Hospital** and **Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital**. These projects are essential to maintaining safe, modern, and effective health care services. We stressed the importance of **firm timelines and clear commitments** to ensure these upgrades move forward without further disruption.
- **Strengthening the Rural Nursing Workforce**  
Our region continues to face challenges in recruiting and retaining nurses. We discussed the need for:
  - A **regionalized certification process**
  - **Nursing internships** in rural hospitals
  - A dedicated **rural nursing program** to build a sustainable workforce
 These initiatives would help ensure that rural hospitals have the skilled staff required to meet community needs.
- **FortisBC Planned Power Shutoff Impacts**

We expressed concern about the potential health-care impacts of the FortisBC power shutoff plan. Any interruption to power can have significant consequences for hospitals, long-term care facilities, and vulnerable residents. We emphasized the need for coordinated planning and mitigation strategies.

- ***Tariff Impacts on WKBRHD Capital Budget***

Rising costs driven by U.S. and international tariffs are affecting the WKBRHD's ability to fund essential equipment and capital projects. We highlighted the importance of predictable funding and support to ensure that hospitals can continue to modernize and maintain critical infrastructure.

- ***Our Ongoing Commitment***

The WKBRHD continues to invest in **hospital equipment, facility upgrades, and capital projects** across the West Kootenay and Boundary regions. These investments are essential to ensuring that residents have access to high-quality care close to home.

We remain committed to working collaboratively with provincial partners, local governments, and health-care providers to strengthen services, address challenges, and advocate for the needs of our communities.

- ***PS***

***"I had a button on my jacket the EA for Minister Osborne saw it and like I love Rual. So I took it off and handed it to pass on to the Minister" See attached Photo***

**A Public information letter was sent to news outlets As requested by the board**

West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital District Board – Funding hospital equipment and capital projects in our region Public relations letter speaking to the work of District Board,

RDCK Feature Story - West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital District Board - Funding hospital equipment and capital projects in our region. Follow the link for the complete story:

<https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.rdck.ca%2Fwest-kootenay-boundary-regional-hospital-district-board-funding-hospital-equipment-and-capital-projects-in-our-region%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cebaker%40grand-forks.ca%7Cc1bea1a5074140e311c808de586babd1%7C2d39b7ffd80d43c5b1ef5b4b31730e87%7C0%7C0%7C639045416656064219%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIYi-OilwLjAuMDAwMCIsIaIaOjJXaW4zMilsIkFOjoiTWFpbCIsIldUljoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=EP-BMYs5TVFSICYHFARSA2Ug9W9oIQBeShSdn1kJluNo%3D&reserved=0>

**While in Ottawa fighting to save forestry jobs in Grand Forks, I was invited to attend HESA Stading Committee on Health**

Speakers included:

Vanessa Foran (Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society)

Dr. Giuseppe Fuda (président, Société canadienne des anesthésiologistes)

Rani Srivastava (President-Elect, Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing)

Dr. Christopher Watling (Chief Executive Officer, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada)

<https://www.ourcommons.ca/documentviewer/en/45-1/HESA/meeting-7/evidence>

*Discussion:*

- *Random closures and doctor shortages in our healthcare system helps no one.*

- *Recruiting more doctors for our healthcare system, but not allowing them to practice, also helps no one.*
- *At least 13,000 internationally trained doctors are in Canada and are not allowed to work.*
- *Hundreds of Canadians train abroad as doctors and are not certified to work in Canada.*
- *Fixing this broken system will help everyone.*

**Interior Health and Regional Hospitals District Meeting**

As chair of The West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital District (WKBRHD, I attended the IH/RHD Joint meeting on December 3, 2025.

I want to express my appreciation and thank you for all your support this year, especially my Board Acting Chair Director/ Mayor Suzan Hewat and District staff.

I look forward to what 2026 will bring there will be challenges but working together will face them and turn challenges into opportunities & than success .

Respectfully,

Everett Baker



PORT of  
Vancouver

Vancouver Fraser  
Port Authority

**JOSIE OSBORNE**

Minister of Health

Delegate



CHARTING UBCM  
2025  
THE COURSE

December 22, 2025

Stuart Horn, Secretary/Treasurer  
West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital District  
c/o Regional District of Central Kootenay  
Box 590, 202 Lakeside Drive  
Nelson, BC V1L 5R4

Dear Mr. Horn:

**Re: Capital Funding Request for the 2026/27 Fiscal Year**

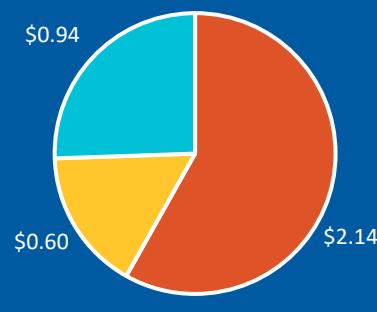
Please find enclosed our annual funding request for Interior Health's (IH) next fiscal year for your review and approval. The funding request is based on IH's 2026/27 capital budget which has been approved by our Board. The budget is developed by prioritizing identified capital needs throughout our organization with our physicians and staff within the context of the Capital Investment Strategic Framework. This budget is only possible if the following funding assumptions hold true: notional funding information provided by the Ministry of Infrastructure is accurate, confirmed donations from Foundations are realized, and RHDs contribute 40 per cent toward the applicable purchases.

The 2026/27 capital budget targets urgent and high priority items required to deliver health services to the people who live in the communities we serve. Investments in our buildings and infrastructure are required to prevent system failures, safeguard reliable access to services, and ensure the safety and comfort of patients and staff. We are also seeking to upgrade or replace equipment that is at or beyond its useful life to limit service disruptions and downtimes. In addition to investments in buildings and equipment, we must also invest in digital health projects infrastructure to ensure patient information is accessible and secure and the electronic systems we use to provide care are as efficient and effective as possible.

These investments have been carefully prioritized considering the most urgent needs throughout the health region and the notional funding we have assumed will be available.

For the 2026/27 fiscal year, we are requesting funding from your RHD for the following projects and equipment. Please note that all capital initiatives over \$100,000 are subject to government approval.

**Funding Request by Category**



*Total \$3.68*

*\$s in Millions*

- Construction Projects
- Digital Health
- Equipment

Interior Health would like to recognize and acknowledge the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the Däkelh Dené, Ktunaxa, Nlaka'pamux, Secwépemc, St'át'imc, syilx, and T̓silhqot'in Nations where we live, learn, collaborate and work together.

## 1. Elevator Modernization at Boundary Hospital, Grand Forks

The Boundary Hospital has two elevators and this project will modernize one of the two, which is obsolete. Reliability of both elevators are required to support patients and connect them to patient care areas.

## 2. Fire Alarm System at Castlegar District Health Centre, Castlegar

The current fire alarm system at Castlegar District Health Centre is obsolete at over 40 years old and is at risk of failing. The system is no longer supported and not reliable. This project will replace the entire system with one that is fully integrated into the building security system.

The initial budget assumed that existing infrastructure (main electrical panels, wiring and security system) could be reused, but later assessments determined that would be impossible without substantial risk of failure. A budget increase is required to fund the replacement infrastructure.

Your RHD approved \$550,100 on bylaw #408 toward the original project budget of \$1,375,250. A budget increase of \$233,200 is required and we ask for your RHD to contribute 40% for an additional \$93,300.

## 3. Permanent Patient Room Doors in Emergency Department at Kootenay Lake Regional Hospital, Nelson

The Emergency Department at Kootenay Lake Regional Hospital requires installation of permanent glass doors for the trauma room and six nearby patient rooms, replacing the existing temporary panels and curtains. This upgrade will improve privacy, safety, and infection control while supporting growing patient volumes. It aligns with priorities to modernize care spaces and create a safer, more respectful environment for patients, families, and staff.

## 4. Heating Boilers Replacement at Nelson Jubilee Manor, Nelson

The current heating system is over 35 years old and is overdue for replacement with a risk of emergency failure. This heating system upgrade will include the replacement of aged atmospheric boilers with modern boilers which will improve reliability and performance.

# Construction Projects under \$100,000

## 1. Wheelchair Accessible Bathroom at Arrow Lakes Hospital, Nakusp

This project will renovate the bathroom in Acute Room 2 at Arrow Lakes Hospital to be wheelchair-accessible and improve patient dignity, accessibility, and compliance with care standards.

## 2. Laundry Air Handling Unit Replacement at Boundary Hospital, Grand Forks

This work will replace a rusted and leaking air handling unit to ensure proper ventilation, infection prevention, and safe working conditions.

## 3. Seclusion Room Door at Kootenay Lake Regional Hospital, Nelson

The damaged and aging seclusion room door will be replaced in this project to promote patient and staff safety in the Emergency Department.

## 4. Lower Main Conditional Power Distribution Redesign and Replacement at Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital, Trail

This project will replace obsolete switchgear from the 1970s to ensure reliable power distribution, supporting uninterrupted patient care and compliance with modern safety standards.

Efficient and effective technology is a key enabler for delivery of quality health services. IH's Digital Health Investment Plan includes high-priority projects aimed at enhancing the reliability and stability of our infrastructure and electronic systems, as well as advancing our technology to keep pace with industry-wide innovation and transformation.

IH is undertaking several critical infrastructure and clinical system upgrades to address aging technology and improve service delivery. Multiple data centre projects are also planned, including the refresh of end-of-life storage and server infrastructure supporting business and clinical systems, as well as the replacement of imaging system servers and load balancers to support Picture Archiving and Communications System (PACS) and enterprise viewers on Windows Server 2022. Additionally, the enterprise internet firewalls, essential for cybersecurity and cloud connectivity, must be replaced before their August 2028 end-of-life, with a 12-month implementation timeline.

The MEDITECH Surgical Module Expansion and Picis Decommission – Phase 2 is a major upgrade that supports IH's three-year strategy to modernize surgical systems. It replaces the older Picis platform with a more integrated and cost-effective solution centered around the MEDITECH Surgical Module. This new system will connect with other existing tools like Community Wide Scheduling, MyHealthPortal, and Patient Connect, and will include hardware upgrades tailored to each site's needs—such as workstations on wheels, barcode scanners, and second monitors.

The Electronic Results Distribution upgrade will modernize how lab and imaging results are routed, addressing misdirected results and improving provider confidence and patient safety.

The Rural Emergency Department Project involves the implementation of MEDITECH Expanse Advanced Clinicals (AC), enabling full electronic charting at four acute care sites including Lillooet District Hospital, Dr. Helmcken Memorial Hospital, Arrow Lakes Hospital, and Princeton General Hospital. It aligns with provincial direction regarding proposed changes to rural emergency services.

Together, these initiatives represent a strategic investment in digital health, operational resilience, and patient-centered care.



# Equipment over \$100,000

Item 4.7.2

Please note, pictures shown below are for illustrative purposes only and may not depict the actual equipment to be purchased by IH, which will be established during the procurement process.



## Thulium Laser at Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital, Trail

Thulium laser technology has emerged as a significant advancement in the field of urology, particularly noted for its enhanced hemostasis profile. This improvement is crucial for procedures involving bladder tumors and upper tract tumors as it minimizes bleeding and promotes better surgical outcomes. The precision and control offered by Thulium lasers not only enhances safety but also improves the overall performance of these delicate procedures.



## Minimally Invasive Surgery Towers at Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital, Trail

Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital uses equipment to perform laparoscopic surgery. The Minimally Invasive Surgery (MIS) towers require immediate replacement. The MIS tower is essentially a high-tech video system that allows surgeons to see inside the body during minimally invasive (laparoscopic) procedures with crystal-clear detail. It combines a powerful camera, a control unit, and a specialized light source into one tower, giving doctors the best possible view while operating. This purchase will replace existing equipment purchased in 2019.



## Physiological Monitoring System at Kootenay Lake Regional Hospital, Nelson

A Physiological Monitoring System consists of bedside monitors connected to a central system and the patient. This system continuously monitors the patient's electrocardiogram, blood pressure, temperature, and blood oxygen levels among other vital signs. This information is sent to a central system, which displays all of the information for each patient in real time at the nursing station. Alarms sound to alert clinicians if certain parameters fall outside of acceptable ranges, and trends are recorded to help clinicians assess a patient's progress. The new system will replace a unit in the emergency department that was purchased in 2011.

# Equipment under \$100,000 (Global Grant)

Item 4.7.2

As in previous years, we are requesting global funding for equipment under \$100,000.

A financial summary of our funding requests is provided in Appendix 1. We would appreciate it if you could submit these requests to your Board for consideration. Please advise us of the meeting date when they will be discussed to enable us to have IH representatives attend and to answer questions that may arise. If the requests should receive approval, please send Cindy Rephin, Executive Director, Capital Finance & Controller copies of the relevant bylaws for our records.

We thank you for your ongoing support of capital initiatives. If you require further information, or if you have any questions or concerns, please contact Matt Wilke, Corporate Director, Business Operations or me directly.

Sincerely,



Nicole Elliot, Chief Financial Officer

Interior Health would like to recognize and acknowledge the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the Däkelh Dené, Ktunaxa, Nlaka'pamux, Secwépemc, St'át'imc, syilx, and T̓silhqot'in Nations where we live, learn, collaborate and work together.

# Appendix 1: Summary of Regional Hospital District Funding Request for 2026/27

Item 4.7.2

Facility	Location	Equipment/Project Description	26/27 Budget	2026/27 RHD Funding Request	Previous RHD Approval		B/L #	Total Budget	RHD Share
					Total	RHD Share			
Boundary Hospital	Grand Forks	<b><u>Construction Projects over \$100,000</u></b>							
Castlegar District Health Centre	Castlegar	Elevator Modernization	\$ 444,000	\$ 177,600					
Kootenay Lake Regional Hospital	Nelson	Fire Alarm System	\$ 233,200	\$ 93,300					
Nelson Jubilee Manor	Nelson	Permanent Doors on Patient Rooms in Emergency Department	1,000,000	400,000					
		Heating Boilers Replacement	3,303,700	1,321,500					
Arrow Lakes Hospital	Nakusp	<b><u>Construction Projects under \$100,000</u></b>							
Boundary Hospital	Grand Forks	Acute room 2 wheelchair accessible bathroom	99,000	39,600					
Kootenay Lake Regional Hospital	Nelson	Laundry Air Handling Unit Replacement	99,500	39,800					
Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital	Trail	Seclusion room door	70,000	28,000					
		Lower Main Conditional Power Distribution Redesign and Replacement	99,000	39,600					
Arrow Lakes Hospital	Nakusp	<b><u>Digital Health over \$100,000</u></b>							
		Rural Emergency Department Project	678,700	271,500					
Regional		<b><u>IH-Wide Digital Health</u></b>							
		Various	819,400	327,800					
Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital	Trail	<b><u>Equipment over \$100,000</u></b>							
Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital	Trail	Thulium Laser	250,700	100,300					
Kootenay Lake Regional Hospital	Nelson	Minimally Invasive Surgery (MIS) Towers	406,600	162,600					
		Monitoring System, Physiological	587,000	234,800					
All Facilities		<b><u>Equipment under \$100,000 (Global Grant)</u></b>							
		Equipment under \$100,000	1,112,800	445,100					
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 9,203,600</b>	<b>\$ 3,681,500</b>	<b>\$ 1,375,250</b>	<b>\$ 550,100</b>		<b>\$ 10,578,850</b>	<b>\$ 4,231,600</b>

WEST KOOTENAY-BOUNDARY REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT  
DIRECTOR STIPEND PAYMENTS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE SUMMARY  
JUNE-DECEMBER 2025

DIRECTOR STIPENDS (details attached)	\$	5,422.00
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (details attached)	\$	3,528,013.68
	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>\$ 3,533,435.68</u>

WEST KOOTENAY-BOUNDARY REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT  
 DIRECTOR STIPEND PAYMENTS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE SUMMARY  
 JUNE-DECEMBER 2025

Vendor	Date	Description	Invoice #	Amount Paid
<u>INTERIOR HEALTH</u>				
	7/03/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-416-5	6320005_5_1	\$ 51,839.97
	7/03/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-416-5	6320005_5_2	\$ 9,363.93
	7/03/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-343-1	6321004_1	\$ 1,612.11
	7/03/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-363-1	6322003_1	\$ 2,662.44
	7/03/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-408-1	6325000_1	\$ 13,291.95
	7/03/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-375-1	6325007_1	\$ 4,643.05
	7/03/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-317-52	B/L 317_52	\$ 78.10
	7/03/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-326-36	B/L 326_36	\$ 3,786.82
	7/03/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-348-43	B/L 348_43	\$ 94.01
	7/03/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-380-14	B/L 380_14	\$ 850.57
	7/03/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-415-5	B/L 415_5	\$ 9,838.34
	7/10/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-348-44	B/L 348_44	\$ 6,480.68
	7/10/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-400-11	B/L 400_11	\$ 7,473.63
	7/10/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS 437	CAP26028	\$ 522,400.00
	8/14/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-417-24	6325001_24	\$ 4,070.44
	8/21/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-342-2	6321009_2	\$ 6,148.54
	8/21/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-359-13	6322054_13	\$ 34,897.94
	8/21/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-396-2	6324032_2	\$ 18,281.59
	8/21/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-435-3	6325038_3	\$ 224,142.62
	9/18/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-390-3	6323067_3	\$ 49,684.35
	9/18/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-421-3	6324101_3	\$ 198,537.09
	9/18/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-410-1	6325002_1	\$ 26,247.72
	10/23/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-382-58	6020001_58	\$ 7,247.63
	10/23/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-359-14	6322054_14	\$ 70,410.08
	10/23/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-390-4	6323067_4	\$ 24,243.60
	10/23/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-387-2	6323068_2	\$ 94,713.20
	10/23/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-389-3	6323069_3	\$ 243,246.31
	10/23/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-404-2	6324042_2	\$ 1,168,055.02
	10/23/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-435-4	6325038_4	\$ 80,565.86
	10/23/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-423-1	6325054_1	\$ 81,655.85
	10/23/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-415-6	B/L 415_6	\$ 58,559.42
	11/20/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-404-3	6324042_3	\$ 221,332.72
	11/20/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-421-4	6324101_4	\$ 107,242.95
	11/20/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-414-2	6325006_2	\$ 7,851.67
	11/20/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-375-1-A-CREDIT NOTE	6325007_1-A	-\$ 4,643.05
	11/20/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-435-5	6325038_5	\$ 35,545.05
	11/20/25	WKRHD-BYLAWS-423-2	6325054_2	\$ 42,438.96
<u>OTHER</u>				
REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY	9/18/25	WKRHD-2025 ADMIN SERVICES	R250243	\$ 91,362.00
RECEIVER GENERAL	7/10/25	WKRHD-CRA REMITTANCE-Q2-2025	JUNE 30 2025	\$ 176.62
<b>Total Trades Payable June-December 2025</b>				\$ 3,526,429.78

WEST KOOTENAY-BOUNDARY REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT  
 DIRECTOR STIPEND PAYMENTS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE SUMMARY  
 JUNE-DECEMBER 2025

**Director Expense Reimbursements**

<b>Employee #</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Invoice #</b>	<b>Amount Paid</b>
1004	CUNNINGHAM, HANS	WKBRHD-BOARD MEETING-MILEAGE-JUNE 2025	JUNE 26 2025	\$ 72.80
1017	JACKMAN, GARRY A	WKBRHD-BOARD MEETING-MILEAGE-JUNE 2025	JUNE 26 2025	\$ 154.00
1025	POPOFF, WALTER A	WKBRHD-BOARD MEETING-MILEAGE-JUNE 2025	JUNE 26 2025	\$ 40.60
1036	MCGREGOR, GRACE E	WKBRHD-BOARD MEETING-MILEAGE-JUNE 2025	JUNE 26 2025	\$ 98.00
1041	WORLEY, LINDA	WKBRHD-BOARD MEETING-MILEAGE-JUNE 2025	JUNE 26 2025	\$ 53.70
1097	MAIN, LEAH	WKBRHD-BOARD MEETING-MILEAGE-JUNE 2025	JUNE 26 2025	\$ 133.00
1103	HEWAT, SUZAN	WKBRHD-BOARD MEETING-MILEAGE-JUNE 2025	JUNE 26 2025	\$ 156.80
1128	LOCKWOOD, DIANA	WKBRHD-BOARD MEETING-MILEAGE-JUNE 2025	JUNE 26 2025	\$ 63.00
1154	BAKER, EVERETT	WKBRHD-BOARD MEETING-MILEAGE-JUNE 2025	JUNE 26 2025	\$ 137.20
1156	BULLER, EZRA	WKBRHD-BOARD MEETING-MILEAGE-JUNE 2025	JUNE 26 2025	\$ 98.00
1157	GUESFORD, CATHERINE	WKBRHD-BOARD MEETING-MILEAGE-JUNE 2025	JUNE 26 2025	\$ 63.00
1158	WILLSEY, JUDITH	WKBRHD-BOARD MEETING-MILEAGE-JUNE 2025	JUNE 26 2025	\$ 208.60
1159	MARTIN, TERRY	WKBRHD-BOARD MEETING-MILEAGE-JUNE 2025	JUNE 26 2025	\$ 43.40
1160	GIBBS, SHAREN	WKBRHD-BOARD MEETING-MILEAGE-JUNE 2025	JUNE 26 2025	\$ 261.80

**Total Director Expenses Payable June-December 2025**

**\$ 1,583.90**

**Total Accounts Payable June-December 2025**

**\$ 3,528,013.68**

WEST KOOTENAY-BOUNDARY REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT  
 DIRECTOR STIPEND PAYMENTS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE SUMMARY  
 JUNE-DECEMBER 2025

## Stipend

Emp.#	Name	Given Name	Chair Stipend	Travel Time	Stipend	Total
503	Cunningham	Hans			\$ 137.00	\$ 137.00
513	Grieve	Alison			\$ 137.00	\$ 137.00
516	Jackman	Garry		53	\$ 137.00	\$ 190.00
524	Popoff	Walter			\$ 137.00	\$ 137.00
537	McGregor	Grace			\$ 137.00	\$ 137.00
540	Worley	Linda Jean			\$ 137.00	\$ 137.00
568	Davidoff	Andy			\$ 137.00	\$ 137.00
574	Watson	Aimee			\$ 137.00	\$ 137.00
584	Hewat	Suzan		53	\$ 137.00	\$ 190.00
596	Main	Leah		53	\$ 137.00	\$ 190.00
658	Lockwood	Diana			\$ 137.00	\$ 137.00
693	Weaver	Jeff			\$ 137.00	\$ 137.00
694	Marino	Frank			\$ 137.00	\$ 137.00
696	Gibbs	Sharen		80	\$ 137.00	\$ 217.00
697	Baker	Everett	\$ 1,449.00	53	\$ 274.00	\$ 1,776.00
698	Willsey	Judith		66	\$ 137.00	\$ 203.00
699	Wiese	Linda		53	\$ 137.00	\$ 190.00
700	Smienk	Johannes			\$ 137.00	\$ 137.00
702	Bogle	Brian			\$ 137.00	\$ 137.00
703	Page	Keith			\$ 137.00	\$ 137.00
705	Buller	Ezra			\$ 137.00	\$ 137.00
706	Martin	Terry			\$ 137.00	\$ 137.00
712	McLaren-Caux	Aiden Kenneth			\$ 137.00	\$ 137.00
714	Rhodes	Cecil			\$ 137.00	\$ 137.00
715	Guesford	Catherine			\$ 137.00	\$ 137.00
<b>Total Directors Stipend June-December 2025</b>						<b>\$ 5,422.00</b>



## WEST KOOTENAY-BOUNDARY REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT

Box 590, 202 Lakeside Drive  
Nelson, B.C. V1L 5R4

Telephone (250) 352-6665  
Fax (250) 352-9300  
Toll Free 1-800-268-7325

# 2025 Union of BC Municipalities Convention

## Province Meetings Summary Notes

**Report Date:** 09-24-2025

**Prepared By:** Stuart Horn, Secretary/Treasurer

### Increased Supports for Rural and Remote Health Care

**West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital District Attendees:** Everett Baker – Mayor, City of Grand Forks and WKBRHD Chair; Sharen Gibbs - RDKB Director - Area E; Suzan Hewat – Mayor, Village of Kaslo and WKBRHD Board Vice Chair, Stuart Horn, Secretary/Treasurer

#### **Provincial Attendees:**

Debra Toporowski, Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Health

#### **Background:**

Continued support for seniors living in rural areas, including service access and transportation, is a constant need for our area. Cuts to Hope Air and funding gaps on travel reimbursements are having an impact on our communities. There have been project delays for projects at Kootenay Lake Hospital and Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital. These critical projects require firm timelines for completion. Discuss the need for regionalized certification process for nurses, nursing internship in rural hospitals and a rural nursing program. The Fortis power shut off plan could have significant impact to health care. The impact of the US and other tariffs to the WKBRHD capital budget.

**Request:** The RDCK and RDKB respectfully requests the Ministry of Health provide some feedback and solutions to the rural issues being experienced in the WKBRHD catchment area.

#### **Discussion Summary:**

- WKBRHD (RDCK and RDKB) wishes to highlight specific issues that are negatively affecting the provision of care in rural communities:
  - Recruitment and retention of health care workers in rural areas;
  - Project delays for infrastructure upgrades in our communities;
  - Patient transportation.

- WKBRHD directors identified the potential for local schooling at Selkirk college combined with rural residency to get the experience they need and encourage the potential that they might stay in rural communities.
- Delays in projects at all WKBRHD facilities are preventing appropriate service delivery.
- Concerns of WKBRHD directors were noted about the lack of reliable transportation options for rural residents accessing specialized services in larger centres. Many communities are not served by public transit and Handy Dart services are not comprehensive.
- There is an over-reliance on the support from volunteer drivers, which is observed to be diminishing due to the responsibility of care and associated costs.
- Lack of transportation limits the ability of seniors to age in place in rural communities and limits the ability to attend medical appointments.
- Ministry staff acknowledged the issues and made note of the WKBRHD concerns.