



GENERAL BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, June 1, 2011
QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Submitted by: Meryle Hilberry, Chair, Cowichan District Hospital Foundation

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What are your plans regarding a site selection for a new hospital? When will you meet with Cowichan Valley Regional District to begin the site selection and planning model?

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We recognize and appreciate the interest of the Cowichan District Hospital Foundation and the Cowichan Valley community in our plans for the renewal of Cowichan District Hospital. This is VIHA's second highest major capital project priority, second only to the North Island Hospitals Project. Preliminary work has begun with key stakeholders to identify future services that would be required in a renewed Cowichan District Hospital.

VIHA must follow the direction required by the Ministry of Health for major projects, and we anticipate that the process for Cowichan District Hospital will likely to be similar to that currently underway for the North Island Hospitals Project, which includes the following steps:

1. Identify the redevelopment of Cowichan District Hospital as a high priority with the Ministry of Health. This step has been completed.
2. Receive Ministry of Health approval to create a Project Board to review the need for the project. Project Board membership could include (but may not be limited to) Ministry of Health, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, Partnerships BC and VIHA.
3. Based on concurrence of a need as identified above, develop a comprehensive business case that includes details of the services required in the renewed hospital, infrastructure and architectural details, and potential new or existing locations.

If the renewal of Cowichan District Hospital requires a new site, a process to identify and review potential sites will be developed. VIHA meets regularly with the Cowichan Valley Regional District, and we will continue to work with them as this project moves forward.

As integral funding partners, both the Cowichan Valley Regional District Board and the Cowichan District Hospital Foundation Board will be kept informed of, and involved in, this process. We value the Foundation's on-going support and commitment to improving health services for the residents of the Cowichan Valley and look forward to continuing to work with you.