

Spotlight

June 2016

Chair & CEO in Castlegar



Left to right: Interior Health Board Chair Erwin Malzer; WKBRHD Board Chair Marguerite Rotvold; Interior Health CEO/President Chris Mazurkewich.

The WKBRHD Board welcomed Interior Health Chair Erwin Malzer and CEO/President Chris Mazurkewich to its June 22nd meeting.

Mr. Mazurkewich talked about the scope of IH: over 19,000 staff, 1,500 physicians and 4,800 volunteers help to ensure quality health care in a diverse region that covers over 215,000 square kilometres. The WKBRHD is one of seven regional hospital districts in IH, which serves a population of 750,000 residents.

Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital in Trail is one of four regional hospitals in IH, and as Mr. Mazurkewich pointed out, “the only [one] that hasn’t experienced major change. From our perspective, it’s time.”

This was good news for the Board of the WKBRHD, which unanimously supports the proposed renovation project at KBRH, which would see improvements to the emergency department, pharmacy and ambulatory care. The project has been earmarked as a priority by Interior Health but requires approval from the BC government.

“KBRH is a high priority for Interior Health.”



The Rotvold Report

Chair Marguerite Rotvold said that staff will arrange for the WKBRHD Executive to meet with Health Minister Lake at the UBCM Convention in September. She encouraged Directors to send their topics for the meeting to her.



Have Your Say!

If a community group or delegation would like to present to the WKBRHD Board at any of its meetings, please check out our delegation policy at <http://www.rdck.ca/assets/WKBR~Hospital~District/Documents/POLICY-Delegation.pdf> or contact Anitra Winje at awinje@rdck.bc.ca or 250.352.8166.



Lake in our Hospitals

BC Health Minister Terry Lake met with the WKBRHD Executive Committee at Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital on June 20th to talk about the state of the facility. This marked the first time the Minister has visited the regional hospital. Jonathan Jinjoe, Director of Plant Services, gave the Minister a tour and explained the renovations that are needed at KBRH (emergency room, pharmacy and ambulatory care). Our hospital is the only one in the Interior Health region that has not undergone a major renovation.

Minister Lake also visited Kootenay Lake Hospital in Nelson.



Left to right: Garry Jackman, RDCK Area A; Dir. Mike Martin, City of Trail; BC Minister of Health Terry Lake; Dir. Leah Main, Village of Silverton; Dir. Marguerite Rotvold, Village of Midway; Dir. Walter Popoff, RDCK Area H (Slocan Valley)

Arrow Project Launched



Interior Health has announced that an architectural firm has been chosen for the Arrow Lakes Hospital emergency department upgrade project. Stantec Architecture will review options for renovations to the site and prepare a schematic design. The process is estimated to take six to nine months. This design project is being funded wholly by the WKBRHD. Future steps will depend on which priorities are selected for funding by Interior Health and the Ministry of Health.



Strategizing for Health

The Interior Health Authority has identified five key strategies for health care:

- 1) Enhance access to appropriate primary health care
- 2) Improve primary & community care delivery and outcomes for frail seniors living with complex chronic conditions
- 3) Improve primary and community care delivery and outcomes for mental health and substance use clients
- 4) Improve timely access to elective surgery
- 5) Implement a renewed system of care for rural BC, including aboriginal health.



Upcoming Meetings

Oct. 26	Castlegar Community Complex	6 p.m.
Nov. 23	Castlegar Community Complex	6 p.m.

Did you Know...

That WKBRHD taxpayers have contributed \$32.1 million to capital projects in the region since 2001?



Hotline for Help

call to report elder abuse

Interior Health has launched a support line to assist seniors if they are concerned about abuse. To access this service, call 1-844-870-4754.

“Physicians in Kootenay Boundary are leading lights in quality”

*- Chris Mazurkewich,
CEO/President Interior Health*

Electing for better service

In 2016, Interior Health is striving to have 95% of elective surgeries performed within 40 weeks. In 2017, it aims to reduce that wait time to 26 weeks.



Stats and Facts

- 40% of IH’s resources go to the health care needs of frail and end of life patients
- we have more people over 65 in our health region than we have residents under 17
- the aged population is growing

The Ministry of Health is reviewing how health care can be delivered differently. To that end, a shift from acute care to integrated primary and community care to support independent living and dying at home is underway.

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