

CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT

STAFF REPORT TO THE HEALTH FACILITIES PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2005

SUBJECT:

Vancouver Island Regional Hospital Districts (VI-RHDs)/Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA)
October 21, 2005 Joint Capital Planning Meeting

PURPOSE/PROBLEM:

To report on the meeting.

HISTORY/BACKGROUND:

Biannually, the six Vancouver Island Regional Hospital Districts (VI-RHDs) meet with the Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) to discuss and debate the health facilities capital plan. At any point in time there are two capital planning processes, one for the upcoming year and one for longer term.

The October 21st meeting was attended by Regional Hospital District Chair, Karen Watson, and Jeremy Tate. Ms. Watson attended a Directors-only luncheon meeting with VIHA Board Chair, Jac Kreutz, which was followed at 1:30 with the full meeting of Board and staff representatives.

The main afternoon meeting involved presentations on VIHA's Draft Five-Year Strategic Plan, the Draft 10-Year Capital Plan and the 2006/07 Capital Plan. Both the Strategic Plan and the Ten-Year Capital Plan are being reviewed in detail by staff and their reports will be ready by November 18, 2005. A copy of the Strategic Plan presentation is attached.

A. 2010 Strategic Plan (Draft)

The full 97-page Plan had been released on October 21st with the presentation giving an overview of it.

By far, the majority of the content of the presentation was related to the elderly - describing the size of the population, the forecast growth (highest in the Central area) and their high share of hospital in-patient services. Addressing the needs of the elderly population is one of five priority issues and the presentation mentioned an urgent need to increase home and community care capacity. For the South Island (Capital Region), the presentation outlined an additional 120 residential care and assisted living units and a 14% growth in the number of home support clients.

The other four priority issues included:

- Improving and minimizing variations in health status
- Developing a comprehensive primary care approach
- Improving access and coordination of mental health and addiction services
- Developing a sustainable network of hospitals

The staff reports will go into more detail while this report covers the main points.

On health status, the South Island has the higher health status (life expectancy, standardized mortality rates, potential years of life lost) compared to the Central and Northern parts of the region. The implication is that resources, both health and human services, and other social policies would have greater potential for improving health status while focusing on the two up-island regions.

Not much time was available for primary health or mental health and addiction services with the exception of mention of targeting aboriginal and downtown/hard-to-serve populations with population health and prevention strategies.

On the hospital side there was reference to supporting Saanich Peninsula Hospital's role as a community hospital with an enhance range of services, exploring opportunities to reconfigure program locations and improve patient access and flow. VIHA also mentioned that they had received approval to commence planning for replacement of inpatient facilities at the Royal Jubilee Hospital, a project estimated at \$167 Million. The Board approved a \$1M contribution for the planning of this project in July 2004.

B. The Draft Ten-Year Capital Plan

The Draft Ten-Year Capital Plan was incomplete and had much less information than last year's Five-Year Capital Asset Management Plan. No meaningful comments can be provided until more details are provided. VIHA suggested they would be in a position to discuss the longer range capital projections in early 2006.

C. The 2006/07 Capital Plan

This plan was also incomplete with a follow-up meeting to be scheduled in February/March 2006. With the exception of the aforementioned planning for the Royal Jubilee in-patient redevelopment project there appears to be no sign of any increase in provincial or Health Authority capital.

Both the 2006/07 and long range capital plan are referenced in other reports going to Committee this month.

D. RHD Funding Agreement

VIHA are looking for a long term funding agreement from the Island RHD's but this is not possible without an accurate and comprehensive 10- Year Capital Plan.

F. Strategic Plan Consultation

The timeline for the consultation process shows it commencing in September and ending in February. Given that the Plan was not publicly released until October 17th we would expect that the consultation will extend until March 2006.

VIHA's consultation process has a number of options including online feedback, open houses and focus groups. Staff is reviewing the consultation opportunities and proposes to report back to Committee at its next regular scheduled meeting on January 18, 2006.

VIHA have asked Regional Districts to work with them on consultation, particularly the Community Open Houses scheduled for Victoria, Sidney and Colwood the week of December 5, 2005. There are also to be focus groups dealing with specific issues. We are currently seeking more information on what issues will be discussed and how these focus groups will be conducted.

ALTERNATIVES:

Not applicable.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Not applicable.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That this report be accepted for information.



Jeremy Tate, Director
Health Facilities Planning

COMMENTS:
Concurrence

C.A.O.