

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 13, 2015

New Royal Jubilee Boiler Plant Will Keep the Heat on

VICTORIA – A \$6.5 million dollar upgrade to the Royal Jubilee Hospital boiler plant will keep the hot water hot and the air at a comfortable temperature for patients and staff for decades to come.

The Capital Regional Hospital District (CRHD) Board today approved a \$1.41 million contribution towards a \$4.7 million addition to the existing Royal Jubilee Hospital boiler plant. This amount is on top of \$1.8 million previously approved for other associated boiler plant infrastructure upgrades. This brings the total boiler plant capital investment at Royal Jubilee to \$6.5 million, of which \$2.13 million is from the CRHD. The remaining funds are expected to be approved by the Ministry of Health and Island Health shortly.

“What is ‘under the hood’ of our hospitals doesn’t often get a lot of attention,” said Joe Murphy, Vice President, Operations and Support Services at Island Health. “The reality is that systems like reliable and efficient boilers keep our hospitals operational and are vital in supporting the delivery of safe, high quality and comfortable care for patients.

The current boiler plant and part of its distribution system at Royal Jubilee has been operating since the mid-1960s and has reached the end of its useful life. Significant upgrades would be needed to prevent a potential hospital shutdown due to heating plant failure. While Royal Jubilee has three boilers and as such would be able to continue to function if one of them went down quietly, there could be a need for hospital shutdown if more than one boiler was no longer functioning.

“The Capital Regional Hospital District and residents of the Capital Region, through their property taxes, play a crucial role in ensuring capital funding is available for a variety of hospital-related infrastructure projects,” said David Howe, CRHD Board Chair. “Projects like boiler plants may not be as interesting as a new hospital building or diagnostic imaging equipment but they are equally important and the CRHD is pleased to continue its support for excellent health care projects in our community.”

Once all the project approvals are secured, Island Health will issue a public tender. Work is expected to begin in the summer, with the final project completed in 2017.

-30-

Media Inquiries

Suzanne Germain
Director, Communications
Phone: 250.370.8294 or 250-216-3652
Email: suzanne.germain@viha.ca

Capital Regional Hospital District Media Inquiries

Andy Orr, Senior Manager
CRD Corporate Communications
Tel: 250.360.3229 or 250.216.5492