
BACKGROUND

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Office of the Premier
Ministry of Health Services

RIVERVIEW REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

The Riverview Redevelopment Project is a collaborative effort involving the Ministry of Health Services, the Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) and B.C.'s five regional health authorities. This initiative will see the transfer of clients with serious and persistent mental illness from Riverview Hospital to new or upgraded mental health facilities in the five regional health authorities. When the process is complete, there will be close to 500 beds in the Lower Mainland and 415 beds in facilities located throughout B.C.

Fraser Health Authority: A total of 115 Riverview Hospital replacement beds have opened to date in the communities of Delta and Coquitlam. In 2004, 19 beds opened at the Delta View Habilitation Centre and 52 additional beds opened at the same facility in June 2007. Operational responsibility for the 20-bed Connolly Lodge, the original prototype facility built on the Riverview site, transferred from PHSA to Fraser Health in October 2006, while the 24-bed Cottonwood Lodge, which will operate as a campus of care with Cypress and Connolly Lodges, opened in November 2006.

Interior Health Authority: A total of 132 replacement beds have been developed in the Interior Health region. In Kamloops, 40 beds opened at South Hills Psychiatric Rehabilitation Centre, six at Hilltop House and 44 at the new Hillside Centre adjacent to Royal Inland Hospital. The Hillside Centre facility houses a 25-bed component of the BC Neuropsychiatry Program, in addition to adult tertiary and geriatric psychiatric patients. A further 42 beds have been transferred to existing facilities in Cranbrook, Vernon, Osoyoos, Penticton and Trail.

Northern Health Authority: Northern Health has opened a total of 65 Riverview replacement beds. These include: 20 at Iris House in Prince George, 14 at Bulkley Valley Lodge in Smithers, eight at the North Peace Care Centre in Fort St. John, and 20 at Seven Sisters in Terrace. Three tertiary acute beds for residents of northern communities are located in Kamloops and are co-managed with Interior Health as part of a larger acute care facility.

Vancouver Coastal Health Authority: In August 2007, VCH opened nine new beds at the Trout Lake Tertiary Rehab Unit in Vancouver's Lakeview Care Centre. VCH is now preparing to open 40 non-acute interim tertiary beds (20 neuropsych and 20 older adult) and is in the final planning stages for the placement of 85 more permanent beds.

Vancouver Island Health Authority: Twenty-four new beds opened at the Seven Oaks Tertiary Mental Health Facility near Victoria in 2002. Forty new beds provide psycho-geriatric care at the Sandringham Care Centre in Victoria and four beds at St. Joseph's Hospital in Comox were funded through the Riverview Redevelopment Project.

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