

For Immediate Release
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Media Release

Foundation Welcomes News of Royal Alexandra Hospital Redevelopment

Resourceful plan to redevelop aging hospital good news for Alberta

Edmonton, AB – The Royal Alexandra Hospital Foundation today welcomed news that the Royal Alexandra Hospital – a cornerstone of healthcare in Northern Alberta which cares for more than half a million patients each year – will undergo a major redevelopment in the near future.

The Alberta Government's five-year capital plan, announced today at the Royal Alexandra Hospital by Premier Jim Prentice and Minister of Health Stephen Mandel, includes major new investments in health facilities to meet Albertans' needs in Edmonton and northern Alberta. The redevelopment of the main patient care area at the Royal Alexandra Hospital will also see the existing patient care area of the Royal Alexandra Hospital repurposed for sub-acute and mental health care.

"The Royal Alexandra Hospital Foundation congratulates the Government of Alberta on its decision to announce that a new patient care tower at the Royal Alexandra Hospital is moving forward," said Andrew Otway, President and CEO of the Royal Alexandra Hospital Foundation. "The Alberta Government has shown great foresight in ensuring that these important health infrastructure investments continue, especially during challenging economic times. The repurposing of the older patient care area at the Royal Alex to support other health needs is an efficient use of the current facility and will definitely expand and improve care for patients."

John Day, Chair of the Royal Alexandra Hospital Foundation's Board of Directors, also welcomed the announcement.

"This is an exciting and very important day for the hundreds of thousands of residents from across northern Alberta who call the Royal Alex their hospital," said John. "Up to one third of all patients who require specialized health care and the emergency trauma care at the Royal Alexandra Hospital arrive from Western Canada and Canada's North."



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The major patient care area of the Royal Alexandra Hospital is known as the Active Treatment Centre (ATC). Maintaining a high level of care in this large main building is a growing challenge. Designed in the 1950s and opened in 1963, this building holds 502 inpatient beds at the Royal Alexandra Hospital.

The Royal Alexandra Hospital is also home to one of the busiest emergency departments in the country, and handles more surgeries than any other hospital in the province.

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