

# North Island Hospitals Project Newsletter

## Hundreds turn out for Education & Industry Expo

Construction of two new hospitals in the Comox Valley and Campbell River is estimated to create approximately 1,900 direct and 1,400 indirect jobs over the next three years, including education, training and employment opportunities for young people.

That was the message April 11<sup>th</sup> as the North Island Hospitals Project and other organizations presented information to hundreds of students attending an Education and Industry Expo hosted by North Island College and School District 72 in the Timberline Secondary School gymnasium.

About 30 organizations took part in the career fair to inspire students to pursue interests and consider possible careers in trades and technologies. The North Island Hospitals Project shared a booth with Island Health's Aboriginal Employment Program.

North Island Hospitals Project construction will provide many job opportunities for trades, technicians and professionals. Examples include:

- Tradespeople including journeymen, apprentices and helpers for:
  - ◇ Carpentry
  - ◇ Electricians
  - ◇ Plumbers
  - ◇ Metal Sheet Workers
  - ◇ Heavy Equipment Operators



Students visit the North Island Hospitals Project/Island Health/Aboriginal Employment Program booth at the Education and Industry Expo in the Timberline School gym.

**Come build your future with us**



- ◇ Laborers
- ◇ Painters
- ◇ Drywallers
- ◇ Carpet Layers
- ◇ Mason workers
- ◇ Pipefitters
- ◇ Concrete workers
- ◇ Shippers
- Certified technicians and technologists for systems such as:
  - ◇ Communications
  - ◇ Building Operators
  - ◇ HVAC Balancers
  - ◇ Equipment and Building System Specialists
  - ◇ Locksmiths
- Professionals:
  - ◇ Mechanical Engineers
  - ◇ Electrical Engineers
  - ◇ Building Architects
  - ◇ Landscape Architects
  - ◇ Civil Engineers
  - ◇ Structural Engineers
  - ◇ Quantity Surveyors
  - ◇ Project Managers
  - ◇ Purchasing Agents

The North Island Hospitals Project is working with School Districts, North Island College, NIEFS (North Island Employment Foundations Society), the North Vancouver Island Aboriginal Training Society, trade associations, businesses and other organizations to develop apprenticeship and other training programs for tradespeople.

The main message for students: Talk to your school counsellors. They have the knowledge and the tools to help you identify career paths and guide you to make sure you're taking the right courses to be prepared to make the most of future opportunities.

Also: Stay informed. Visit and bookmark the North Island Hospitals Project website: [www.nihp.viha.ca](http://www.nihp.viha.ca) for project information, news and updates. You can subscribe to our NIHP newsletter/events notification email list.

As a follow-up to last year's very successful industry speed-dating events, the North Island Hospitals Project will be working with the Campbell River and Comox Valley Chambers of Commerce to host an opportunities fair in each community later this spring, allowing local companies (hotels, caterers, contractors, suppliers, tradespeople and others) the opportunity to meet with the selected proponent to highlight their qualifications and/or services.

# Tandem Health Partners named as selected proponent

Following an extensive evaluation process, the North Island Hospitals Project named Tandem Health Partners as the selected proponent for the project April 4th.

Tandem was one of three proponent teams shortlisted in April 2013 and invited to submit proposals to design, build, partially finance and maintain a new 153-bed Comox Valley hospital and a new 95-bed Campbell River hospital.

The next step is for the NIHP to negotiate a fixed price, performance-based final agreement with Tandem Health Partners. Should an agreement be reached, construction of the two new hospitals will begin shortly afterward with completion estimated for late 2017. Details of an agreement to build the new hospitals will be made public if an agreement is finalized.

The two state-of-the-art hospitals will:

- Provide patient-centred care for Islanders, including First Nations

and the elderly

- Attract and retain health care professionals
- Be high-performing, sustainable and energy efficient.

The North Island Hospitals Project will be built as a public-private partnership. Examples of previous partnerships in BC that resulted in new health care facilities include the Royal Jubilee Hospital Patient Care Centre in Victoria, the Abbotsford Regional Hospital and Cancer Centre, and the Fort St. John Hospital and Peace Villa.

The Provincial Government estimates the project will create approximately 1,900 direct jobs and over 1,400 indirect jobs during the construction period. All health care services will continue to be funded by the B.C. Government and delivered by Island Health. The cost of the project will be shared by the B.C. Government and the Comox Strathcona Regional Hospital District.

## *Making the most of opportunities presented by large projects*

How can the local construction industry adapt to take advantage of the opportunities presented by large projects such as the North Island Hospitals Project or BC Hydro's John Hart Generating Station replacement?

That was the question of the day when the Vancouver Island Construction Association (VICA) hosted "Own the Opportunity" at the Old House in Courtenay, a talk show-styled panel discussion about the various issues and opportunities associated with mega projects.

"I was very impressed by the participation of the VICA members, the turnout, the quality of questions and the general support we received in the room, for both our project and the John Hart Project," Chief Project Officer Tom Sparrow said afterward. "I also felt that these sessions enable us to really help provide insight to the VICA membership which will also help them as they work closely at developing business contacts and strengthening their relationships with the various contractors that will be working on our project over the next three to four years."

The luncheon meeting continued the NIHP pattern of local business consultations and involvement. Sparrow has been involved in other business panel discussions as well as making numerous presentations to industry associations, chambers of commerce, young professionals and more. Last May, the NIHP team joined the local Chambers of Commerce and VICA to stage "speed-dating" events in Campbell River and the Comox Valley to bring prospective businesses, trades, suppliers and others together with the three



**NIHP Chief Project Officer Tom Sparrow, left, speaks during a panel discussion sponsored by the Vancouver Island Construction Association. Next to Sparrow were, from left, BC Hydro's Stephen Watson, Houle Electric's Ross McLean, BC Construction Association Chair, VICA CEO Greg Baynton and moderator Stephen Andrew.**

proponents then competing for the NIHP contract.

"The speed dating in both communities laid the groundwork for building on those relationships between the selected proponent and the suppliers, the tradespeople, the service companies, all of the organizations that are operating in these communities," Sparrow said.

With the naming of Tandem Health Partners as the selected proponent, 'opportunities fairs' are being planned for Campbell River and the Comox Valley, to bring the selected proponent and local interests together in advance of construction of the two new hospitals. Details about the opportunities fairs will be announced as soon as they become available.

[nihp.viha.ca](http://nihp.viha.ca)

Want to know more about the North Island Hospitals Project? Leave a question or comment? Subscribe to our email/events notification list? The new North Island Hospitals Project website offers a handy one-stop shop information exchange. Please visit and bookmark [www.nihp.viha.ca](http://www.nihp.viha.ca) to find out about project history, design principles, business opportunities, community engagement and more. You'll also find information updates and Frequently Asked Questions. Please check it out. Let us know what you think and what you'd like to see on the website in the future.