

## CMHA Project Update – December 2017

### **New Centre for Mental Health and Addiction** *Improving care, supporting recovery*

With more space in a purpose-built facility, the new Centre for Mental Health and Addiction, opening in late 2019, will improve care for clients, replace an out-dated facility and add more beds for people experiencing severe mental health and addiction challenges. The building design will enable best practices in care and support long-term recovery.

“Environment plays a huge role in recovery,” said Connie Coniglio, Provincial Executive Director Adult Mental Health and Substance Use. “This new facility will enable us to build on the great care currently provided by staff in the Burnaby Centre, with a safe, healing environment.”

#### ***A Collaborative Approach***

As a provincial facility, planning for the Centre for Mental Health and Addiction has benefited from the active participation of several key stakeholders. The Provincial Health Services Authority, BC Mental Health & Substance Use Services, the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing have worked together with the regional health authorities, First Nations Health Authority, Kwikwetlem First Nation, Burnaby Centre staff and physicians as well as clients and families to plan for the new facility. This input and ongoing collaboration will ensure the new Centre for Mental Health and Addiction meets the needs of a unique and diverse client population.

#### ***Therapeutic Environment, Trauma-informed Care***

The new Centre will serve people who have experienced significant barriers accessing care and supports, are users of crisis and emergency services, have frequent interactions with the criminal justice system, and are often homeless or at risk of homelessness. The facility will support them with healing spaces that incorporate natural light and views of the Riverview lands and surrounding area. Each client will have their own private room and bathroom.

“When I first came here I had trouble being around people,” said Curtis, a client from Dawson Creek who has been at the Burnaby Centre for the past few months. “The staff and structure have been helpful. The new building has more opportunities for independence. It will be beautiful.”

Planning for the new Centre for Mental Health and Addiction continues. For more information, visit [www.bcmhsus.ca](http://www.bcmhsus.ca).

### **Project at a Glance**



#### **Quick Facts**

- 105 beds (an increase of 11)
- 7 units, each with 15 individual rooms and private bathrooms
- Opening windows allow fresh air
- Spaces for clients to connect
- 2 large therapeutic gardens
- Areas for creativity, exercise and spirituality
- Accessible outdoor patios
- Spaces for teaching, education and research
- Full production kitchen
- Indigenous art and sacred space
- State-of-the-art telehealth technology
- 23 gender neutral bathrooms for visitors and staff
- Incorporation of natural light

#### **Project Timeline**

**October 2016 – March 2017:**  
Consultation re: design/requirements

**April 2017:** Ellis Don awarded construction contract following RFP

**November 2017:** Ground breaking

**Fall 2017 – 2019:** Construction and ongoing consultation

