



MEDIA RELEASE

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Public Open House to Celebrate Newly Renovated Renal Unit at KBRH

TRAIL – Interior Health, in partnership with the BC Renal Agency, an agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority, the Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital (KBRH) Health Foundation, the Trail Hospital Auxiliary and the Rossland Health Care Auxiliary, is pleased to invite the public to attend an open house for the newly renovated and expanded Renal Dialysis Unit at the hospital on April 25th.

“Through this partnership dialysis patients will now have access to an expanded and more private and comfortable space,” says Minister of Health George Abbott. “I’m pleased these agencies could combine resources to improve the quality of care for patients across the Kootenay Boundary health service area, and I encourage the public to come see this exciting enhancement of services.”

The \$1.2 million renovation, funded by the BC Renal Agency, saw the Renal Unit move from the 2nd Floor of KBRH to the 4th Floor. Changes include a more spacious, bright and comfortable location for the patients who spend over 12 hours a week at the unit receiving dialysis. Other improvements incorporate new recliners, TVs and entertainment equipment, a separate home dialysis training room and expanded space for the nurse educator.

“The BC Renal Agency is committed to improving access to, and the quality of, dialysis services across British Columbia, and this renovation is an important step in that direction, especially when you consider the many hours patients spend at the unit on a weekly basis,” says Dr. Adeera Levin, Provincial Executive Director of the BC Renal Agency.

The KBRH Health Foundation, Trail Hospital Auxiliary and the Rossland Health Care Auxiliary provided approximately \$30,000 in equipment and patient care and comfort improvements for the new space. Interior Health provides the staff, spacing and maintenance of the Renal Unit.

“The foundation is very pleased to continue its support of high quality dialysis services at KBRH,” says Karin Uzeloc, Foundation Vice-Chair. “We are very fortunate in the Kootenay Boundary to have committed and hard-working auxiliaries. The Trail Hospital Auxiliary and the Rossland Health Care Auxiliary generously support the Renal Unit. We are also very fortunate to have dedicated individual donors who are committed to excellence in renal services.”

The new Renal Unit, which features 8 dialysis chairs (one in a secluded room), has been open for service since March and the comments from patients have been very positive. The increased privacy, new comfortable recliner chairs, new TVs and DVD players, and the expanded space are all garnering praise from patients.

“Staff members feel there’s more room to move about without congestion, and the bright space and view from the 4th floor is excellent,” says Trail Community Administrator Frank Marino. “In addition, moving the Renal Unit to the 4th Floor will allow much needed room for other services in the hospital.”

The Open House will run from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., Wednesday, April 25th. Refreshments will be served and tours will be provided by Renal Unit staff.

For more information, media contact:

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