



# News Release

## Children's Hospital of Saskatchewan Reaches Another Milestone

(November 10, 2010), Saskatoon – The Saskatoon Regional Health Authority, at its monthly meeting today, unanimously passed a motion approving the functional program for the new Children's Hospital of Saskatchewan (CHS). The functional program lists what types of maternal and pediatric health care services will be incorporated into the design of the new hospital. Approval of this plan is yet another major project milestone.

"Passing this motion is huge," said board Chair Jim Rhode. "The people of Saskatchewan have been waiting a very long time for this new hospital and step by step, Saskatoon Health Region, the project team and all of our partners are making progress on seeing this hospital become reality."

The functional program recommends the following key services be included in the new hospital:

- maternal services such as antepartum inpatient, labour assessment, fetal assessment, intrapartum inpatient (labour and delivery), post partum inpatient and maternal outpatient;
- pediatric services such as a neonatal intensive care unit, pediatric intensive care unit, pediatric inpatient, pediatric surgical suite and pediatric outpatient;
- adult and pediatric emergency services.

Project planners re-visited the 2007 program and made amendments to it that will better meet the health care needs of a growing population. The amendments recommend that the vast majority of rooms will be private; there will be additional family space within the rooms and critical care areas; decentralized nursing stations; spiritual care space; and, a family resource center. The inclusion of these services and special rooms results in a total of 164 beds for the new hospital within a building that will encompass 27,033m<sup>2</sup>.

Approval of the program represents yet another milestone for the CHS project since funding for it was announced in March 2009. One such milestone includes Saskatoon Health Region staff, University of Saskatchewan representatives, clients and families validating the site for the new hospital via a thorough and intensive site validation process in June. The validation panel unanimously recommended Royal University Hospital be the location for the new hospital. That recommendation received University of Saskatchewan (Board of Governor's Board 1 equivalent) approval on July 29<sup>th</sup> allowing the project to proceed to the design phase. Another significant milestone was the provincial government re-affirming its commitment to the project by handing over a cheque to Saskatoon Health Region for \$200 million in September.

"I know the project team, planners and consultants past and present have put a lot of work into the functional program. They have talked to patients, staff, families, physicians and a multitude of stakeholders to make sure the new Children's Hospital of Saskatchewan will meet the current and future health care needs of mothers and their children," said Rhode, "it is great to see their efforts pay off."

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