



BC WOMEN'S HOSPITAL  
& HEALTH CENTRE  
*An agency of the Provincial  
Health Services Authority*



Provincial Health  
Services Authority  
Province-wide solutions.  
Better health.



BRITISH  
COLUMBIA

The Best Place on Earth

BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre, an agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority, provides services for pregnant women, newborns and women with specialized health needs from across the province. BC Women's is an academic health centre affiliated with the University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University, and the Women's Health Research Institute. For more information, please visit [www.bcwomens.ca](http://www.bcwomens.ca).

The Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) plans, manages and evaluates selected specialty and province-wide health care services across BC, working with the five geographic health authorities to deliver province-wide solutions that improve the health of British Columbians. For more information, please visit [www.phsa.ca](http://www.phsa.ca).

**Media Contact:**

Communications  
BC Women's Hospital  
& Health Centre  
604-875-2301  
[comm@cw.bc.ca](mailto:comm@cw.bc.ca)



Subscribe to our news feed  
using RSS.

## MEDIA RELEASE

**November 27, 2009**  
**For immediate release**

### **Making room for miracles** **Improved facilities for moms-to-be at BC Women's**

VANCOUVER – New mothers will benefit from the completion of a \$4.65-million renovation project to the ambulatory care facility and lobby at BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre, an agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA).

"Outpatient services are one of the fastest growing areas of healthcare and BC Women's is no exception as the largest referral centre in B.C. for high-risk pregnancies and the busiest maternity centre in Canada with nearly 7,000 women delivering babies every year," says Health Services Minister Kevin Falcon. "The renovated facility benefits the moms-to-be who need the highly specialized prenatal diagnostic and outpatient services provided by BC Women's as well as their families."

The newly renovated space provides women and their families access to outpatient maternity services in settings that provide improved patient comfort, accessibility, safety and quality of care. The Ministry of Health Services provided \$3.9 million in funding for the project and the BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre Foundation provided \$750,000 for much needed equipment.

"We appreciate the support from the provincial government and the BC Women's Foundation," says Wynne Powell, PHSA Board Chair. "The renovations enable BC Women's to have an innovative and effective service delivery model for ambulatory maternity services that will address the current and projected needs of the populations served by BC Women's."

"We knew the old space didn't make sense for women or their caregivers," says Dr. Jan Christilaw, President, BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre. "With a centralized registration/booking hub, new patients waiting areas, and improved washroom facilities, our patients and their families experience a more comfortable environment that is also easier to navigate."

"The women of B.C. deserve the finest technologies in this special family-oriented facility," says Sarah Morgan-Silvester, Chair, Board of Directors, BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre Foundation. "Thanks to our generous donors, every woman and her family have the opportunity to experience the most precious gift of all — the miracle of life."

Highlights of the major clinical and operational improvements include:

- Centralized registration and booking hub reduces patient waiting time by 40 per cent or more and makes clerical work more efficient;
- New waiting areas were created closer to specific clinics with better access to washroom facilities to replace the previous small, often cramped waiting area in the middle of the lobby area;
- Centralized exam rooms that include a six-room pod consisting of four exam rooms and two consult rooms directly adjacent to a new waiting area diminishes travel time required by clinicians and patients to navigate the clinic;
- Additional clinical space with three exam rooms, three consult rooms, two fetal monitoring bays, one ultrasound scan room, and one procedure room accommodate future demand and improve efficiencies;
- Flexible work areas replace traditional, one-person stand-alone office spaces with a team area to foster greater inter-professional collaboration and integration of services.
- Infection control improvements accommodate patients with infectious diseases and facilitate handwashing; and,
- A patient education resource area in the lobby gives patients free access to educational resources and a computer.

Highlights of new equipment include:

- Portable digital blood pressure monitor;
- Integrated Diagnostic Systems with blood pressure monitor, thermometer, ophthalmoscope and otoscope;
- Blood pressure cuffs;
- Doppler ultrasound fetoscopes;
- Electric Exam Beds with removable/adjustable armrests & knee crutches;
- Fetal assessment monitors;
- Flat panel TV and DVD player for patient education;
- Ultrasound machine;
- Computers and monitors;
- Surgical instruments;
- Furniture for exam and consult rooms, workstations and patient quiet rooms.

With completion of the new acute care centre for children and women several years away, BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre will continue to upgrade its space and infrastructure to provide the best possible patient care for women and their families across the province.

-30-

**Note to Editors:** Photos of the renovated areas are available.

**Media Contact:**

Communications  
BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre  
604-875-2301  
[comm@cw.bc.ca](mailto:comm@cw.bc.ca)