



NEW HOSPITAL PROJECT UPDATE

The new hospital project is a long-term one that requires much preparation and planning. It involves the Provincial Government, the Health Authority, the Twin Rivers municipalities, the fundraising committee and the community.

PROJECT TIMELINE SUMMARY

2011 – Discussion started with the Town and local physicians, then with the Twin Rivers municipalities.

2012 – Twin Rivers established a steering committee and met with officials from the Saskatoon Health Region on numerous occasions then with the Minister of Rural & Remote Health and MLAs.

2013 - Meetings continued with both Saskatoon Health Region and provincial authorities.

2014 – The Sask Valley Hospital Foundation was created. Fundraising initiatives began and meetings with officials continued.

2015 – The Twin Rivers municipalities agreed to collect funds through the municipal tax levy in order to have the 20% of the community share of the project costs. Fundraising continued. Meetings continued.

2016 – Planning continued with the Town and RM of Rosthern setting up a committee to look at land options. Fundraising continued. Meetings continued.

2017 – A number of meetings and discussions with land owners were held. Fundraising continued. Meetings continued.

2018 – The Twin Rivers municipalities and physicians met with officials from the Infrastructure Management department of the newly-formed Saskatchewan Health Authority to ensure that the Rosthern Hospital was still on the list of replacement projects for the new authority. We were informed that it remains at the top of the list for replacements in rural communities.

HOW MUCH MONEY DO WE HAVE TO RAISE AND HOW MUCH DO WE HAVE?

According to provincial policy, municipalities must pay for 20% of project costs for a new hospital. It used to be 40%. It is estimated that 20% of the project will amount to approximately seven million dollars.

As of January 2019, there is approximately \$ three million dollars set aside from both fundraising and municipal tax levies.

WHERE WILL THE NEW HOSPITAL BE LOCATED?

The location of a new hospital is “officially” decided on by the Ministry of Health through recommendation from the municipality in which it will be situated.

Approximately 10 acres is needed for the proposed hospital site. Eight (8) locations were considered, three of which were located in the RM of Rosthern No. 403. After consideration of the following factors, council felt that a portion of the SE 34-42-03 would be the most appropriate location for a new hospital and purchased the land W3 (located in the Southwest part of the Town and West of the Department of Highways building):

- Land elevations & drainage.
- Access to the property for ambulance and other users (both local and out of town)
- Traffic patterns & the effect on the neighborhood.
- Servicing costs – water, sewer, streets, etc.
- Cost of the land.

WHAT WILL THE NEW HOSPITAL LOOK LIKE?

The Health Authority will determine what the new hospital will look like and how it will function, including the number of beds and what services the hospital will provide (ie. Day surgery, etc.)

WHEN WILL THE NEW HOSPITAL BE CONSTRUCTED?

The Provincial Government has yet to give the “official” approval for the project. This will be done when the Province has the capacity to include the project in its budget. There is still much to be done for a project of this nature, so in the meantime, planning and preparation will continue so that we can be shovel-ready when the project is officially approved.