September 2010

BHB evaluates three bids

Revitalising KEMH

While BHB is evaluating three bids in our search for the private partner that will be responsible for the new hospital building, the existing acute care building is being refurbished to extend its life for another 20 years. Here are some examples of current projects:

- Ward room refurbishment on Perry Ward has been completed; Cooper Ward will be complete by the end of this month and Gordon Ward refurbishments have commenced.
- A new digital mammography machine is currently being installed and will be available in October. It replaces the last film-based machine at KEMH. Once installed, all diagnostic imagery technology at BHB will be digital, allowing for faster testing and results.
- The creation of a visitors' lounge and patient advocacy office on the third floor has begun, and is expected to ready at the end of the year.
- Of the 160 new windows that will be installed at KEMH, 25% are now in place. This project, part of the plan to prolong the useful life of the current building, will result in energy savings.
- The clinical area of the Beresford Swan Dialysis unit will be maintained and refurbished. Work will be phased to minimise patient disruption.
- Queen Elizabeth II Nurses' Residence will be vacated and extensively renovated over the coming months. It is one of two buildings that has not been freshly painted (along with the Ministry of Education in the "old hospital"). QENR will be repainted after refurbishment. The "old hospital"/ Ministry of Education will be demolished to make way for the new hospital building.

New Building on the KEMH Site

Right now, BHB is evaluating bids from the three teams that are competing to become BHB's private partner. Each team has worked thousands of hours to produce the vast number of documents and schematics needed to support its respective bid. BHB must spend considerable time on the evaluation, to ensure that it is both thorough and fair. The front-running bid team, also known as the preferred bidder, will be announced at the end of this month.

It is anticipated that, by the end of this year, the preferred bidder and BHB will finalise the contract which details the arrangements for this private partner to: i) finalise the design of the new hospital building, ii) finance the new hospital building, iii) construct the new hospital building, iv) maintain and refurbish the new hospital for a period of 30 years.

Meanwhile, BHB continues with its substation and parking lot project on the KEMH site. BELCO is now beginning to equip the substation. The parking lot is being paved. Once complete, the substation and parking lot will replace those currently in use on the new hospital building site which are to be demolished to make way for the new building. BHB and the Ministry of Health (which currently have offices in the "old hospital") continue to relocate staff and services to allow the new building site to be prepared.

What does "preferred bidder" mean?

After evaluating each of the three competing teams against the same pre-established criteria, the team which best meets evaluation criteria while offering the best value for BHB will be chosen as the preferred bidder. The preferred bidder and BHB then work to finalise the contract. It is expected that this will occur near the end of this year. At that point, the preferred bidder will become BHB's private partner, and work will begin shortly after. The private partner is responsible for designing, financing, building the new acute care hospital building, and then maintaining it for 30 years.



Bermuda Hospitals Board KEMH Redevelopment Project

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