

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Regional Hospital District Invests \$1.3 Million to Fund Capital Projects at Northern Health**

The Fraser-Fort George Regional Hospital District is investing \$1.3 million dollars to fund capital projects for Northern Health. The funds come in the way of a \$1 million global grant for 2010 for capital projects and an additional \$320,000 for smaller building upgrades and the Health Link North project.

The \$1 million global grant will be used to pay for a variety of medical equipment for hospitals and health facilities in Prince George, Mackenzie, McBride and Valemount.

In addition to the \$1 million global grant, the Regional Hospital District approved just over \$320,000 to the Health Link North Project (\$263,500) an improved clinical information system that integrates patient information from a variety of sources including radiology, pharmacy, lab, admitting and emergency. It will also support minor building upgrades (\$56,667) to hospitals and health centres in Prince George, McBride and Valemount

“The Fraser-Fort George Regional Hospital District is extremely proud of the role it plays in providing strategic funding to improve the delivery of health services in our region,” says Regional Hospital District Acting Chairman Dave Wilbur. “Since 2006, we have invested \$11.7 million to support minor and major capital projects such as the Cancer Control Strategy and other significant building improvements at health facilities throughout the Fraser-Fort George region.”

“Capital funding contributions from the Fraser-Fort George Regional Hospital District are an essential component of Northern Health’s work to continually improve local healthcare infrastructure”, said Michael McMillan, Northern Interior chief operating officer for Northern Health. “We appreciate the strong support from our Fraser - Fort George Regional Hospital District partners.”

The Regional Hospital District was incorporated in 1967 and shares the same geographic boundaries as the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George (RDFFG). The directors of the RDFFG are also the directors of the Regional Hospital District, however, it is a separate and distinct corporation. The primary function of the Regional Hospital District has been to share in the capital expenses of Northern Health’s health care facilities and medical equipment within the Regional Hospital District boundary.

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