

February 14, 2017

RVH's future cardiac centre reaches milestone

Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH) celebrated a Valentine's Day milestone today, announcing the construction firm that will build North Simcoe Muskoka's only advanced cardiac centre, as part of RVH's regional advanced cardiac program.

Following a public bidding process, CHART Construction Management Inc. of Concord, Ontario was awarded the \$5 million contract in an event held in the shelled space designated for the program.

"We've been building the foundation for a strong cardiac program for many years now," says Janice Skot, president and CEO, RVH. "Over the past five years, we've recruited a team of eight heart doctors, added state-of-the-art diagnostic equipment, partnered with the YMCA to provide cardiac rehab in the community, opened a cardiac renal inpatient unit, a cardiac intensive care unit and an urgent cardiology clinic to identify at-risk patients. This really has been no small undertaking, but today's announcement makes our goal of providing an advanced cardiac program seem more real than ever."

The awarding of the contract means construction on the advanced cardiac centre can begin by late-February and is slated to be complete by fall of 2017.

"Once construction is complete we will begin installing and testing equipment, and training staff. This process will take a few months to complete allowing us to begin providing specialized cardiac care toward the end of 2017. Patient safety is our priority and we have always planned for a phased introduction of services," says Selma Mitchell, operations director, Cardiovascular and Renal program, RVH.

To ensure patient safety, RVH has always planned for a gradual launch of the advanced cardiac program with angiograms beginning in late 2017 and transitioning to angioplasty eight months later.

A newly-formed cardiac Patient and Family Advisory Council will ensure RVH continues to build a program focused on meeting the needs of patients and families.

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Cutline: Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH) celebrated Valentine's Day with *heartfelt* news for the region. Following a public bidding process, CHART Construction Management Inc. of Concord, Ontario was awarded the \$5 million contract to build North Simcoe Muskoka's only advanced cardiac centre, part of RVH's regional advanced cardiac program. From left – David McCullough, chair, RVH Foundation Board of Directors; Michael O'Keefe, vice chair, RVH Board of Directors; Ann Hoggarth, MPP Barrie; Janice Skot, president and CEO, RVH; Dr. Brad Dibble, medical director, Cardiovascular and Renal program, RVH; Gerry Marshall, warden, County of Simcoe; Selma Mitchell, operations director, Cardiovascular and Renal program, RVH.

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About RVH:

RVH is a regional health centre in Barrie, Ontario, located 80 kilometres north of Toronto. As the largest hospital in the region of Simcoe Muskoka, RVH's team of over 350 physicians, 2,500 employees and 850 volunteers provides exceptional care and specialty services to almost half a million residents, including cancer care, stroke services, orthopaedics, intensive care, mental health and interventional radiology. RVH is focused on delivering high-quality, safe care that puts patients and their families first. For more information visit www.rvh.on.ca