

Canada: HEALTH CARE PROJECTS IN NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA

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Summary

The Northern Health Authority, responsible for health care in northern British Columbia (BC), recently announced two separate projects to expand the quality of health care in northern British Columbia: the BC Cancer Agency Centre for the North Project in Prince George valued at \$80.1 million, and the Fort St. John Hospital and Residential Care Project valued at \$216.8 million. These two projects create excellent export opportunities for American firms supplying high tech, cost effective products and services to the health care industry.

BC Cancer Agency Centre for the North Project

The BC Cancer Agency Centre for the North, part of Northern Health's Cancer Control Strategy, is the first of its kind in northern BC. The new 45,200ft² facility is currently in procurement with the contract scheduled to be awarded fall 2009. Completion of the new Cancer Centre is scheduled for 2012. In addition to building the Cancer Centre, the costs associated with this project include additional space and renovations to the pre-existing Prince George Regional Hospital.

Opportunities for US Firms:

In addition to U.S. firms specializing in building materials and construction equipment, the Cancer Centre presents export opportunities for US manufacturers of energy efficient equipment, as the plan calls for achieving LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) gold certification. The facility also needs two linear accelerators used for cancer treatment, devices involved in cancer treatment, diagnostic services, and high-quality medical and waste disposal equipment.

Fort St. John Hospital and Residential Care Project

The present Fort St. John Hospital no longer fulfills the needs of the people of Fort St. John and as such will be rebuilt. The project is in the final stages of bid tendering with construction scheduled to begin later this year and end in 2011. Valued at US\$216.8M, the site will include three facilities: a 161,000ft², 55-bed hospital; a detached 71,000ft² centralized food, laundry, and services service centre; and an attached 54,000ft², 123-bed residential care facility for seniors.

Opportunities for US Firms:

The new hospital and associated buildings present extensive opportunities for US manufacturers. Aside from building and construction materials, the hospital will require hospital beds for both the hospital and the residential care facility, food storage and preparation equipment capable of serving at least a 200 people, large load laundry machines, hospital equipment for laboratory, diagnostic, and treatment both in the senior care facility and the main building.

U.S. companies interested in establishing business relationships with representatives, distributors, government contacts, or licensing partners, should consider taking advantage of trade development programs offered by the U.S. Commercial Service.

For More Information

On these projects, please visit the Partnerships British Columbia website:

BC Cancer Agency Centre for the North Project - http://www.partnershipsbc.ca/files/project-bcca.html

Fort St. John Hospital and Residential Care Project - http://www.partnershipsbc.ca/files/project-fsjh.html

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