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## BACKGROUND

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Ministry of Health

### **BC CANCER AGENCY - CANCER CARE IMPROVEMENTS**

- The Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) is a partner in the Abbotsford Regional Hospital and Cancer Centre (ARHCC). PHSA is the health authority providing cancer care services through its specialized agency, the BC Cancer Agency.
- The cancer centre facility within ARHCC will be known as the BC Cancer Agency's Abbotsford Centre. It will be the fifth regional cancer centre in the province and the first to open in the Lower Mainland since 1995.
- The centre represents an important step forward in the BC Cancer Agency's provincewide mission to:
  - reduce the incidence of cancer
  - reduce the mortality rate of people with cancer
  - improve the quality of life of people living with cancer
- The new cancer centre is the first in Western Canada to be integrated within a hospital "from the ground up." Partnering in care with Fraser Health, along with the facility's state-of-the-art design features and enhanced services, will promote seamless care for patients.
- This centre will be an integral addition to the BC Cancer Agency's provincial services. It will be a state-of-the-art provider of cancer care and research and work closely with interdisciplinary teams across the BC Cancer Agency's provincial network.
- The rapidly growing Fraser Valley urgently needs the quality health-care services that will be provided in this new, state-of-the-art facility.
- The opening of this centre will offer Fraser Valley patients the opportunity to receive a spectrum of world-class cancer care services closer to home. It expands the BC Cancer Agency's ability to pursue innovation and research, and improve patient outcomes.
- Each year, about 2,800 Fraser Valley residents are newly-diagnosed with cancer. The BC Cancer Agency's Abbotsford Centre can accommodate up to about 60,000 patient visits annually at full capacity.
- The BC Cancer Agency's Abbotsford Centre will offer a full range of cancer control services, including:
  - new patient multi-disciplinary consultation and care planning
  - 12 chemotherapy chairs and systemic care
  - four linear accelerators for radiation therapy and enhanced brachytherapy services
  - supportive care, nutritional consultation and rehabilitation
  - pain/symptom management and palliative care

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- hereditary cancer program
  - breast health services in collaboration with Fraser Health
  - patient and community education in cancer prevention
  - professional education/liaison for community based cancer control programs
  - a research-focused mandate that provides patients with access to national and international clinical trials
- BC Cancer Agency expects to employ about 127 people at the Abbotsford Centre and is recruiting for a range of medical and radiation oncology roles through to nursing, nutrition, clinical counselling, pharmacy, clinical physics, clerical and administrative functions. Current vacancies are listed online at:  
[http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/ABCCA/JoinourTeam/CurrentVacancies/abbotsford\\_ctre.htm](http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/ABCCA/JoinourTeam/CurrentVacancies/abbotsford_ctre.htm)
  - For further updates about the BC Cancer Agency's Abbotsford Centre, see  
<http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/RS/AbbotsfordCentre/>

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