# NANAIMO REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT

## **NEWS RELEASE**

February 25, 2025

### Nanaimo Regional Hospital District Board Election

The Nanaimo Regional Hospital District (NRHD) acclaimed a Chair and Acting Chair at the February 25, 2025, meeting of the NRHD Board per provincial legislation. Janice Perrino takes on a one-year term as Chair of the NRHD, while Ian Thorpe moves into the role of Acting Chair, also for a one-year term.

"I'm honoured to carry on the incredible work of my predecessor, Ian Thorpe, as the new Chair of the Nanaimo Regional Hospital District Board. Our advocacy efforts have helped lay a stronger foundation for better healthcare in our region, but much is still to be done. I look forward to working with my fellow board members and regional partners to move current projects forward. Following Premier David Eby's fall 2024 election promise to build a new patient tower and cardiac catheterization lab at Nanaimo Regional General Hospital, we are asking the Government of British Columbia to commit to a plan and timeline for moving these critical projects forward." Janice Perrino, Chair, NRHD

"I'm proud to serve as Acting Chair in support of Chair Perrino and our board as we channel our efforts to continue improving healthcare services for our communities. I'm proud of the significant projects approved in our region, such as the high-acuity unit at Nanaimo Regional General Hospital which will be operational this year. We are committed to carrying this momentum for as long as it takes to see the remaining projects built." Ian Thorpe, Acting Chair, NRHD

In 2022, the NRHD identified five priority capital projects. Progress has been made on all projects. The Government of British Columbia (the Province) has approved a new high-acuity unit (currently under construction) and the Nanaimo Cancer Centre (to begin construction in 2025) at Nanaimo Regional General Hospital (NRGH). The long-term care facility, to be located in Lantzville, is in the design phase. In the fall of 2024, Premier Eby committed to building a new patient tower and cardiac catheterization lab at NRGH. The NRHD is grateful to the Province for its significant commitment to improved healthcare infrastructure and services in Nanaimo and urges the Province to create a plan and timeline for these remaining two priority projects. The NRHD has put in place a financial strategy to support its contribution to these critical projects and is ready to work with the Province in partnership to move these projects forward.

#### **About the Nanaimo Regional Hospital District**

The Nanaimo Regional Hospital District (NRHD) provides annual capital funding to Island Health in support of local healthcare facilities under the Hospital District Act. It is an independent entity that has its own budget and is governed by a Board of Directors while sharing the same boundaries, directors and administrative staff as the Regional District of Nanaimo. Hospital Districts are required to approve a provisional budget on or before December 31 each year and adopt, by bylaw, an annual budget on or before March 31 each year. More information about the NRHD can be found online at: rdn.bc.ca/hospital-district.

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