NEWS RELEASE

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GROUND BREAKS FOR NEW RESIDENTIAL CARE BEDS IN TRI-CITIES

COQUITLAM – Construction began today on Foyer Maillard, a new residential care facility in the Tri-Cities. The new building includes 125 beds for seniors, an increase from 45 beds in the previous facility, meeting the complex care needs of residents living in the Tri-Cities and across the Fraser Health region.

"As our population ages, we need to ensure the best care facilities are in place to provide support," said Port Moody-Coquitlam MLA Linda Reimer. "The redeveloped Foyer Maillard will continue to offer its clients the high quality residential care they have been used to in an updated facility."

"Today marks a big step for the expansion of residential care services that will benefit families in the Tri-Cities and across the Fraser region," said Coquitlam - Burke Mountain MLA Douglas Horne. "I'm extremely pleased to see work starting on this project, as it will allow more residents to live and receive care in the community."

"We are investing in more residential care in our region to meet the needs of our population, shared Dee Chatha with Fraser Health. "As we continue to focus on investing in our communities, such as with Foyer Maillard this will help alleviate hospital congestion by reducing the length of stay for those waiting for residential care placement."

Foyer Maillard is the only care facility in British Columbia offering French long term care services that allow residents to receive culturally and linguistically centred care.

"We are excited to provide bilingual services to more seniors and adults through our social and cultural activities as well as health related programs," shared Jean Riou from Société du Foyer Maillard.

Through BC Housing, the B.C. government arranged approximately $25 million in mortgage financing for the project, Société du Foyer Maillard provided over $4.1 million in equity, and Fraser Health will provide over $8.2 million in annual operating funds.

The Tri-Cities was identified in 2013 as one of four communities across the region in need of increased residential care capacity due to rapid growth in the senior's population. The 80 new beds is part of an investment to build 403 new residential care beds in the Tri-Cities, Surrey, and White Rock. Foyer Maillard was one of the successful proponents in the Tri-Cities.

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