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Tender awarded for Multi-Centre RFP development ***Committee opts to pursue wood as a primary building material***

Quesnel – The North Cariboo Multi-Centre project continues to advance, as the North Cariboo Joint Planning Committee (NCJPC) formally approved a significant tender award at last Tuesday evening’s meeting.

The tender awarded the Bridging/Compliance Consultant Services to Cannon Design Architects Ltd. for \$124,110. Cannon Design will act as the Cariboo Regional District’s and City’s expert throughout the Design-Build Request for Proposals (RFP) development stage. The Design-Build RFP lays out exactly what construction specifications are required to be met by the builder. Cannon Design’s job is to ensure that the RFP is realistic and achievable within the \$30 million project budget.

The NCJPC also committed to ensuring the North Cariboo Multi-Centre is design-built with a meaningful and significant use of wood, with wood being used as the primary building material.

"I am pleased with the decision to award this work to Cannon Design," stated CRD Vice-Chair Ted Armstrong. "With their previous knowledge of this project, and their extensive experience building with wood, I look forward to the concepts and designs they will develop for the project."

"I’m excited that we continue to make progress on the Multi-Centre," added Quesnel Mayor Mary Sjostrom. "By pledging to build with wood, we support our wood industry while showing how creativity in wood design will lead to a showcase facility."

Cannon Design was the architectural firm that designed the Richmond Oval, gaining considerable experience in using wood in a meaningful way, both architecturally and structurally. The firm has been involved in the Multi-Centre project before, most notably by completing the pre-feasibility study in late 2006.

Cannon Design will conduct an extensive public consultation process later this month, meeting with elected officials, stakeholders, businesses and the public at large. The goal will be for the community to lay out what it wants to see included in the facility so that those wishes may be considered as part of the RFP development.

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Editors: This release is available online at www.city.quesnel.bc.ca/multi-centre.asp