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NEWS RELEASE

“New Primary Health Centre Officially Opened in The Battlefords”

Prairie North Health Region today celebrated a significant milestone in the advancement of Primary Health Care services for Battlefords and area residents, and the Region as a whole.

The new Primary Health Centre in North Battleford was officially opened with a public ceremony and ribbon cutting, followed by tours of the PHC site.

Prairie North Regional Health Authority Chairperson Bonnie O’Grady said the Region is extremely proud and excited with this major step forward in Primary Health Care services.

O’Grady stated, “Our Region’s first strategic goal is to improve access to quality health services. Delivering responsive coordinated primary health care that meets the everyday health needs of our communities is a fundamental step. Establishment of this Primary Health Centre substantially strengthens the foundation on which our primary health care goals and priorities are based.”

Minister of Health Len Taylor participated in today’s Grand Opening. Minister Taylor congratulated Prairie North on the Region’s initiative and foresight in moving forward with our mutual Primary Health Care agenda.

“Prairie North’s new Primary Health Centre will strengthen the way health care services are accessed in this community, Minister of Health Len Taylor said. “This is a very exciting initiative, and the provincial government is proud to support it.”

The Primary Health Centre co-locates a significant number of health disciplines that are vital components of Primary Health Care. They include a full range of Population (Public/Community) Health Services, a primary health medical clinic (North Battleford Medical Clinic) currently offering the services of six physicians and two registered nurse/nurse practitioners, and a community-based collection site for laboratory work (Laboratory Service Centre).

The facility itself is located in Frontier Mall and is a highly accessible, functional, modern environment for clients and health care professionals.

Health Region CEO David Fan described the Primary Health Centre as a bold new initiative for Prairie North, integrating a broad spectrum of client and patient services at a single location, improving access and service for members of the public.

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“This integration of services facilitates teamwork among the numerous and varied health service providers, creating a comprehensive and holistic approach for delivery of primary health care services,” Fan said.

Primary Health Care is a philosophy of providing health services to individuals, families, communities and populations. It encompasses preventive, promotive, curative, supportive and rehabilitative services.

-30-

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