

Extendicare Canada opens state of the art assisted care facility



Health Minister Gene Zwozdesky (far left), Ken Hughes, chair of Alberta Services Board and Minister of Seniors and Community Supports Mary Anne Jablonski (far right) assist a resident of the Red Deer facility in the ribbon cutting ceremony

RED DEER – Extendicare Canada officially opened a state-of-the-art assisted living facility for seniors in Red Deer’s Michener Hill subdivision Monday afternoon.

Minister of Health Gene Zwozdesky was on hand for the opening, as well as Minister of Seniors Community Supports Mary Anne Jablonski, Ken Hughes, chair of Alberta Health service and Extendicare officials.

Zwozdesky called the new 280-bed facility the wave of the future and a clear expression of the Alberta government’s commitment to providing seniors with the best possible care and real choices. The focus of the government, said the minister, is “helping those who built this province.” The province contributed in excess of \$4 million toward construction of the facility.

Medicine Hat-based Medican Construction personnel were among the invited guests and site manager Felix Dziuba was singled out by Extendicare Canada Western Operations Vice-President Wayne McKendrick for his role in managing the facility’s construction.

“This facility,” said Matt Rood, COO of Medican, “is fabulous. Its design, the architecture – all transport you to another place. We’re proud to have been part of its construction.”

The Red Deer facility not only adds an additional 60 assisted care beds to the region, says McKendrick, but it represents a unique vision of what such a facility can be. “It’s based around the concept of the village square and community living.”

Medican’s restructuring and insolvency adviser Ty Schneider said that the facility is the kind of project the company can take pride in. “When you talk to the seniors, they tell you how happy they are to be living here.”

Extendicare Canada’s Michener Hill facility forms what officials are terming a campus of care for seniors and their families.

“This modern facility,” says Lindsay Perry, Medican spokesperson, “will be complemented by construction of the Sierras Michener Hill condominiums immediately adjacent to the assisted care facility.”

And as Extendicare Canada opened its facility, crews were busy pouring the foundation for Phase 1 of the Medican development which are projected for completion by June 2011.

Cutline for photo:

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