Pearson Redevelopment project announces service provider for apartments at Cambie Gardens

March 30, 2021

Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) has chosen CONNECT, an experienced service provider, to deliver services to 44 George Pearson Centre (GPC) residents, who will transition to apartments in Cambie Gardens, community-based supported housing in new condominiums on the same land.

This is the first phase of the George Pearson Redevelopment Project, which is dedicated to transitioning current residents into holistic, person-centred housing. This a significant step toward further autonomy for people with disabilities in B.C.

Who is the new provider?
CONNECT is a service provider with almost three decades of experience making lives better for individuals after brain injury, stroke and living with a variety of challenges. CONNECT’s Leading Practice Life Redesign Model will help bring to reality the vision that was created by the residents of GPC, their families and community advocates. The Life Redesign Model wraps services around the individual, putting residents in the driver’s seat and supporting them with a coaching resource team to set and achieve goals in their day-to-day life, and create a life that is meaningful to them at home and in the community.

When is the transition happening?
Construction of phase one of the apartments in Cambie Gardens is expected to be complete by the end of 2021, and we will be supporting 44 residents to move into their new homes starting in March 2022. GPC will remain open and continue to provide full services to the remaining 70 residents until all 114 residents have been moved into new housing to be built in the next phases of construction.

How and when will I know if I am moving to the apartments at Cambie Gardens?
Starting April 2021, there will be a process for all GPC residents to re-confirm if they want to be included in this first phase of the transition. Residents who want to be part of this transition can also share their preferences for single, four-bedroom or six-bedroom suites. If there are more people interested than apartments available, then we will hold a lottery to ensure a fair process. All residents who are interested in this first phase, and their families, will be provided with more details related to the process and timeline.

How is VCH supporting families and residents who will be moving to apartments at Cambie Gardens?
We have been working with residents and families to identify their care needs to ensure these needs are met going forward. Our dedicated team is committed to providing timely information and answering all questions that arise as we move through this transition. We will be actively engaging with residents and family every step of the way to learn more about their housing preferences. We will also include information at monthly Resident Council meetings.
Throughout this transition, VCH and our community partners such as CARMA will work closely together to make sure this is a smooth transition for staff, residents and their families.

We are confident we have found the right partner to make our shared vision of the apartments at Cambie Gardens a reality.

Thank you for your support during this transition!