

## Prince George Breast Imaging Centre Mammography Services Transition

Brand new digital mammography equipment is coming to Prince George. Both screening and diagnostic mammography will be moving from Phoenix Medical Imaging, to the University Hospital of Northern BC (UHNBC). All eligible women will be able to have their mammograms performed on the new state of the art digital mammography equipment.

### Key Messages:

- Brand new digital mammography equipment is coming to Prince George
- Diagnostic and Screening mammography services will be moving from Phoenix Medical Imaging to the University Hospital of Northern BC (UHNBC)'s new Breast Imaging Centre
- All eligible women will be able to have their mammograms performed on the new state of the art digital mammography equipment
  - **Diagnostic mammography will begin at UHNBC July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017**
  - **Screening mammography will begin in September, 2017**
- There will be a transition period between the end of screening mammography services at Phoenix, and the start of screening mammography at UHNBC
- Patients with urgent diagnostic mammography requests should continue to be referred to the Phoenix, where the request can be triaged accordingly. **All diagnostic exams should be referred to UHNBC after July 31, 2017.**

### Diagnostic Mammography Referrals:

- **Before July 31, 2017** – Phoenix Medical Imaging (to be assessed for urgency):
  - 250-563-0635 extension 222
- **After July 31, 2017** – UHNBC Breast Imaging Centre (booking):
  - Phone: 250-645-6647
  - Fax 250-645-6648

### Screening Mammography Appointments:

- Call the **Screening Programs Client Services Centre** at 1-800-663-9203

## Q&A

### **When will screening mammograms be available at UHNBC?**

- Appointments are now available to be booked for September 11, 2017

### **Will screening mammograms continue to be available at Phoenix Medical Imaging?**

- Screening mammograms will be available at Phoenix until July 14. Screening will then move to UHNBC and resume operations beginning September 11, 2017.

### **Why is the service moving from Phoenix to UHNBC?**

- The move coincides with installation of new digital mammography equipment at UHNBC.

### **Will diagnostic mammography continue at Phoenix?**

- All future mammography, including both screening and diagnostic mammography will be performed at UHNBC.
- This move is part of Northern Health Authorities (NHA) commitment to developing a new Breast Health Centre (BHC) at UHNBC that will focus on increasing mammography screening rates and decreasing the time from abnormal screening to diagnosis and treatment.

### **That seems like a long time between Phoenix closing and UHNBC opening to get an appointment, what do we tell women who are concerned about the wait?**

- Screening mammograms are for women with no identified breast problems. The current wait time should have no impact on a woman's health. Women with new symptoms such as a new lump, thickening or discharge should see their doctor right away

### **Where can I find the new referral form?**

- The form has been uploaded to all instances of MOIS and community MOIS and is also available for order through Northern Health Document Source ([document.source@northernhealth.ca](mailto:document.source@northernhealth.ca) or 250-649-7550, document #11-210-5012 )

## Questions?

For additional information, please contact:  
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