IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**Procurement begins For New MENTAL HEALTH AND CORRECTIONAL COMPLEX**

The Saskatchewan Government is taking the next step to build the Saskatchewan Hospital North Battleford – Integrated Correctional Facility by releasing a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the proposed design-build-finance-maintain public-private partnership (P3) model.

The government will own the new complex that will include a 188-bed replacement for the existing 156-bed hospital and an adjoining 96-room correctional facility that will house both male and female offenders. The new facility will be built on the grounds near the current hospital building to minimize disruption to patients during construction. Programming and treatment for the two populations will be separate.

SaskBuilds will lead the procurement process by working closely with the ministries of Health, Justice and Central Services, as well as the Prairie North Health Region. Following the close of the RFQ in July 2014 and evaluation of the submissions, a shortlist of no more than three proponents will be invited to proceed to the Request for Proposal (RFP) stage currently planned for release in October 2014.

Construction of the new complex is scheduled to begin in summer 2015 and to be completed by summer 2018. The cost of the facility will be determined through the competitive P3 bidding process.

The RFQ will be available on SaskTenders as well as the SaskBuilds website, [www.saskbuilds.ca](http://www.saskbuilds.ca)

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