



Westman Laboratory Redevelopment Update

February 15, 2010 - Update #10 - *Final Update* -

Presenting the New Westman Laboratory!

After a year and a half of construction at the Brandon Regional Health Centre (BRHC) campus, the Westman Laboratory Redevelopment Project is complete. The result is a state-of-the-art, green laboratory that is among the most modern diagnostic facilities in western Canada. With new workflow design and optimized space utilization, the lab is equipped to manage the current workload as well as keep pace with future testing demands, evolving national laboratory standards and trends in technology and environmental stewardship.



L-R: Finance Minister Rosann Wowchuk, Brandon RHA CEO Carmel Olson, Premier Greg Selinger and Westman Laboratory Manager Carol Brown

Official Re-Opening

DSM celebrated this milestone completion with staff February 10 when Westman Lab was officially re-opened by Premier Greg Selinger, who reinforced the importance of the Westman facility as part of DSM's provincial diagnostic network

Construction Wrap-Up

Expedited construction allowed the project to be finished several months ahead of schedule. Most recent activity included the completion of phase 4 - renovation of clinical offices - which wrapped up in mid-November when medical and scientific staff moved into

the new office space. The last phase of the project to be completed was actually phase three of the project - renovation of administrative offices. Construction on this phase had been underway since late September and finished in mid-December. Staff moved in shortly thereafter.

Looking Toward the Future

Approximately 24,600 square feet of lab space provides more comfortable working conditions for staff. The lab is now housed on a single floor and each department has been designed to optimize workflow.

A new pneumatic tube system in Specimen Management facilitates the receipt of samples from other areas of the BRHC. State-of-the-art equipment includes a new Hematology analyzer as well as new Biochemistry analyzers and Modular Pre-analytic System (MPA) which is the first of its kind in use in Manitoba. The HVAC (Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning) provides improved air temperature and quality by better managing heat generated by lab equipment.

The amenities of the new lab improve the overall working environment for staff in terms of efficiency and safety as well as comfort and ergonomics. Flexibility in the design will allow the lab to grow with the testing demands of rural Manitoba. A continued partnership with staff will ensure that progress and improvement are ongoing.

LEED Highlights

Materials and construction techniques used throughout the project will minimize environmental impact now and into the future. This includes use of recycled materials, such as the exterior limestone, gravel, asphalt, cardboard and metal, as well as materials with low emission characteristics. Light tubes, day light sensors and water efficiencies add to the green requirements which are anticipated to qualify the facility for LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) silver certification.

Thank You!

DSM thanks all of our partners for their patience and adjustments throughout the redevelopment project. Staff must also be recognized for adjusting to disrupted and temporary working environments and for not seeing this as an obstacle to providing the high standard of patient care to which DSM is committed.



Service as Usual at Westman Laboratory

- The new lab entrance (Van Horne Avenue East/south side) is now being used for all courier and funeral home pick-ups and deliveries

Project Summary

A step-wise approach has ensured service continuity throughout the redevelopment project

- New lab includes a one-story 9,600 sq ft addition and renovations to the ~13,000 sq ft existing lab
- June 12, 2009 - Ground breaking for the new Westman Laboratory
- Mid-May 2010 - several departments begin a phased move into the new lab area
- Early June 2010 - phase 2 and 4, renovations to existing south-end lab space and clinical offices, get underway
- June 16, 2010 - completion of the project's most extensive phase was celebrated at a mini opening event with tours for facility staff
- September 20, 2010 - staff begin a phased-in move to the newly renovated lab area
- September 27, 2010 - Phase 3, renovation of administrative offices, began
- Mid-November 2010 - clinical staff move into new offices
- December 9, 2010 - Final inspection
- December 16, 2010 - Bird construction officially vacates the premises
- Jan 10, 2011 - last staff move into the new administrative offices
- Feb 10, 2011 - Official Grand Re-Opening by Premier Greg Selinger