



## Looking Good: Fraser Health Awards New Wearing Apparel Contract

Fraser Health (FH) has awarded a three year contract to BC Textile Innovations Inc. worth \$489,000 for the purchase of thousands of hospital scrubs. The new scrubs, which consist of reversible tops and pants, will be worn by the majority of hospital employees working in specialty or critical care areas.

FH Laundry and Linen services assessed nine different submissions for functionality, staff modesty concerns (improved necklines/pocketing and no side-slits), durability, strength, and conformity to the overall specifications. A new FH property stamp will be applied to the scrubs, as well as a color code strategy designating areas of use.

Currently, FH spends more than \$245,000 per year replenishing the inventory of scrubs. The new contract will save FH approximately \$246,000 over three years.

“Scrubs often disappear from hospitals, making replacements a significant challenge for both the providers and users of scrubs,” says Larry Speidel, FH’s Manager of Laundry and Linen Services.

Approximately 1/20 scrubs are lost in the system. However, Speidel hopes that by introducing new scrubs, this will reduce losses by raising awareness through increased education programs. “After use, scrubs should always be returned to the laundry service to ensure that they are properly cleaned and that they remain in hospitals where employees can reuse them.”

This contract will standardize the wearing apparel contract to a single vendor, and is the first contract of its kind since the inception of FH in 2001. The contract is expected to generate both cost savings, as well as improving scrub inventories.

The wearing apparel contract, negotiated by FH Buyer Wendy Corneau, comes into effect on September 1st.

The photo of scrubs features Burnaby Hospital employees Roshni Chaudhary and Tony Youssef.

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