



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

January 8, 2010

MBTelehealth Program expands again in Parkland

Grandview and McCreary sites officially join Network

McCreary, MB– Two more communities in the Parkland have ‘officially joined’ the active MB Telehealth Network. MBTelehealth and the Parkland Regional Health Authority (PRHA) have been able to expand the program to serve residents in the areas of Grandview and McCreary. The two new sites bring the total number of active Telehealth sites in Parkland to six.

Telehealth is the use of information technology to link people to health care expertise at a distance. There are at least 40 clinical specialties that may be accessed using the MB Telehealth Network.

The PRHA recognizes and acknowledges that the expansion could not have been made possible without extraordinary community contributions towards the initiative. Grandview and McCreary groups and organizations raised the required capital funds towards the purchase of necessary equipment for each community. The PRHA provides support for ongoing operational costs at all Telehealth sites in the Region.

High utilization of Telehealth services in Parkland has led to a third expansion of the regional program since 2002. The original two Parkland sites came on-line in 2002 in Dauphin (Central District) and Swan River (Northern District). The program was expanded to Ste. Rose (Eastern District) in 2005 and Roblin (Western District) joined the network in 2007.

The Parkland Region has the most utilized sites in the entire province. In 2008/2009, there were 8,463 events by Telehealth in Manitoba. In the same time period, 4,076 events originated within the PRHA.

Although the new sites are operational for patients, clients, residents, staff and physicians, a grand opening ceremony will be planned within the next two months to recognize the significance of the program.

For more information,
contact the office of the
**PARKLAND REGIONAL
HEALTH AUTHORITY**

**Community Relations
Coordinator**

Blaine Kraushaar

In Dauphin

Phone: (204) 622-6237

Fax: (204) 622-6232

e-mail:

bkraushaar@prha.mb.ca