

# TRANSITION IMPLEMENTATION UNDERWAY

## *Monthly Status Reports will track progress*



**Above:** *Nina Lowe of Project Control Group prepares for one of many meetings held with staff to review a draft schedule for transition implementation.*

Building the health centre is one thing, preparing for a successful move is another! One has only to glance at the 56 page *Operational Transition Implementation* schedule to get the message that each department has A LOT of work to do in the next year! The schedule outlines the start and finish times of each task that is the responsibility of each department. A status report will be compiled monthly to keep track of how the work in each department is progressing. It will provide a brief check of what departments have accomplished to date, the next steps, and outline any risks and challenges they are facing.

"This way we will know what areas require special attention," says Dave Smits, the director of transition planning. "We will be red-flagging certain items. For example, the 31 bed transfers from NEMHC to the community is a critical issue that requires immediate attention."

The Operating Room is a

good example of a unit that will require a great deal of planning. A clinical project manager with the Transition Team, Rita Kovacs explains the ORs are built around a central sterile core with a dedicated elevator that brings supplies directly from the Central Processing Department. She points out one of the tasks to ensure that everything is in the right place at the right time, is to map out the flow of supplies, case carts and equipment. Staff will also need to learn to use new equipment. For example, the new ORs will have articulating arms to hold monitors and other equipment. Rita points out staff will have to adjust and plan for procedures currently done in the OR that will be done elsewhere. In the new health centre there will be a dedicated Caesarean Section operating room located in the Labour Birthing Recovery Postpartum (LBRP) area. Training of LBRP staff for this is now underway.

The new Ambulatory Care Unit is another department that requires planning to be ready for the move. It will bring together the Cystoscopy, Endoscopy and Women's Health Clinics, that are currently scattered throughout the Scollard and McLaren sites. In the new health centre all these patients will flow through the same preparation area. To be as efficient as possible patient flow needs to be mapped out from patient arrival to registration, nurse interviews, anesthesia assessment, procedure, recovery and discharge. With the fast turnaround time for some procedures and limited storage space within the department Rita points out a detailed mapping of case carts and supplies flow is essential.

In non-medical areas there is also much planning to be done. For example, Human Resources has finalized staffing projections and is moving toward a coordinated recruitment strategy. "The status report will allow transition team members to check in with each department monthly, from now until we move to ensure our move and subsequent operations are successful," says Dave.



**A 56 page document outlines in detail the steps each department must take to be "operationally ready" to move to the new health centre.**