



Media Release

OFFICIAL OPENING

NEW DENTAL CLINIC & MAINTENANCE FACILITY

Date/Time: Monday 18 November 2019 commencing at 3.00pm

Location: Boort District Health, 31 Kiniry Street, Boort VIC 3537

DENTAL CLINIC:

Boort District Health received \$992,691 in February 2018 through the Victorian State Government's *Regional Health Infrastructure Fund (Round 2)* to enable the relocation and expansion of the Boort Dental Clinic.

BDH Board Chair, Mrs Wendy Gladman, stated that *"our Board has a very strong commitment to improving the facilities at BDH, to enhance accessibility, privacy and consistently provide a safe, comfortable environment for patients whilst ensuring an efficient, safe and inclusive work environment for staff. Our new facilities have doubled our capacity to two dental chairs, enhancing workflow between patients, providing much better privacy and increasing overall operational efficiency. This significantly improves access to oral and primary health services for people living in and around Boort. The Loddon Shire is rated amongst the lowest on socio economic indicators in Victoria for poor oral health. Boort District Health provides the only public dental service in the Loddon Shire."*

Dr Darren Clarke, BDH CEO, stated that *"relocation of the existing dental clinic into a refurbished area on the main hospital site has greatly enhanced our ability to provide more coordinated and streamlined holistic health care. Relocating the dental practice under the "same roof" as the other services within the health service has also created additional opportunities for multidisciplinary team work and allowed further sharing of resources."*

Relocation of the dental clinic has enabled co-location and integration of health services, creating a central integrated health care hub. In addition, two multi-purpose consultation rooms were constructed. Dental patients were previously often required to travel to Bendigo (which is over 100 km from Boort) to have detailed oral x-rays, however installation of an OPG Machine now enables more detailed x-rays and many related treatments to be conducted on site on the same day (thereby reducing potential delays in diagnosis and treatment). Sterilisation capacity has also significantly improved.



MAINTENANCE SHED / STORAGE FACILITY:

Boort District Health received \$90,000 in October 2018 through the Victorian State Government's *Regional Health Infrastructure Fund (Round 3)* to enable construction of a purpose-built workshop and storage facility. The new facility allows us to increase our internal operational efficiency by significantly improving work areas for our maintenance staff and enabling integration of appropriate, safe, accessible storage space.

FUNDING:

Dr Darren Clarke, BDH CEO, stated that *"BDH is extremely appreciative of the financial assistance received to support these initiatives. Both projects were primarily funded through the Victorian Government's Regional Health Infrastructure Fund. In addition, Dental Health Services Victoria provided \$25,000 for a dental chair. The BDH Ladies Auxiliary has contributed in excess of \$50,000 towards equipment for dental clinic in recent years. The Charlton and District Community Bank (Bendigo Bank) provided a \$5,000 grant for an intra-oral x-ray system for the second dental chair."*

For further information, please visit our website, www.bdh.vic.gov.au

ENDS

Mrs Wendy Gladman
Board Chair

Dr Darren Clarke
Chief Executive Officer

15 November 2019