

**Backgrounder: Consultations on Improved Services for Valley View Centre Residents**  
**February 24, 2012**

**History of Valley View Centre**

- In the 1950s, large institutions were the standard.
- Built in 1955 for a population of 1,500.
- Reached peak population of 1,200 in the late 1960s.
- Shift to smaller, community-based group homes began in the 1960s.
- Today, more than 3,800 people with intellectual disabilities are supported by community-based services including residential and day programs.

**Valley View Centre Residents**

- Valley View Centre stopped admitting residents in 2002.
- At that time, the population was 385.
- Today, 208 residents live at Valley View.
- Population declines by 10-12 individuals each year.
- By 2015-16, the population is projected to be about 170.

**Current Resident Profile**

- The 208 residents range in age from 33 to 91; average age is 57.
- Current residents have lived at the Centre for an average of 40 years.
- Their needs are:
  - age-related;
  - similar to those being served in group homes run by community-based organizations; or
  - complex (medical or behavioural) requiring intensive supports.

**Aging Facility**

- Valley View Centre was built nearly 60 years ago.
- Located on 204 acres of land on the outskirts of Moose Jaw.
- Designed in the 1950s for congregate living, with separate “cottages” for 45-55 occupants each.
- Buildings and cottages have closed as the population declines.
- Cost of infrastructure upgrades estimated at \$37 million.

**Consultation and Planning**

- There will be no immediate changes.
- Consultation, planning and program development will begin immediately.
- Over the next four years, person-centred plans will be developed for each resident.
- Planning will include families, staff, Valley View Centre Family Group and Saskatchewan Association for Community Living.
- New services will meet the needs of Valley View residents and others with intellectual disabilities, particularly those with complex needs.

**Next Steps**

- Within two weeks, families will receive a letter.
- Planning meetings with Ministry, Family Group and SACL will begin in March.
- Individual meetings for all families will also begin in March.
- Work will begin to:
  - determine the support needs of each individual;
  - prepare detailed plans for new or expanded services, and
  - develop plans to transition residents to residential and day program services over the next four years.