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ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN SERVICES FIRM SELECTED FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY AT MaRS CENTRE PHASE 2

TORONTO – MaRS Centre Phase 2 is moving forward with the initial design work for Public Health Ontario’s new Toronto public health laboratory. Today, Infrastructure Ontario and Public Health Ontario announced the selection of Diamond and Schmitt Architects to provide architectural design services for the project.

Infrastructure Ontario is working with Public Health Ontario on the new laboratory, which will replace an existing facility located in the west end of Toronto. The new laboratory will be constructed within the top four floors of the Phase 2 Tower at the MaRS Centre in downtown Toronto.

Highlights of the project include:

- Flexibility to adapt to new testing platforms, workload surges, changing laboratory functions and research activities;
- Design and construction to meet Leadership in Energy and Environment Design (LEED) Silver rating for Commercial Interiors, which focuses on energy efficiency, healthy indoor environments and reduced greenhouse emissions.

The project includes laboratories, as well as related office, administrative and support space. The Toronto public health laboratory will provide clinical and environmental laboratory testing and support expert advice and research in the prevention and control of infectious diseases. The laboratories will be designed, constructed, commissioned and certified in accordance with the Health Canada Laboratory Biosafety Guidelines.

Diamond and Schmitt Architects is responsible for preparing the architectural and engineering design, drawings, specifications and contract documents for the construction of the laboratories.

The next step is a request for qualifications (RFQ) to select a short list of companies to bid on the construction of the laboratories. The RFQ is expected to be issued by late 2012.

Infrastructure Ontario is a Crown corporation dedicated to delivering some of the province’s larger and more complex infrastructure renewal projects, on time and on budget; managing one of the largest real estate portfolios in Canada and providing real estate services, such as asset management and property and land management; and providing the public sector and not-for-profit organizations with long-term financing to renew public infrastructure. For more information, visit www.infrastructureontario.ca.

Public Health Ontario is a Crown corporation dedicated to protecting and promoting the health of all Ontarians and reducing inequities in health. As a hub organization, it links public health practitioners, front-line health workers and researchers to the best scientific

intelligence and knowledge from around the world. For more information, please visit Public Health Ontario's website at www.oahpp.ca.

Quote:

“The new Toronto public health laboratory is a key component of Public Health Ontario's ongoing commitment to improving the health and welfare of Ontarians. The renewal and advancement of our laboratories is essential for Ontario's continued response to emerging public health threats. The location of our laboratories at MaRS will enhance academic, healthcare and private sector partnerships. We would like to thank our partners and look forward to continuing this exciting project.”

-Dr. Vivek Goel, President and CEO, Public Health Ontario

- 30 -

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