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MEDIA RELEASE

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TENDER AWARDED FOR YAMBA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

Construction is set to commence soon on the new \$5.5m Community Health Centre at Yamba following the awarding of the construction tender, Health Minister Jillian Skinner and Clarence MP Chris Gulaptis announced today.

Mrs Skinner said local contractor Woollam Constructions has been awarded the tender to construct the facility, which will deliver a variety of new health services to Yamba and surrounding communities.

“The new Yamba Community Health Centre will deliver a range of services to cater to the needs of the local community,” Mrs Skinner said.

“The NSW Government is committed to ensuring our regional communities have access to quality health care close to home and the construction of the Yamba Community Health Centre is a wonderful example of this.

“I know there has been considerable community excitement surrounding this project so it’s great that we can mark more milestones on this development.”

Mr Gulaptis said Yamba and surrounding communities will soon see this much-anticipated project becoming a reality.

“Yamba is a community that continues to grow but remains somewhat isolated from important health facilities. This development will deliver a broad range of primary care and referral services for residents of all ages.

“The purpose-built facility will enable local residents to conveniently access key community health and related services in their own town,” Mr Gulaptis said.

Federal Member for Page Janelle Saffin said she welcomed the announcement of Woollam as the successful tenderer for the Yamba Community Health Centre.

“I have seen Woollam’s work on a number of local health projects and it is always of the highest standard. They have a good understanding of the health needs of our region and work well with local health teams and planners.”

The facility was designed by architects Health Projects International, with Development Consent being granted recently by Clarence Valley Council

Construction of the new Yamba Community Health Centre should be close to completion by the end of this year, and following the fit-out it is expected to be ready for opening in the first quarter of 2014.

The new building will be located next to the Ambulance Station on the corner of Treelands Drive and Roberts Close, Yamba and have a total floor area of 810sqm.

The Yamba Community Health Centre project is supported by funding of \$4.3m under the Federal Government's Health and Hospital Fund and \$1.2m from the NSW Government.

Planned services at Yamba Community Health Centre include:

- Community health nursing as well as child and family nursing;
- Mental health support services;
- Oral health services with two dental surgeries;
- General, and child and family counselling;
- Child protection and sexual assault services;
- Allied Health services, school health clinics;
- Aboriginal health chronic care program and group clinics;
- Women's health outreach clinic;
- Drug and alcohol services;
- Specialist palliative care clinician outreach clinic;
- Diabetes outreach and health promotion clinic;
- Telehealth for aged care assessment team services, including a geriatrician and psycho-geriatrician.