

ROYAL JUBILEE HOSPITAL IN PATIENT TOWER



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Victoria, British Columbia | Products: Plastic Laminate Amber Maple Doors

Hospital design gets smarter and more efficient when the clinical part of the design marries the human element. Such was the case at the 500-bed Royal Jubilee Hospital's in-patient tower in Victoria, British Columbia, renowned for its exacting detail to make not only the patient more comfortable, but the clinical process more efficient.

With over 102 specific points of focus just for design in the rooms and hallways created by Zeidler Architects, the eight-story tower features details from hands-free operations to operable windows for light and air—not to mention the joy of city and mountain views—and smart beds to lift systems installed in the ceilings. And that doesn't' t even begin to delve into the high-tech choices meant to streamline the care given patients.

With these points of emphasis, choosing the proper doors wasn't an afterthought.

Lynden Door provided a multi-use solution with its plastic laminate door in amber maple.

Each patient room has double doors, enabling a wide opening for gurneys or other equipment and a narrow opening for quiet night monitoring. Blinds encased between two pieces of glass in the door leading to each patient room serve a specific, efficient purpose too. By having a window into the room from the hallway—able to be closed as needed—it allows staff to monitor patients without disturbance and reduce the chance of infection by keeping the door closed more often. Plus, a little privacy is always welcome in a bustling hospital environment.

Not only practical for staff and patients, the high-pressure decorative laminate door offers plenty of practicality for builders and maintenance staff too. With the ability to pinpoint the needed colors and noted for its reliable uniformity, Zeidler easily kept on its goal of creating 500 identical rooms. Color, tone and sheen all dial in to exactness. The easy-care requirements offer stain resistance, but more importantly the laminate option and dense surface has demonstrated resistance to biological infestation.

Robyne Maxwell, director, care delivery model redesign, has called the reaction to the opening of the new tower exactly what they were hoping for. She says they set out to create a warm, comforting, reassuring space to take away the old institutional feel of the hospital. The design of the Royal Jubilee Hospital was clinically efficient, sure, but also with a healthy dose of human worked in.



Laminate Doors

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