



**Vancouver Island University – Cowichan Place Campus**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**WITH COMMUNITY AND SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS**  
**Held at: Silver Bridge Inn, Duncan, BC**  
**June 25, 2009**

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**ATTENDING:**

Community and Special Interest Group Representatives		
Ric Kelm, Executive Director, Facilities & Campus Development	RK	Ric.Kelm@viu.ca
Maria Lauridsen, Principal of Cowichan Campus	ML	Maria.Lauridsen@viu.ca
Shiv K. Garyali, Principal, Garyali Architect Inc	GAI	garyali@telus.net
John Armitage, Associate, Garyali Architect Inc	GAI	garyali@telus.net
Nick Fiocco, Associate, Garyali Architect Inc	GAI	garyali@telus.net

**Subject**

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**Summary of Comments / Requests Made During Meeting**

- Clements Centre Society
  - Provides child development services and services for adults, primarily for those with developmental disabilities
  - Closest neighbour
  - Traffic concerns regarding new road design. Traffic calming measures required
  - Road design and construction is not VIU responsibility
  
- Use traditional architecture of the Cowichan Tribes
  - Natural Materials, green environment
  - Landscape for shade and creating welcoming outdoor spaces
  
- Will be designed to LEED Gold<sub>TM</sub> Standards - mandated by Ministry
  
- Promote community gardens
  - Car share program with dedicated parking spaces
  - Alternative energy
  - Promote local agriculture through cafeteria food offering
  
- Cowichan Place at community cross roads
  - Walkability, connections to other parts of the community and the urban core, support green space
  - Architecture to reflect land and surrounding environment
  
- Community Access
  - Welcoming lounge, and affordable flexible meeting space(s) for non profit organizations hosting 60 to 120 persons
  - Let youth have a say, from their perspective, what is needed in this campus

- Maria provided summary of student breakdown
  - Full-time equivalent (FTE) students
    - Approx. 560, many part-time
    - Instruction 9:00 A.M. - 9:00 P.M., Monday - Saturday
    - Aboriginal students: 17 - 30 % depending on year
    - Currently new 17% and increasing (VIU total approx. 8%)
  - Numbers will grow once new building is complete
- Somenos Marsh
  - Design site to accommodate outdoor learning opportunity and for scientific demonstration
  - Water management, reuse
- Access to children, play space, parenting workshops child minding, age 2 and over
- Blend Arthur Erickson / Cowichan Tribes architecture styles
- 'Literacy Now': Family Literacy Room
  - Cubicles
  - Community programs
  - Welcoming and available to all
- Daycare
  - Community Partnerships
  - Training opportunities
  - Not included in approved business case for funding
  - Locate elsewhere on Cowichan Place site
- Cowichan Valley students very diverse
  - Younger and older adults
  - Developmentally and/or physically disabled
  - Building to be designed to higher standards than BC Building Code for Accessibility
- Integrate agriculture, shopping, nutrition, cooking etc.
- Island Savings Centre (ISC) - Tie with VIU for events
- VIU will have a library, bookstore and literacy centre
  - Learning Commons Model, one stop shopping for community and students
  - Share with public library
- Parking operation to be self-supporting (VIU Policy) but free elsewhere on-site. VIU to review for this site

- Adult Basic Education demand is growing
- Opportunities for partnerships should be explored. A master plan for entire campus should be reviewed to fill in missing programs that are needed
- Outdoor Amphitheatre
- Childcare much discussion - critical core need to deliver adult education
- ISC has unused 13,000 sq. ft. of space (old pool)
  - Partner with Cowichan School District #79
- Emphasize public transportation / De-emphasize vehicular traffic and parking
  - Create central hub for transit on Cowichan Campus site
  - Link with bicycle / walking trails to and through entire campus
- Elder college (currently at ISC) to include mixed age groups, help with daycare etc.
- One stop shop: Daycare, Trades, and culinary
- VIU as part of high school student experience
  - Consider orientation of both institutions
  - Consideration of First Nations' student population
  - Establish linkages with the high school with shared facilities for science, trades, etc.
- Consider technology as a way of delivering programs that will be limited to the space available at VIU
- ISC have rooms available daytime e.g. Elder College
- Native plant selection
- Plan now for childcare as a community partnership initiative
- Criteria for including or excluding - original business case for funding and master plan for future siting (trades, daycare etc.)
- Shape and detail for child friendly place to benefit parents and children
- New road name, not 'University Way' - Reflect community history - North Cowichan decision
- Set high standards with building design, green standards, self sustainable and carbon neutral

- Consider entire site - Future high school, future needs of ISC
  - Look critically at existing facilities and establish community wants and needs
  - Create holistic plan reviewing the influences of the campus facilities on each other
- Linkage for Clements Centre Society
- Maintain sense of smallness
- Welcoming to First Nations students and community
- VIU Cowichan Place will be built on Somenos traditional territory
- Identify component for community fundraising capital campaign
  - Issue with competition with other community groups
- Plan for expansion
- Create a landmark, self-sustaining university. Can use building itself as a teaching tool
- Attract students - Place to Aspire To
- Consider custodial care when specifying materials and finishes
- Currently public transit is poor, not conducive to university hours for users, VIU should consider intra-campus buses etc.
- Integrate with exterior treatment of ISC, pool and other areas on the campus

**ec: Maria to distribute**  
**Mark Meher-RPG mmehrer@rpg.ca**

*All efforts have been made to present the mentioned items as an accurate record of the discussions at the meeting. Should there be any discrepancies, please contact our office.*