



Meeting Notes

NEW COWICHAN CAMPUS PROJECT UPDATE FOR EMPLOYEES

Date: January 27, 2010 12.30 pm to 1.30 pm

Location: Room 162, Cowichan Campus

Attending: Cowichan Campus Employees, Maria Lauridsen, Ric Kelm, Michele Patterson, Sabina Schulz

1. Project Update

- Schedule and Project Photos were presented by Ric Kelm
- Another update will follow in the spring of 2010
- Site tours will be available in the Fall

2. Questions/Comments

Q: The area is known to be wet, how do we prevent the slab from floating or sinking?

A: There is a high amount of reinforcing in the concrete foundation to weigh it down; and the excavation was compacted with structural fill.

Q: District Energy Systems – will we work with partners?

A: There will be provisions for the future, at this time we can only plan for our own needs.

Q: Do we keep track on how much of the construction cost goes back into the community?

A: There is no specific way at the moment; we would have to determine which of the contractors/vendors are local.

Q: What determined the size of the elevator?

A: The elevator had to have enough room to accommodate a stretcher and as per work safe regulations.

Q: Where there any surprises in the first part of construction?

A: We discovered a gravel pit under the site which provided about \$25,000 worth of gravel. Another positive aspect is that there was no contaminated soil or any archeological issues.

Q: Can we make a left turn from University Way on to Trans Canada Hwy once construction is completed?

A: No, right in, right out only

Q: Since there are so many windows in the new building will we have any room to hang pictures/certificates?

A: Ric Kelm will get information from Garyali Architects and report back next meeting.

Q: Will the sustainability planning include furniture?

A: The building will be scent free. A 30 day "flush-out" of the building is planned where 100% outside air is circulated through the building to remove any chemical fumes/irritants.

Q: Will the whole campus be smoke-free?

A: A new campus always invites new ideas, a grass root movement by everybody involved is a good start.

Q: New building inspection – who is ensuring that we are meeting building codes?

A: The engineers and architects have the obligation as part of their contract. They are on site every week to ensure the construction will meet or exceed building code. We have also sent all drawings to the district of North Cowichan for review.

Q: Is any space provided for future expansions?

A: There is an area identified and stub-outs/pipes adjacent to the parking area for expansions.

Q: Is any corporate sponsorship for green technologies in place?

A: There are possibilities with the green roof and geothermal.

Q: Are there any budgetary provisions if we exceed funding?

A: A control budget is in place where we determine if and where we exceed budget and how to adjust. The tenders have a built in "add/delete" clause.

Q: If there are any unforeseen events such as a snow storm; when will it be decided if the completion date has to be adjusted?

A: It will be re-evaluated in the Fall to determine if potential delays have been modified by time gain in other areas.

Q: The floor plans have disappeared from the VIU web-site, will they be available again?

A: The floor plans will be finalized and back on the web-site after the tenders close.

Q: Could the move into the new facilities occur over Christmas?

A: Yes, the staff will be kept apprised as the date moves closer.

Q: Will the suggestion box stay open?

A: Yes, and any input is appreciated

3. Next Meeting

Tbd – possibly Spring 2010