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## THE GATHERING PLACE WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

**DRAFT**  
**No. 03**

Held: 9:30am, November, 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at Building 255, room 170, Vancouver Island University, Nanaimo, BC

Attendance List to be provided by Karen Baxter

### No. Action Item

#### 1.0 GENERAL

The purpose of Workshop No. 03 was to:

- Review the comments from Workshop NO. 2 and the Community Meeting held on November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008.
- Review the cost analysis;

Dan introduced Duff and Mike Brawn who will be teaching the students involved with the framing of The Gathering Place.

#### 2.0 SCHEDULE

Alfred reviewed the Project schedule handed out at the meeting and noted the schedule was pushed back 2 weeks due to the preliminary costing exercise required to confirm the budget for the project. Dan noted that the students would not be ready till late April or May to participate in construction and thus this amendment is acceptable.

In order to keep on schedule Alfred will require the schematic design to be reviewed and signed off in December. Dan and Craig will work towards this target and Alfreds's design team will submit a draft Schematic Design Report at the next scheduled Workshop.

#### 3.0 PROJECT BUDGET, PHASING AND FUNDRAISING

Alfred summarized a strategy to develop the project in 2 phases in the event the \$2.3 million is not raised by next April. The first phase will be designed to meet a construction budget of approximately \$1.2 million. The following is a summary of the areas for each phase.

Phase 1	295sm
Phase 2	222sm
Total	517sm

Dan is in the process of setting up a fundraising committee and will confirm members by next meeting. Joe Elliot suggested selling planks to raise money. Dan requested Alfred to designate an area within the building to display potential donors.

#### **4.0 SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES**

Alfred described how the design team will integrate the following 4 primary green strategies into the project

- 1, Rainwater collection
- 2, Fire - Use for heating and as a focal component.
- 3, Geothermal (premium over conventional system)
- 4, Green roof

CH Craig mentioned VIU is exploring a relationship with Corix a company providing geothermal installation services with a payback based on energy savings for a fixed term. Craig will report back to confirm if VIU will pursue this relationship for this project.

#### **5.00 COMMUNITY MEETING SUMMARY**

The following is a list of design recommendations resulting from the community meeting held at the Snuneymuwx First Nation - Chief & Council Chambers 668 Centre Street on November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

- The four pillars are an important symbol to the Snuneymuwx First Nation and must be represented somewhere in the project.
- The receptionist must be more visible from the main entrance and the offices should shift to the south.
- Craig recommended allowing an east west path at the north of the site to allow students to flow from the lower parking areas up into the campus.
- A symbolic reference to the sacred tree and the ceremony's that accompany was requested.
- The site and building must be accessible from both the north and south by elders. Steep ramps are to be avoided.

#### **6.00 DESIGN REVIEW**

AW The following is a list of design recommendations resulting from the presentation and design review of Workshop No. 03.

- It is important when describing this project to the greater community to note this relatively small building cannot accommodate larger Ceremonial Events. This place will be for First Nations Students and occasionally will accommodate demonstration events.
- Craig recommended removing the north plaza link with the lower pedestrian walk way instead linking it to the service road more commonly used by students. Alfred will review this suggestion and modify the scheme accordingly.
- A permanent small lending library is required in the building. Alfred will locate built in book shelves between the Elders and Student Lounge.
- The larger office at the north end of the building will be shared by 2 staff.
- Alfred will review an area that can be designated for children within the Student lounge space.

- The area across from the washroom will be wide enough to store chairs and tables for events.
- The proposed green roof over the lower roof was accepted.
- Locations within the student lounge will be designated for display cases to exhibit First Nations art.
- The fire place in the Sacred space will be gas and ducted below the floor.
- There will be a crawl space below the mechanical room to store mechanical equipment including the air handling units and rain water storage tank.
- Moveable walls will be used to define smaller spaces within the Student Lounge and the Sacred Space. These walls will be on casters and will be acoustic outfitted with electrical outlet, fold down table tops and shelving.
- It was recommended if possible to incorporate carving into the moveable acoustic partitions separating the Student Lounge from the Sacred Space.

## **7.00**

### **CONCLUSION**

The next workshop meeting is tentatively scheduled for 9:00am, Friday, December 12th, 2008 at Building 250, room 308, VIU Campus.

These minutes represent discussions that took place and decisions made. In the event that these do not accurately represent the meeting, please contact the undersigned. If advised in writing of any revisions, additions or deletions, then the minutes will be the final and official record for the meeting. Minutes taken by Glen Hill.