

Schedule .C.1..
of the
Administrative Memorandum

Meeting Date: January 24, 2012 Board Board, in camera

Topic (as per the Memorandum): Community Learning Program - Update

Narration:

The new Community Learning Program provides an enhanced educational foundation to support student achievement, foster social/emotional learning, and enable alternate pathways to graduation. It is provided in accordance with the BC Ministry of Education Alternate Program Policy. To support students in the Community Learning Program, the facility and location requirements include specialized instructional spaces, science labs, a gymnasium, art/drama rooms, technology labs, industrial shops, and a central location that is accessible by public transportation.

On January 10, 2012, the Board of Education held a Public Information Meeting at Balmoral Secondary School. The meeting provided an opportunity for the presentation of information related to the Community Learning Program and the Choices Program, the North Vancouver School District Learning Centre, and opportunities for Community Use of the facility, especially for recreational purposes.

Participants included parents of students currently attending Keith Lynn, the Youth Learning Centre, Lucas Centre, and Braemar Elementary, as well as representatives of the District of North Vancouver and members of the community. Table groups were arranged to provide for discussion, questions, and answers with participants. Participants were given opportunities to provide written input for collation and advancement to the Community Advisory Working Group for further discussion and consideration. The membership of the Working Group is currently being finalized and will be updated on the North Vancouver School District's website.

Highlights from each of the Community Advisory Working Group Meetings will be posted to the School District's website (www.nvsd44.bc.ca) and circulated to e-mail subscribers. Further details and clarification will be provided as the Community Advisory Working Group proceeds with its series of meetings.

The attached summary document highlights the key points presented and discussed at the Public Information Meeting on January 10, 2012, and explains the process for further input and consideration. This same information is currently posted on the School District's website.

Attachment: *January 10, 2012 Public Information Meeting Summary*

January 10 Public Information Meeting Summary

As a follow up to the January 10 Public Information Meeting at Balmoral, this summary is provided to highlight the key points presented and discussed and the process for further input and consideration, but does not include all of the information or concerns expressed at the meeting. Further details and clarification will be provided as the Community Advisory Working Group proceeds with its series of meetings.

Community Learning Program (CLP) and Choices Program

- The School District is proceeding with the development of a new district-based Alternate Program, referred to as the Community Learning Program (CLP). The starting date of the new CLP is September 2012. This program will be located at Balmoral Secondary School and will provide educational services and supports to a student population of approximately 175 students.
- The School District is expanding a school-based Choices program to each secondary school to provide additional supports to struggling and vulnerable students. The Choices program will help maintain more students in their home schools. As more students will be maintained in their home schools, the number of students enrolled in the Community Learning Program will decrease.
- The hours of operation for the Community Learning Program will be similar to other schools in the school district and similar to the current operating hours in effect at Balmoral. The schedule can be adjusted to help reduce traffic congestion related to a common start or end time, at nearby schools. Concerns were expressed regarding operating hours and the supervision of students, before and after school, and during the noon hour.
- Support services and supervision will be provided within the Learning Centre for students and youth during the standard school day (8:00 a.m. to 5:30 pm). This will help ensure the availability of support staff for students before and after regular operating hours. Concerns were expressed related to the supervision of students adjacent to the school, in the neighbourhood, and in proximity to other schools.
- Community Agencies and support services will have offices within Balmoral. The specific agencies and support services are still to be determined. "Wrap-around" (e.g. academic, health, social and emotional counseling) supports would be provided to our students. These services could also be available to respond to community needs, if desired. This will be referred to the Working Group for consideration.

North Vancouver School District Learning Centre (NVSDLC)

- District services being considered for integration within the CLP include the Distributed Learning (DL) Centre. The DL Centre currently provides instructional support to students from across the School District enrolled in Distributed Learning classes. The number of district students attending the DL Centre during the day is up to 10 at any time, with a total of 40 to 50 student visits over the course of a day. DL would be provided on-site to students enrolled in the CLP and may also be offered to students from other schools.
- District support services presently located at the Leo Marshall Curriculum Centre and Lucas Centre related to storage and processing of instructional supplies (e.g. library books, media) will be relocated to Balmoral. This enables the consolidation of district services into fewer locations.
- The inclusion of Continuing Education (Adult Education) at Balmoral is being considered and will be referred to the Advisory Working Group for further discussion. Presently, there are up to 200 adult students attending classes each morning at the Lucas Centre. Concerns were raised regarding the number of students attending Balmoral, particularly adults, traffic volume and inadequate parking.



- Options are available for the delivery of Adult Education in the School District. Traffic and parking concerns can be mitigated by limiting Adult Education program offerings.
- The Maintenance / Works Yard presently located at the Lucas Centre is not being considered for relocation to the Balmoral site and will remain at the Lucas Centre until a 'purpose-built' maintenance facility can be established elsewhere. The Lucas Centre will be considered for redevelopment over the longer-term, while Balmoral will be retained for continued use for the delivery of educational services. Balmoral will also be retained for longer-term use within the school district.

Community Use of Facilities / Community Impacts / Traffic

- Minor renovations to Balmoral, presently in the conceptual design development stage, would provide for improved program delivery, access to specialty classrooms for electives, community service offices, and a 'new' environment to support students.
- Designs provide for a 'community recreation wing' that could be operated during the weekend to support increased access to gymnasiums and joint use for the community. The renovation plans being considered would increase the opportunities for Joint Use and weekend access to recreational facilities. Interest in establishing a Joint Use Agreement to increase weekend access to the gymnasium and other recreational facilities will need to be determined in consultation with the Advisory Working Group, the Recreation Commission, and the District of North Vancouver.
- Traffic, parking and mitigation strategies: concerns were expressed regarding the traffic volumes, pedestrian safety, and insufficient on-site parking (impact on parking in the streets) to support identified programs. This is particularly the case for the adult programs that are presently offered at the Lucas Centre.
- The School District is supporting the District of North Vancouver in a School Safety Review (traffic study) being conducted as a part of the 'safe routes to schools' initiative. The proximity of Balmoral to the Braemar study area and the potential impact of traffic will be examined in cooperation with the District of North Vancouver and the study now in process. Concerns related to traffic, pedestrian safety and parking will also be discussed with the Advisory Working Group and provided to the School Safety Review now in process.

Further opportunities for input

- A Community Advisory Working Group will meet to consider the input provided at the Public Information Meeting and received by e-mail to clp@nv44.bc.ca. The Working Group will be meeting January 30, February 27 and March 26. Concerns were expressed that the 'broader community' was not well-represented on the Community Advisory Working Group.
- The membership for the Community Advisory Working Group is not complete. Individual community members may indicate their interest in serving as a representative to the Working Group by e-mail to clp@nv44.bc.ca.
- The Working Group will provide advice on the operations of the North Vancouver School District Learning Centre at Balmoral, identify potential impacts in the immediate community, and suggest ways to mediate the identified concerns.

Follow up communication

- Updates will be posted to our website (www.nv44.bc.ca) and circulated via e-mail to those who attended the January 10 Public Information Meeting at Balmoral. Highlights from each of the Community Advisory Working Group Meetings will be posted and circulated as well.

