



## NORTH VANCOUVER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 44

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### Ridgeway and Queen Mary Heritage Restoration Capital Projects

#### FOLLOW UP from FEBRUARY 5<sup>th</sup> MEETING

In order to proceed with the Capital Projects for the Heritage Restoration of both Ridgeway and Queen Mary schools and to provide for the accommodation of students during construction, meeting participants acknowledged that disruptions are unavoidable and will occur. Recognizing that significant changes would be taking place, there was also an understanding that numerous decisions need to be made as quickly as possible for everyone concerned.

#### Use of Cloverley to support the Heritage Restoration Projects at Ridgeway and Queen Mary

The plan to relocate Ridgeway students and then Queen Mary students to Cloverley is now being confirmed by the Board of Education.

- The plan approved by the Ministry of Education in the Capital Project Agreements for Ridgeway and Queen Mary provides funding to support the relocation of students to Cloverley during the construction period, including costs for renovations to Cloverley and the relocation of the modular building from Lonsdale.
- The tremendous opportunity provided by the Ministry of Education and the Board of Education to rebuild and restore the Heritage Schools of Ridgeway and Queen Mary is regarded as important for all families in the North Vancouver community.
- As discussed at the February 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, the use of portables to support the construction projects or the distribution of students from Ridgeway and Queen Mary to other schools is not supported. Both Queen Mary and Ridgeway school communities would lose their sense of community in portables and distributing students would destroy the community. The only acceptable option for our Ridgeway and Queen Mary school communities is to relocate to Cloverley during construction.

#### Needs of current Cloverley tenants and programs

School District staff will meet at the earliest opportunity with the current tenants (Pro Arte and North Shore Child Care Centre) to discuss potential future locations and the process to secure rental and/or lease agreements for available space

Assistant Superintendent Pearce will meet with the School Principal and teachers providing the North Vancouver High Performance Program to determine options for future location

- The current tenants at Cloverley (Pro Arte and sub-tenants including North Shore Child Care Centre) expressed their strong interest in remaining at Cloverley as one community, if at all possible. There is an acknowledgement that Cloverley has been provided on a lease basis, but concerns were expressed of the limited options available for child care programs and that having to relocate would be a disruption for these families.
- If it is not possible for the tenant programs to remain, there is interest in working with the School District to determine what other options would be available to secure suitable space for the respective programs and their particular needs. This would help address the many families supported by the North Shore Child Care Centre and the Pro Arte and Arts community. Interest was expressed to secure a longer term lease with the School District.

- Options for the relocation of the North Vancouver High Performance Program will be identified by Assistant Superintendent Pearce with the Principal and teachers during the week of February 23<sup>rd</sup> for presentation to the Board of Education for consideration at its March 10 Public Meeting.

### **Future Capacity of Ridgeway (350 or 425 students?)**

The Board of Education will proceed with the introduction of a motion at the February 24<sup>th</sup> Public Board Meeting to consider the potential consolidation of Ridgeway Annex with Ridgeway Elementary, effective 2011. The Annex will continue to be used for temporary accommodation of students until the completion of construction of both the Ridgeway and Queen Mary Heritage Restoration projects in 2013.

- Meeting participants indicated their support for the consolidation of Ridgeway Annex with Ridgeway, noting that Ridgeway should be built as large as possible to accommodate the Annex and the Kids Club as provided in the Project Agreement. There was agreement expressed with the intent to move forward with the larger school of 425 students and that it would be better to combine the Annex and the main school.
- The transfer deadline of March 31<sup>st</sup> will be extended for Ridgeway Annex students, if necessary.

### **Building design, site planning, transportation and construction schedule**

Assistant Superintendent Roberts will work with the Ridgeway and Ridgeway Annex communities (starting February 16) to establish a Representative Steering Committee to provide input into building design, site planning, transportation planning, and to facilitate ongoing communication with the PAC and the local community.

- Building design input will address concerns identified related to functional spaces (e.g. child care, kitchen), room design, storage space, washrooms, location of gym, multi-purpose, etc. as well as heritage restoration components. Building design must adhere to Ministry standards related to space allocations and be within the available budget
- Site planning would address concerns identified related to play space, the refuge garden, landscaping, play areas, asphalt play surfaces (hockey, basketball), etc.
- Transportation planning needs to be developed in consultation with parents to determine how these needs may best be addressed. Discussions would include; possible shuttle bus, pick up locations, walking school bus, crossing guards (and locations; Keith Road, Sutherland, Queensbury?), and supervision support for students during transportation, costs, if any, etc.
- Construction schedules are subject to change and contingency plans will be developed in the event that delays are experienced.

### **Preparing Cloverley to receive Ridgeway and Queen Mary Schools**

School District staff will work with the Architect to develop plans for the relocation of the modular building from Lonsdale and for the renovations at Cloverley

- Planning will proceed for the relocation of the modular building to the north of the Cloverley building at the earliest opportunity. Repairs and renovations (roofing, flooring, etc.) will be planned to enable the continued operation of the tenant programs and services until the end of the lease in July 2009

- Site planning at Cloverley will include the relocation of the modular building and a review of play areas and play equipment for potential improvements. School signage may also be changed to reflect the use of the building by Ridgeway and then Queen Mary communities
- Floor plans and room locations within Cloverley and the modular building for the continued operation of Ridgeway and Queen Mary will be reviewed with the Representative Steering Committee and with school staff

#### **Use of Cloverley as Ridgeway School and then as Queen Mary School**

- Like all other School District schools used for North Vancouver School District students, Cloverley School will be regularly maintained and will be available for community purposes through rental contracts. The School District will work with rental groups (brownies, cubs, etc.) to provide appropriate space where possible
- The Ridgeway staff and then the Queen Mary staff will relocate to Cloverley.
- Access to the sites and playgrounds at Ridgeway and Queen Mary during construction will be determined in consultation with the building contractors as the construction site is established.

#### **North Shore Neighbourhood House**

Alternative locations for the Ridgeway Kids Club are in discussion with the service providers (North Shore Neighbourhood House) to enable continued support to the Ridgeway Annex and Ridgeway families.

#### **Communications**

Contact persons will be established at both the School District and school levels to facilitate ongoing communications

The School District website ([www.nvsd44.bc.ca](http://www.nvsd44.bc.ca)) will continue to be used to provide regular updates related to the Capital Heritage Restoration Projects for Ridgeway and Queen Mary

PAC meetings will include regular project updates from School District staff and representatives of the Steering Committee. Project updates will be provided at PAC meetings that will be open to the local community.

Separate meetings will be conducted with community groups as necessary.

#### **Staff concerns**

The School District will arrange meetings with its employee groups regarding the capital projects, plans for and assistance with moving, and the staffing processes related to the potential closure of Ridgeway Annex and consolidation with Ridgeway

#### **Future Use of Cloverley**

The School District will retain Cloverley building after the four year period of construction and will reassess its use to address other needs within the School District