

**MBSS Replacement - Neighbourhood Learning Centre (NLC)
Advisory Committee Meeting
Friday, May 6, 2011**

Minutes

In Attendance:

Chris Johns, Chair, Mt. Baker Secondary School Building Replacement Committee
Mike Stolte, NLC Facilitator, CIEL
Bill Bennett – MLA (left at 11:40 a.m.)
Jennifer Osmar, MLA Office (left at 11:40 a.m.)
Debbie Therrien, DPAC
Will Pearce, City of Cranbrook
Shelley Balfour, CFTA
Trina Ayling, Trustee, SD5
Wayne Stetski, United Way
Sandra Cave, Key City Theatre Society
Tom Walkley, Manager of Facilities, SD5
Nick Rubidge, COTR
John Miller, Student, MBSS
Sandra Davis, Better Babies
Al Nutini, RCMP
Chris Tulloch, Key City Theatre
Isabel Berkheim, Better Babies, Family & Community Services Committee
Caitlyn Heatherington - IHA
Tammy Tait, T.M. Roberts PAC
Bob Whetham, City of Cranbrook
Codie Andrew, Ktunaxa National Council
Carrie Schafer, Columbia Basin Trust
Terry Anonson, Metis Nation B.C.
Sean Campbell, Chamber of Commerce
Denise Walker, KKATC
Aaron Hansen, PAC
Debra Empson, Principal, MBSS
Gail Rousseau, Executive Assistant, Recording Secretary

Review & adoption of minutes

The minutes of April 20, 2011 were agreed to by consensus.

Quick Review of Last Meeting

- mainly information sharing
- History of what brought this committee together
- reviewed examples of case studies of NLC in B.C.
- No Ministry guidance/protocol on how to create an NLC

- Discussed process of engaging people
- 30 or more community partnerships with MBSS presently in place
- A new MBSS is number 1 priority of School District
- Seismic upgrades take priority as far as Ministry is concerned
- Need for a united community behind a new Mt. Baker school
- All planning/consulting will be done ahead of time so we are ready to go when funding is approved

History/NLC concept/Status of project/AC Terms of Reference/Timelines

- 3 pillars of Vancouver School Board (VSB) NLC – Literacy, social and emotional well being and community connectedness
- Replacement of school and NLC concept very complex
- Looking for maximum sustainability
- Community consultation ongoing for the past 3-4 years –reports on website
- Need guidance on what criteria should be in an NLC
- Discussed how to manage relationships, decision making
- school needs first, community needs second
- Foster relationships within the community
- Design build vs. design tender build
- 40-50 m project – are we flexible?
- Some projects will be determined by limited budget
- Terms of reference – communications, funding, determine other stakeholders might need separate meeting with Key City Theatre
- Students' input is important
- need to reflect the communities' unique needs and priorities
- No two NLCs are the same, each has a very different focus
- what will serve the needs of this community?
- NLC helps to serve and enhance students' experience
- NLC Advisory committee is best way to establish this

Key City Theatre legacy

- MLA Bill Bennett will liaise with KCT Society to ensure community will continue to have theatre
- misconception as to who runs Theatre
- MBSS replacement Project Identification Report (PIR), done by architects (on the website - <http://www.sd5.bc.ca>) mentions renovating the current school was not feasible; adding on to the existing school was not feasible; stand alone was most cost-effective; this document is on website
- questions arose as to whose responsibility it was to make decision whether or not the Theatre should be connected to the high school
- There needs to be a very clear decision process to help various parties involved determine who is responsible and the path needs to be very clear

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- Project Identification Report did not specifically address the issues with KCT; it dealt with the option of building a new school

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Guidance on other issues

Context for decision-making:

- Need to keep SD5 Mission, Vision and Values in mind
- Chair of Committee looking at going in late June to Victoria to push NLC concept forward
- Need to adhere to specific capital funding project guidelines and sections of the School Act throughout planning process
- It is the Ministry's vision to turn schools into community hubs
- Possibility of community using school on weekends and in the evening
- Currently have Joint-Use Agreement through the City of Cranbrook
- Need to look at the needs of a classroom now and over the next 50 years

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Determining student, family & community priorities

What do you think is really important to make a decision?

Values/Criteria

- community driven
- focus on positive health programs; wellness and well-being
- focus on increasing educational opportunities to enrich our science programs
- broader focus on arts and culture
- seniors information center; mix of seniors and youth in one location; relationship building with seniors i.e., through athletics
- *Inclusivity – including age
- Need to be creative in terms of joint use facilities with COTR; challenges when you bring COTR students into high school environment
- healthy space that helps integrate children into community life
- integrate non-traditional learning opportunities; more hands on programs; non-traditional; include students teaching teachers
- *make it a bridging place, i.e., with business, COTR, community, etc.; the more bridges you have you will maximize opportunities for students
- should be a reflection of the community
- need space/design that is flexible so that as things change the NLC continues to be a reflection of the broader community
- consider a community advisory committee
- broad support for community for youth falling through crack
- facility should show leadership in the green movement in design and programming; geo thermal energy; need to decide what happens to materials in this building when we rebuild

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- visibility of first nations/metis culture needs to be broader; tie into existing gathering place
- social emotional learning piece; building the whole child (like VSB)
- capture diverse programming
- less institutionalized and more open; more interaction with all cultures/ages/special needs; more like a campus
- onsite daycare
- continue first voice; student committee get continual input from broad youth, not just students; builds mutual respect
- keep focus on educational programs– education first, community needs second
- prepare youth to be fully functioning citizens of community; need method for kids to function in society; e.g., budgeting, mentoring, life-skills; literacy
- *vibrant and energetic
- make environment stimulating and fun

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* seemed to be consensus these are NLC core values

Specific services determined in brainstorming session:

- Youth arts/culture
- Seniors Information center (athletics; relationship building)
- green spaces/building, e.g., solar, bio-energy
- onsite daycare
- Cranbrook Conected suggestions
- community info hub
- meeting rooms
- daycare
- before and after school programs
- use of recreation facilities
- art gallery
- in-house cafeteria
- aboriginal education presence
- support safety and well being
- supporting diversity
- Gathering space or cafeteria /culinary arts program for dual credit
- Theatre
- Aboriginal education student centre
- Dance studio to correspond with DPA
- RCMP liaison program – the more they are involved the better our kids are
- East Kootenay addictions – we would like to see them more involved face to face
- You can design space for positive and appropriate behaviour
- Student services centre

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- Modern library
- Senior alternate program for at-risk youth
- enterprise center/incubator/entrepreneurship skills; integration into the business network (also captures some of those youth falling through cracks)
- roof top gardens and patio space; community greenhouses/garden
- centers/programs
- free activities; drop in basketball; floor hockey etc.
- business liaison with area businesses/community
- by creating space for business to use creates employment opportunities/volunteer opportunities for students; possibly through chamber; avenue for exploring partnerships; rotary projects coming out
- adult learning life skills; parenting; budgeting
- think of non-sports driven activities

Other student/family/community needs

- Youth Center - college mentoring
- No limitation to specific classes; you want kids that fall through the crack to come - harm reduction
- need students' input; students need ownership; what students want is different than what adults want
- Deb Empson advised that a Cranbrook Youth Arts Center Society is already in existence in Cranbrook. There are 15 -20 representatives on Society
- Society is looking for partnerships and space
- Recently held a huge fundraising Gala event at Mt. Baker; all proceeds to Society

Other key stakeholders to involve in process:

- Job seekers

Next steps

- Determine priorities from lists generated
- determine providers for priorities
- determine other stakeholders that should attend meetings
- determine timelines for public consultation and input

Next meeting date: ~~Now confirmed for Thursday May 19th from 11:30-1:30 at MBSS Staff Lounge – (please bring own lunch)~~

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