

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

Combined, these three centres would:

- » Accommodate and augment existing school-based, community use spaces, including 36 daycare and 40 school age care spaces, a counselling centre, and a performing arts theatre.
- » Provide inclusive and accessible programs and services to address documented community needs in the Uptown and Downtown.
- » Support the development of new Canadians who represent 31.7% of the City's population and 38.5% of Uptown's population.
- » Facilitate the development of a Child Development Centre that serves Uptown and Downtown, which in combination with the Children's Center, would provide access to a continuum of services and quality learning opportunities.
- » Meet some of the needs for licensed daycare and school age care in the Uptown and Downtown.
- » Reduce childhood vulnerability rates (measured in the Early Development Instrument), while facilitating early learning, literacy, and school readiness and success.
- » Meet the needs for classroom, meeting and office space for settlement and adaptation services for new immigrants.
- » Meet the needs for community service spaces, including kitchen and meeting rooms for residents living in the Uptown and Downtown area.
- » Provide a leading edge, regional performing arts centre for professional theatre performances, lectures and forums that will provide added economic benefit for local businesses.

All programs and services would conform to policies and guidelines that would ensure the safety and security of all students and staff at the school.



The program for new schools has come together as a result of years of consultation in the community, and collaboration between the School District and the City. That dialogue will continue, and **if you have an interest in programs or services that could become part of this vision, you're encouraged to bring them forward.**

If you would like more information on this important community project, or you would like to offer comments or feedback to the project team, please visit us online at:

<http://district.sd40.bc.ca/news/capital-projects>

Or you can contact:

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Growing Communities

Get to know New Westminster's
NEIGHBOURHOODS OF LEARNING



As part of the vision to build three new schools, your school district, in partnership with the City, has an opportunity to create Neighbourhood Learning Centres that deliver safe, quality education and provide other child, youth and family centered programs and services.

TAKE A LOOK INSIDE AND FIND OUT HOW YOU AND YOUR COMMUNITY WILL BENEFIT!



PROJECT BACKGROUND

Our community needs three new schools and School District 40 has a plan and vision to complete the project. This proposed school capital project will be one of the largest ever undertaken by the Province at one time. The plan includes the construction of three new schools and additional space for community programs. The schools include:

1. a new elementary school at the St. Mary's site
2. a new middle school at the John Robson site
3. a new secondary school at the existing New Westminister Secondary School (NWSS) site which will include a new performing arts centre to replace the current Massey Theatre

The three new schools will be developed under the Neighbourhood of Learning (NOL) model, a plan that provides school and community space to deliver services for children, youth and families of New Westminister.

A number of new Neighbourhood of Learning Centres (NLCs) are in development across the province with the first to open in the fall of 2011. Centres currently under development are in the Powell River, Revelstoke, Alberni and Vancouver school districts.

The proposed plan, reached by agreement between the School District and the City, is nearing its final stages and will be submitted to the provincial government for approval in the fall of 2010.

THREE NEW SCHOOLS FOR NEW WESTMINSTER

A VISION FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD LEARNING CENTRES

The NoL program offers a tremendous opportunity to maintain and enhance the community services in our schools. The vision for each of the schools builds on programs already in place for child care, family services, counselling and theatre arts. The NoL also provides **an opportunity for new input and ideas from the community** that will help our schools shape and support the rich, diverse fabric of life in New Westminister.

A NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AT THE ST. MARY'S SITE

This centre could include a new elementary school for the downtown area students along with the following community use spaces:

- » A daycare facility with between 20 and 25 licensed child care spaces.
- » A multi-purpose room and kitchen for school age care for 6 to 10 year olds between 7 and 9 am and 2 and 6 pm. During school days and during evenings and weekends, it would be used for parent and tot drop-ins and other community uses.
- » A classroom for a range of programs including adult and family literacy, child development courses, ESL training, and family support seminars. During evenings and when not booked during school days, this space could be used for community purposes.
- » Flexible office space to accommodate community partners such as public health and social service agencies. These agencies could provide specialized health, hearing and speech services.

A NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL AT THE JOHN ROBSON SITE

This centre could include a new middle school for west side students along with the following community use spaces:

- » A daycare with 36 licensed child care spaces, including infant and toddler care.
- » A multi-purpose room and kitchen to accommodate intermediate school age care for 11 and 12 year olds between 7 and 9 am and 2 and 6 pm. During school days and during evenings and weekends, it could be used for parent and tot drop-ins and other community uses.
- » A classroom to accommodate community programming.
- » Flexible office space for community partners such as public health and social service agencies.

NEW WESTMINSTER SECONDARY SCHOOL (NWSS) AND MASSEY PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

This centre could include a new secondary school for New Westminister students along with the following community spaces:

- » A new state-of-the-art regional performing arts centre featuring professional theatre performances, forums, lectures and after school programs. The space could also be used for cultural/ethnic festivals and build strong community ties.
- » A counselling centre used to train counsellors and provide high quality counselling services to children, youth and families in New Westminister at no cost.
- » A welcome centre to provide information and services to immigrants. The centre may include: a resource library and up to four offices to accommodate the School District's Immigrant Youth and Settlement workers and other community partners.

These are some ideas for NoL centres...what are yours? Share with us at: <http://district.sd40.bc.ca/news/capital-projects>