

City of Maple Ridge News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Albion Community Centre Design Completed

Maple Ridge, BC: Maple Ridge Council was provided an overview of the design elements for the new Albion Community Centre that will be co-located with the cesquele Elementary School currently under construction on 104 Avenue, east of 240 Street.

"In February of 2016 the City and School District No. 42 held a joint community consultation at Albion Elementary School where the neighbourhood shared their vision for a new community centre. This was an essential component of the collaborative pitch to get a much needed new school for this fast growing neighbourhood. To see these plans, and to be on the verge of starting construction, is one of the most important pieces of work this council has accomplished. This new facility will bring life to a shared vision in creating the social heart for Albion," said Mayor Read.

Features of the design include;

- A 'grand hall' with a 300 person capacity that opens up to an outdoor amphitheatre.
- Building elements to support community theatre and other performing arts uses.
- Three multi-purpose rooms that open to the outside setting.
- A semi-commercial kitchen that can be used as a teaching kitchen and that can support catering for community events.
- Space for a private daycare operation.
- Internal entrance hall area to create a 'social heart' for the building that can be used for community gatherings or cultural exhibits.
- The use of native landscaping to complement the natural setting of the site.
- Shared parking and open spaces with the school to support special events.

"The design blends the needs expressed by the neighbourhood and community user groups with the outstanding natural setting of this site. The proposed design incorporates solar panels, a partial green roof and other technologies to create a community hub designed to embrace sustainable building principles and to deliver lower annual operating costs for energy use," said Justin Dyck, Architect with CHP Architects.

The City has hired a construction manager to prepare cost estimates and a plan for the facility. The project timeline calls for the construction tender process to be completed before the end of the year with the goal of having construction complete by the end of 2019.

Council will be provided with the final project estimates and tender recommendations in October.