

**DISTRICT OF NORTH VANCOUVER  
COUNCIL WORKSHOP**

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Minutes of the Council Workshop of the Council for the District of North Vancouver held at 7:16 p.m. on Tuesday, June 12, 2012 in the Committee Room of the District Hall, 355 West Queens Road, North Vancouver, British Columbia.

**Present:** Mayor R. Walton  
Councillor R. Bassam  
Councillor R. Hicks  
Councillor D. MacKay-Dunn  
Councillor L. Muri  
Councillor A. Nixon

**Absent:** Councillor M. Little

**Staff:** Mr. D. Stuart, Chief Administrative Officer  
Mr. B. Bydwell, General Manager – Planning, Properties & Permits  
Mr. J. Gordon, Manager – Administrative Services  
Mr. R. Danyluk, Manager – Financial Planning  
Ms. C. Grant, Manager – Corporate Planning & Projects  
Ms. S. Haid, Manager – Sustainable Community Development  
Ms. L. Brick, Confidential Council Clerk

**Also in**

**Attendance:** Ms. Franci Stratton, Chair, North Vancouver Board of Education  
Mr. Barry Forward, Vice Chair, North Vancouver Board of Education  
Ms. Cyndi Gerlach, Trustee, North Vancouver Board of Education  
Mr. Mike McGraw, Trustee, North Vancouver Board of Education  
Ms. Christie Sacre, Trustee, North Vancouver Board of Education  
Ms. Susan Skinner, Trustee, North Vancouver Board of Education  
Mr. John Lewis, Superintendent, North Vancouver School District 44  
Ms. Irene Young, Secretary-Treasurer, North Vancouver Board of Education

**1. Opening by the Mayor**

Mayor Walton welcomed members of the School Board and the public to the meeting.

**2. School Repurposing**

File No.

Presentation: John Lewis, Superintendent, School District 44

Mr. John Lewis presented the history of the School Board community consultation process. Mr. Lewis highlighted the changing demographics and enrolment figures for North Vancouver Schools for the past 30 years, noting that seventeen school closures have occurred in North Vancouver since 1976.

Mr. Lewis reviewed the school closures which have occurred between 2004 and 2012 noting that the capacity of the high schools has been increased by 570 seats and the elementary school capacity has been maintained. Currently there is capacity for 18,500 students in North Vancouver; however, the School Board has the ability to increase capacity if required.

Mr. Lewis advised that \$136.9 million was spent to upgrade and rebuild North Vancouver schools between 2005 and 2010. This includes the replacement of Lynn Valley Elementary, Westview Elementary, Sutherland Secondary, Carson Graham Secondary, and Highlands Elementary.

Eleven properties have been identified as surplus and the School Board is currently proceeding with the land management process. During this process consideration is being given to the Official Community Plan's proposal for development of the town centres and future student needs in those areas. Community input received has supported leasing property and selling some lands. Currently three schools are leased generating \$1 million annually, which supports underfunded programs. Any sale of land must be approved by the Ministry and funds generated will be dedicated for local allocation or restricted capital.

Mr. Lewis reviewed the Programs of Choice and the Early Learning Programs which are offered across the School District. These programs include hockey and volleyball academies, French immersion, distributed learning, and Strong Start Programs. In response to a query from the public, Mr. Lewis clarified that Balmoral was closed as a junior high school in 2009 and has been accommodating students during the rebuilding of Carson Graham Secondary. The Community Learning Program will be operating from this facility in the future.

Mr. Lewis reviewed the community input received to date highlighting:

- Concern was raised regarding selling lands which may be needed in the future;
- Support for long term leases for vacant properties;
- Concern was expressed regarding the maintenance cost of vacant buildings;
- Support for generating funds to reinvest in programs and services for children; and,
- Consider potential for future multi-use, or alternate use: daycare, pre-school, recreation, playgrounds, parks, adult learning, seniors centres, meeting spaces, or urban farming on the land.

Concern was expressed regarding the process for requesting seismic upgrading funding and/or replacement of Argyle and Handsworth Secondary Schools; Mr. Lewis advised that there will be two parallel processes followed for the Argyle project and the School Board is committed to working with the District to develop a possible replacement option.

Councillor MURI left the meeting at 8:52 pm.

Mr. Lewis advised that the School Board is committed to the community engagement process to seek out input and feedback. At this time no decisions have been made regarding the disposition of the eleven surplus lands; further consultation will be held in the fall of 2012.

### **3. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:04 pm.