

KMBR ARCHITECTS PLANNERS INC. AND YELLOWRIDGE CONSTRUCTION LTD. WIN TWO COMMUNITY-CENTERED SCHOOL PROJECTS

For Immediate Release



VANCOUVER, APRIL 21/10 - After three months of intense design and collaboration, KMBR Architects Planners Inc. is happy to announce the firm, along with partner Yellowridge Construction Ltd., has won the design-build competition for two projects in Chilliwack, BC. The projects will see the replacement of Yarrow Community Elementary and the consolidated Rosedale Elementary/Middle Schools, both of which will be Neighbourhood Learning Centres with multi-use community spaces.

Rendering - Yarrow Community Elementary School

The Neighbourhood Learning Centres initiative was introduced by the BC government, which encourages school districts across the province to consult with community partners and organizations, and ultimately design their schools with community use in mind.

The new schools will be constructed to the latest seismic safety requirements and will include a range of sustainable design features, meeting LEED® Gold or equivalent standards. The Neighbourhood Learning components for Rosedale Elementary/Middle School will range from 810 square metres of space for day care, youth and Aboriginal services, and an additional 100 square metres – funded by the Municipality of Chilliwack – for community multi-purpose use. The new Yarrow Elementary will include 460 square metres of additional space for preschool, before and after school care, performing and visual arts space, community education, support offices and agency offices.

The idea of designing schools not only as sites of learning, but also as pillars of the broader community, is a concept KMBR has long embraced and supported throughout its history of educational design. KMBR's extensive school portfolio includes numerous projects featuring multi-purpose facilities open to the community, including the award-winning Crawford Bay Elementary-Secondary School, dubbed by Sustainable Architecture and Building (SAB) Magazine as "the quintessential community project."



Rendering - Rosedale Elementary/Middle School

The KMBR/Yellowridge team employed KMBR's unique Holistic Project Delivery (HPD)™ method to coordinate their submission for the project, and will continue to utilize it with the client going forward. The HPD™ method is a design workflow process founded on a strict objective-based approach led by the project schedule and physical deliverables, which incorporates green initiatives such as LEED®. The intent is to approach the project from as many sides with as many minds as possible to ensure as holistic an outcome as possible.

The first stage of construction has already begun for Rosedale Elementary/Middle School, and will begin on the new Yarrow Community Elementary school site in May. The target completion dates for the projects are July and December 2011, respectively.

For more information on this project, please contact:

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