

## THE COMOX VALLEY AGRICULTURAL AWARENESS CENTRE



## BUILDING LINKS

CLARICE COTY

The Comox Valley Agricultural Awareness Centre (AAC) has issued a Request for Proposal for a Capital Campaign Consultant; this RFP closes on November 30th, 2015. The proposed new building will be located within the 44 acre Comox Valley Exhibition Fairgrounds, located just north of Courtenay. The AAC will be "a place to celebrate and support cultivated products of the Comox Valley" – a home for participants at all levels, in the production of



Rendering of the new Comox Valley Agricultural Awareness Centre

Growing Sector (Agrifood, aquaculture, and small scale woodlot/agroforestry) products.

The design concept for the AAC is a one-of-a-kind, +/-9,000 square foot multi-purposed space providing a permanent home for the Comox Valley Exhibition Association Fall Fair and for 4-H activities and a place to host agricultural events such as producers markets, agricultural shows, conferences and educational activities. The facility will have a commercial kitchen that will allow producers and processors in the valley access to much needed affordable production kitchen space. Ultimately, the facility will pull the local industry/growing sector together allowing them to develop a stronger and more viable food industry from field (and water) to plate.

The AAC Business Plan provides the highest and best use of the building and the site as an agricultural/cultural/visitor concept. The project is estimated to cost \$1.9 million. Construction is scheduled to commence in the Fall of 2016. For more information contact **Therese Schwab** at [info@cvex.ca](mailto:info@cvex.ca)

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Westerly Hotel to Convert Hotel Suites to Seniors Residences

A development permit

application is expected to be submitted in November, 2015 for Phase I of a renovation project for the Westerly Hotel. The applicant is applying for approval for to convert existing hotel suites in the Westerly Hotel into 48 senior's residences. Appropriate zoning is already in place. Phase II and III will include the addition of amenities, such as a new dining room, media room and lobby and the conversion of more hotel suites to create 43 additional seniors residences. In total, approximately 91 new residences for seniors will be created.

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Park Place Seniors Living

Park Place Seniors Living is moving forward with its expansion to its Campbell River facility. In addition, the City of Campbell River has approved the development permit application for the construction of a three-storey, 36,000 sq. ft. addition to the **New Horizons** care facility on 14th Avenue. Last year Island Health issued a Request for Proposals seeking proponents to own and operate 40 new community-based care beds in Campbell River by 2017, and Park Place Seniors was selected as the preferred proponent. This new wing will house 40 new publicly-funded care beds, and five new

private-pay beds for a total residential care capacity of 126 publicly-funded and 13 private-pay beds. The estimated cost of this new addition is \$5.6 million.

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Third Quarter Construction Statistics

The construction statistics and values for January to September, 2015 were up this quarter in the region of the Comox Valley and Campbell River mostly due to the construction of the new hospitals in Campbell River and Courtenay, and the **John Hart Dam Generating Station** replacement project. Single family home construction continued to decrease this quarter in all jurisdictions except for Comox, which reported a modest gain of three more single family homes compared to 2014. New single family home construction at this time in 2014 was 266 units in the Comox Valley/Campbell River region compared to 174 units this year. This is a decrease of 92 permits, a decline of 35 per cent. Total values year-to-date were \$274 million compared to \$123 million last year.

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