

## NEW ASSOCIATION WILL REPRESENT DEVELOPERS



### BUILDING LINKS

CLARICE COTY

**W**e recently compiled the second quarter construction statistics and values for January to June, 2015 for the Comox Valley and Campbell River region. Construction values are

showing different trends in different areas. For example, single family home building has decreased in Cumberland, Campbell River and the **Comox Valley Regional District** between 34% and 44%. Comox and Courtenay each reported the construction of one more homes this quarter as compared to 2014.

New single family home construction at this time in 2014 was 162 units in the Comox Valley/Campbell River region compared to 112 units this year. This is a decrease of 50 permits and a decline of 30%. More new single family homes are slated for construction and we expect to see an increase during the third quarter. Over all construction values were up by 256% during the second quarter of 2015

compared to 2014, due to the construction of the new hospitals in Campbell River and Courtenay, and the **John Hart Dam** generating station replacement project. Total values this quarter were \$242.8 million compared to \$68.2 million last year.



A new association called the **Comox Valley Development & Construction Association** held its first social meeting in July. This new association will represent developers, builders and associated businesses in the construction industry in the Comox Valley. The association expressed its desire to contact local politicians with ideas about the affordable housing issue, along with engaging in

dialogue about the importance of the development and construction industry to the Comox Valley.

The construction industry support many workers directly and also provides a trickledown effect on other Comox Valley businesses. The association is seeking feedback from developers and associated businesses in the construction industry for their first meeting on Sept. 15. For the first year of the association, **Murray Presley** will be the chair and **Rick Waldhaus** will be the vice-chair. A board of directors will also be in place by the first business meeting. For more information, contact Murray Presley 250 338-1394 or [mpresley@presleyandpartners.com](mailto:mpresley@presleyandpartners.com)



Comox council gave final adoption to a zoning bylaw amendment for the development permit application to allow

for the construction of the new Lorne Hotel Project to proceed. This decision allows for the construction of a five-storey, mixed-use building that will include the **Lorne Pub**, bistro and liquor store along with 21 residential units and a rooftop patio. Changes were reflected in the revised drawings to meet concerns of the public.

The new design includes: a two metre clearance for the sidewalk in front of the pub and bistro, a six metre dedication for more public seating, enhancements to the front entrance and an outside historical mural. Completed construction drawings are expected in September, at which time a building permit application will be submitted.

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