

# CITY OF POWELL RIVER CONSIDERS LARGE DIVERSE PROJECTS



## BUILDING LINKS

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### CLARICE COTY

**T**he planning staff at the **City of Powell River** have been busy with new development applications that, if approved, will provide a diversity of projects that will change the economy and the population in Powell River. The interest in the community has increased significantly during 2016 with a variety of new applications coming forward. We have highlighted a few of the newest projects in this column.

The Chinese investment firm that purchased Block 55 in the Wildwood neighbourhood from the **Catalyst Mill** in Powell River is working with the City of Powell River to move forward with a large new development. The proposed project will include a master planned community featuring a private university at the core of the property, surrounded by student dorms, supporting retail outlets of approximately 100,000 sq. ft., multi-residential units, single family homes and possibly a marina. The City has been supplied with schematics for the project, and is awaiting formal applications.

The City of Powell River is still awaiting a decision on an application for the

exclusion of 30 acres from the province's land reserve in order to sell it to **Sino Bright School BC**. Council has given third reading in support of the application by PRSC, a joint company of City of Powell River and Tla'amin Nation. If the Agriculture Land Commission (ALC) approves the application, Sino Bright plans to purchase 132 acres of PRSC land and develop a 30-acre Townsite parcel next to Brooks Secondary School for an international school campus. Rezoning is at third reading; 30 acres of this property in the process of being rezoned to general commercial zone (C1) which will allow for the private school to be built. If the ALC approves the application, then a development and building permits can be submitted by the owner and considered by council. If the project goes forward it would present the city some opportunities to work with the developers to include items such as a cycle path along Marine Avenue leading from Townsite to Westview.

The City of Powell River has been advised that partners **Inclusion Powell River** and **Golden Life Management** expect to make a rezoning application and a development application in the early Fall for a proposed 77-unit seniors housing next to Powell River General Hospital. The intention is to build the project on a 3.5-acre parcel located on Joyce Avenue between Evangel Church and the pole line. If the project proceeds, it is expected the facility will be open by the end of 2017.

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Clarice Coty can be reached at [clarice@buildinglinks.ca](mailto:clarice@buildinglinks.ca) and through [www.buildinglinks.ca](http://www.buildinglinks.ca)