

PLAN IT WHITEHORSE



Stan McCowan Residential Development

The City of Whitehorse has recently completed the Stan McCowan Residential Development concept.

The planning process included a public design workshop and a number of public open houses. The final concept and preliminary ideas about the new zoning requirements for the area were presented to the public on February 28th.

The final concept includes a cul-de-sac with resident parking provided primarily through rear lanes. Vehicle access at the rear will create a safer and more pedestrian friendly street environment, where houses will have a reduced front yard setback meaning houses are closer to the street. There would be sidewalks on either side, as well as a landscaped boulevard aimed at improving the pedestrian realm and creating a neighbourhood with a special identity.

The existing park facilities would remain, and could be improved over the next few years. The current outdoor rink would be replaced by a new rink built on a portion of the old Stan McCowan arena foundation.

The Planning and Development Services Department is also drafting new zoning and development guidelines for the different housing types to ensure that the final product would be what was envisioned at the public design workshop, and is compatible with the concept.

The new zoning and guidelines would be determined through a

public process this spring. The plan is to have lots available to market in the fall of 2008 at the earliest.

You can download the concept plan as well as preliminary design guidelines at our website at www.planning.whitehorse.ca. For more information please call Max Kerrigan at 668-8347.



Stan McCowan Residential Development Concept.

Takhini North Final Concept - Open House

An Open House will be held in mid-April to present the final concept plan for infrastructure reconstruction and lot development in Takhini North. Watch the City Page or our website at www.planning.whitehorse.ca for details.

For several years Takhini North has been in need of infrastructure upgrades. The latest plan calls for new water, sewer and roads to be built in 2009. New infrastructure in Takhini North also means the possibility for additional housing supply for the City. The Official Community Plan encourages future housing development in the City to be built in "as compact a manner as feasible". This site is within walking distance of Downtown, which makes it a good location for a variety of new lots, includ-

ing single family, duplex and multiple family sites, which will be ready for sale in 2009 and 2010.

Once the concept plan is adopted, the Planning and Engineering Departments will get to work on detailed design that is needed in order to build the community the way it has been envisioned. Detailed design will include developing new zoning and development guidelines to ensure that the new housing is compatible with the existing neighbourhood.

You can download the concept plan anytime after April 16th on the City website at www.planning.whitehorse.ca. For more information please call Mike Ellis at 668-8337.

Talk of the Town

Arkell Update

The Planning and Development Services Department, along with Inukshuk Planning Ltd, have been busy working on the Arkell Expansion project. Based on the work completed at the Public Design Workshop, held on November 24, 2007, Inukshuk Planning developed three separate concepts for public review. The concepts displayed different ideas that were developed at the workshop, including the preservation of existing trails, a mix of housing and density, and shared green-space. These three concepts were presented for public review at an Open House on February 7, 2008. Inukshuk Planning is now working to develop a final amalgamated concept from the com-

ments received from the public. The amalgamated concept design will be presented for late March for further public comment. The Planning and Development Services Department urges all interested members of the public to attend this meeting and voice their comments about the design.

The Move

The month of March saw big changes in the Municipal Services Building (MSB) aimed to serve you better. Bylaw Services moved upstairs, and Building and Development Services moved to the former Bylaw offices. We hope these changes will enhance our public service.

Coming and Going

The Planning & Development Services Department will once again be looking to fill the summer planning student position. The Department typically hires student planners from until the end of August. The position is an excellent learning opportunity for any aspiring planner.

More Information

If you would like more information about any aspect of planning and development in the City of Whitehorse call us at 668-8335. You can also sign up to receive email notices about opportunities to get involved in the future by going to www.whitehorse.ca/subscribe.

Youth Sustainability Mini-Charrette

The City of Whitehorse is in the process of developing a fifty-year sustainability plan. As a component of this process, the city held a Sustainability Charrette from October 22 – 25. Local residents, leading experts, and the City of Whitehorse joined together in a planning process to identify issues, goals and solutions to assist in developing the Sustainability Plan.

To ensure the youth perspective is integrated into the Sustainability Plan, the City has taken the initiative to develop two youth mini-charrettes. Based on the recommendations from the Sustainability Charrette, the organizers took the 'mini-charrette' to schools and worked with interested teachers to present community sustainability in the classroom.



4th Grade Class at Whitehorse Elementary

The first 'mini-charrette' was held on February 6th and 7th with a Grade 4 class at Whitehorse Elementary School. This activity focused on a drawing session of students' neighborhoods and their school. The student's cut out and glued images from magazines representing what was important to them in their community.

The second mini-charrette was held on February 26th in the Council Chambers at City Hall with the Experiential Science 11 class from Wood Street Centre. Chris Gishler from *Equinox Adventure Learning* was hired to design an interactive and educational game on sustainability. He created *EnviroEconopoly*, which is a sustainability-oriented version of Monopoly™. This game allows the students to learn about sustainability issues within the municipal context. The day ended with a debriefing session where the students were able to tell the City what is important to them in the development of Whitehorse.

For more information, please contact the Sustainability office at 668-8696.

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