

ROCKANDEL&ASSOCIATES

*Building Success Through Process Facilitation,
Community Engagement & Partnership Planning*

MEMORANDUM

To: SD 43 CE Steering Committee

From: Catherine Rockandel, IAF Certified Professional Facilitator, Rockandel & Associates
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Re: School District 43 Coronation Park Dialogue Summary of Discussions

Date: December 1, 2013

On Wednesday, November 27 2013 SD 43 hosted a public dialogue to share information about what they had heard at the October 29, 2013 Open House and through emails and on line surveys in terms of ideas and opportunities and issues and concerns relating to Coronation Park.

The dialogue ran from 6:30pm – 8:30pm with a welcome from the chair, followed by a twenty-minute presentation from Melissa Hydes, Chair and Ivano Cecchini. Catherine Rockandel provided an overview of the facilitated dialogue process along with participation guidelines.

A total of fourteen (14) people signed in, with some people not signing in for a total of twenty (20) attendees. In addition there were several children that enjoyed the kid friendly activities provided. Two (2) people submitted comment forms at the meeting. The following notes summarize questions and comments raised by the public attending the meeting.

Public Dialogue: Questions and Comments (Index: Q: Questions A: Answers C: Comment)

Q: Where is Cedarbrook located?

A: It is located along the back road of Dewdney Trunk

Q: How poor is poor in terms of Coronation's condition? Could the existing school be used for seniors centre or day care?

A: It is not in a usable condition. It would require significant funds to upgrade it. A new building would need to be built on the site

C: I am concerned that there is shortsightedness regarding future student demand. I moved back to Port Moody from Ontario. I was not intending to return but did. If you sell off the land and there is a growth in students you will not be able to accommodate them.

A: The school district works with the City to do long term planning 30-50 years down the road. This was the process that resulted in Cedarbrook being built. Another aspect is 30-50 years down the road the education system with technology may be very different than currently provided so that may well change how school is delivered. Also there is another potential eight-acre school site very close to Coronation. So there is lots of room for growth to accommodate future students.

Q: Tell me about the future population, planning and whether the OCP numbers are taken into account in future planning. I am also curious about when you do rebuilding and seismic upgrades where the kids that currently attend the school are going to go. My son is beginning kindergarten he is in the Eagle ridge catchment area. When we call around there seems to be limited space. Another question I

had was about other sources of funding for example p3 in terms of partnerships with developers and the contributions they can help to build schools – is that a consideration?

A: Yes we have regular conversations with planning department. We get regular updates and use these for planning for Coronation and Moody Elementary corridor and all of Port Moody. We do current assessments to evaluate how many spaces, overall capacity in terms of current and projected population growth. We have a good example of a working partnership in Coquitlam with Douglas College, Pinetree Elementary School and other community amenities. It was a very successful project and the first of its kind in this area. We are very open to projects of this type and recommendations from the public.

Q/C: I have lived in area for the past 14 years and my children were some of the last to graduate from Coronation. When we look around the province enrolment is staying low, what I would like to know from the City is what is allowable within P1 civic zoning? Can you ask City staff what falls within this zoning and post it on the website. I live on the street that is the only access point to Coronation Park. What I hear is that this is done deal in terms of the province downloading responsibility for funding new schools, the school on this site is no longer viable, and cannot be upgraded without extreme cost and the School District needs revenue to contribute to build new schools. The School District has done the research they have plans for managing the students coming forward. The done deal is we need to find solutions for neighbourhood and possible things that can be done but from my perspective I don't see that there is any possible solution other than selling it outright. Even if it is sold outright with no conditions on the sale, the developer will have to go through City hall to have it rezoned and as part of that process they will have to address the community benefit issue. So ideas such as community gardens, green space, playgrounds can be looked at then.

Q: If you found in the future there was a need to put a school on the eight-acre site how would you accommodate students who have to cross at a busy road?

A: We have a number of schools that have specialized programs that students are attending further away from their homes. It is not as much of concern as it used to be because parents are making decisions to put kids in schools they think are best for them and this is resulting in kids being driven to school even if they live close to schools. When kids are crossing busy streets then that is an issue for local government. We form committees with local government to address safety issues on a case by case basis.