

Recommendations for Anmore Council for Daycare Construction

From: Glenda Treffry-Goatley, Daycare Committee Member

Preamble

The needs assessment conducted by this committee in June 2010 demonstrates a need for childcare in the village with parents currently using nannies, family members, or neighbors to care for their children while they are at work. 86% of respondents indicated that they would be willing to move their children from their present daycare to a new provider. The provincial government acknowledges the need for childcare spaces in the province of British Columbia and asks municipalities to take the initiative to provide childcare spaces in their communities. By awarding the Village of Anmore a grant of \$500,000 to build a daycare, the province has proven that it agrees that our community needs childcare.

In addition, Anmore has a growing population of young families with small children. Anmore Elementary School has full enrolment, with children now being schooled in portables. The preschool is operating at full capacity with 80 children. In the Birchwinde subdivision alone, there are 38 children under 11 years of age.

An RFP was sent out in July 2010. We received two bids, one from Britco for a modular building, and one from Avion for a stick-built structure. After trimming some items, both bids were still well over our building budget of \$523,000

My Recommendations

1. Obtain another extension from the province and re-tender the RFP in hopes of a better price.
2. Build a permanent stick-built structure that compliments the neighborhood.
3. Build a slightly larger combination community/daycare building that can also house either village office space, exercise classes, art classes, or meeting rooms for special interest groups [Seniors, Scouts, Youth, Garden].
4. Since this building will be a village-owned asset, the Village of Anmore should assume responsibility for financing the installation of the infrastructure - i.e. Utility Services, Road Works, Site Grading and Landscaping – effectively providing a serviced building lot. The Village has assets (Smurthwaite development - \$600K) specifically designated for a daycare/community facility.