

KMBR ARCHITECTS PLANNERS INC. AND DESIGN-BUILDER YELLOWRIDGE CONSTRUCTION LTD. WIN WESTVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN POWELL RIVER, BC



Rendering - Westview Elementary School

VANCOUVER, FEBRUARY 25, 2011 - KMBR Architects Planners Inc. is pleased to announce the firm, along with Design-Builder Yellowridge Construction Ltd., has won the design-build competition for Westview Elementary School (previously Grief Point Elementary) in Powell River BC.

The \$15.6-million project replaces Grief Point Elementary under the Province's Seismic Mitigation Program. This 21st Century School will be constructed to the latest seismic safety requirements, designed to achieve LEED Gold certification and will include 12 regular classrooms, 4 kindergarten / pre-kindergarten rooms, a full size gymnasium, library, special education and multi-purpose spaces. It will also include a Neighbourhood Learning Centre comprised of additional multi-purpose space, expanded physical education facilities to support wheelchair athletics, and a community office.

"The new school will be an early-learning hub for the community. We will house our early-learning mobile orca bus, Success by Six outreach with the United Way, and other outreach early learning services," said Debby Lewis, Powell River school board chair. *"The expanded gym will house the community wheelchair athletic events and a fully accessible practice facility. It will also provide the community a full-size gym and playfield for community recreation use."*

The Neighbourhood Learning Centres initiative was introduced by the BC government, which encourages school districts across the province to consult with community partners and organizations, and ultimately design their schools with community use in mind.

The idea of designing schools not only as sites of learning, but also as pillars of the broader community, is a concept KMBR has long embraced and supported throughout its history of educational design. KMBR's extensive school portfolio includes numerous projects featuring multi-purpose facilities open to the community, including the award-winning Crawford Bay Elementary-Secondary School, dubbed by Sustainable Architecture and Building (SAB) Magazine as *"the quintessential community project."*



Interior Rendering - Westview Elementary School



Rendering - Westview Elementary School

For more information on this project, please contact the following or view more project details online at <http://www.kmbr.com/>

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