

REDEVELOPMENT TEAM REPORT – 2016

On Sunday, January 17, 2016 Brechin United congregation voted in favour to participate in the redevelopment strategy led by BC Conference of the United Church of Canada in partnership with BC Housing. BC Housing would finance the project with BC Conference assuming the role of Developer. This project involves 3 churches: Brighthouse United (Richmond), Como Lake United (Coquitlam) and Brechin United.

To better prepare us for this redevelopment journey, the congregation met with Rev. Sally and facilitator, Tim Scorer for “Worship and Workshop Are One” on Sunday, April 17, 2016. The program included music, scripture, reflection small group discussion and prayer.

In late March, 2016 the Development Management team, with Terry Harrison as Process Management & Congregational Liason, hired VIA Architecture. Maranatha Coulas was assigned as Brechin’s Architect. The Development and VIA team members met with us on May 18th. After a very positive and informative conversation, VIA toured the site, and took many photos.

On October 24, 2016 the Redevelopment team met with Terry Harrison, two Collier International members and two VIA Architects. At this meeting, Maranatha and her colleague presented a preliminary sketch of the site, giving us an idea of what the structure would look like, not a typical “box-like structure, rather one with contrasting heights. These drawings are available for everyone to see in the Fellowship Hall.

The “rezoning process” began on November 1, 2016 when the Development Management team presented the application to the City of Nanaimo Planning Advisory Committee. This process is expected to last at least six months. It looks like the actual demolition and construction won’t begin until late 2018, with completion in 2020.

We wish to thank Ken Tully for his enthusiasm and participation these past four years.

Team members: Keith Allen, Linda Braid (Co-Chair), Rev. Sally Bullas, Jeff Hawker, Randy Manikel (Co-Chair), Val Neilson, and Ken Tully.