



Northern Lakes College Student Housing on a New Path

The \$4.5 Million NLC Student Housing Project is back on track. The site for the housing will now be located adjacent to the College soccer field between the swimming pool and Main Street and incorporate a different design with the intent of creating more beds for students than could have been accommodated in earlier plans.

The collaboration between the Town and the College that resulted in funding for the project will now carry over into project management for construction. Brian Vance, the project manager, representing the Town of Slave Lake, is working with Archie Pronger, Director of Facilities and Ancillary Services from Northern Lakes College to ensure that the project is completed in a timely and cost effective manner. “The Town recognizes the importance of affordable accommodations for college students in sustaining expanded post secondary education opportunities in our community,” stated Mayor Karina Pillay-Kinnee. “By providing project management services the Town of Slave Lake is supporting the development of the college locally and helping to ensure that the region has the trained workforce required for this growing economy.”

This past summer officials from the Town of Slave Lake and Northern Lakes College toured the student residences in Grande Prairie and were very impressed with what they saw.

The owners of the Grande Prairie design, Scheunhage Popek & Associates from Grande Prairie have been retained to provide the design and engineering work for the project. Minimal change to the design is expected. “The construction of student housing similar to that in Grande Prairie is making the best use of a proven model and is well suited to address the needs of students and our communities” said Rick Neidig, President and CEO of Northern Lakes College.

Construction will be tendered this fall with a target completion of Fall 2009. The design of the structure reflects a traditional townhouse layout (see photo) with each unit accommodating 4 students. Overall, the re-designed project is expected to accommodate up to 20 more students than did the previous concept, including 4 spaces for those students with special needs.

Last November, the Town of Slave Lake received a grant administered through the province’s Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing for 70% of the overall project cost.

For further information please contact:

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Student Residences located at Grande Prairie Regional College (above) will be a model for those to be built at Northern Lakes College in Slave Lake.