



Omicron awarded Whistler Municipal Hall

The Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW) has engaged Omicron as the Prime Consultant to lead the restoration and expansion of the Whistler Municipal Hall. The \$5.7 million project will see the Municipal Hall go through its fourth regeneration including its former uses as a restaurant, health clinic and library.

The Municipal Hall will now be expanded and upgraded to accommodate the civic needs leading up to the 2010 Olympics and many years beyond including creating a post disaster Emergency Operations Centre in the new wing of the project.

Omicron is collaborating with local architects, landscape architects, civil and snow country engineers to manage this complex project as it is revitalized to meet the municipality's LEED Silver sustainability objectives. Omicron's integrated design and construction methodology will be fundamental to meeting program needs within the aggressive time-line and budget.

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squamish/whistler corridor

The booming Sea to Sky corridor has experienced unprecedented growth over the past 10 years. The Resort Municipality of Whistler is effectively "built-out" with all its allocated bed units within its Official Community Plan essentially constructed. Current major projects still to reach completion include the Olympic Athletes' Village at Function Junction, the 2010 Sliding Centre on Blackcomb Mountain and the \$60 million 2010 Nordic Centre in the neighbouring Callaghan Valley.

The \$600 million Sea to Sky Highway upgrade is well underway and should significantly reduce travel time from Vancouver to Squamish and Whistler. The project, being delivered as a public private partnership, was recently awarded the "Best Global Project to Reach Financial Close" at the Public Private Finance Awards in London, England. The Government of BC estimates that increased economic activity along the Sea to Sky corridor will create some 6,000 new jobs throughout the province and the provincial GDP will increase by \$300 million over the period of 2010 to 2025.

Squamish has transformed from a forestry/railway-based economy to become the self proclaimed Outdoor Recreation Capital of Canada. Recent community projects include the spectacular Squamish Adventure Centre and the new RCMP/Squamish Emergency Program facility, both of which have raised the local standard of architectural design significantly. The Quest University project is under construction and will be open for its first students in September 2007. The 70 acre Squamish Oceanfront Development on the former BC Rail/Nexen lands is currently in master development planning and will revitalize the downtown core through its connection with the waterfront.

With the recent opening of Wal-Mart and Home Depot in the Squamish Business Park, Squamish is slated to be the shopping hub for Squamish, Whistler, Pemberton and Lillooet. Marcus Leyland, a senior architect with Omicron who lives in Squamish, observes that although the residents had mixed feelings on whether "big box" was the right addition for their community, it appears that the downtown stores are benefiting from additional shoppers coming in to town. Previously most shoppers travelled to the Lower Mainland to fulfill their shopping needs, so these dollars are now staying in Squamish.

project profile

Value: \$10.7 million
Role: Architecture and Engineering / Construction Management of site works
Date: November 2006
Notable: While coordinating the 60,000 sq.ft. design, Omicron provided early site preparation services which helped the store meet its tight schedule.



home depot squamish



southside lodge development site

Omicron has been engaged by the vendors of this gateway site in the Creekside neighbourhood of Whistler. Working with the listing agent, BMAX Real Estate Solutions Inc., Omicron is exploring development options for the 7,500 sq.ft. site. For more information please contact Omicron's Norm Laube at 604 209 2115.



George Sawatzky, ASCT, Partner – Retail Sector Director

George is a founding partner of Omicron and provides leadership and operational direction to the integrated design and construction management teams in our Retail Sector. Prior to joining Omicron, George was a Project Director with Dominion Construction where he managed the \$55 million re-development of Richmond Centre, the \$12 million expansion of Willowbrook Shopping Centre in Langley and the \$24 million design/build Burnaby Mountain Secondary School.

George leads Omicron's Home Depot account team where we have assisted Home Depot role out 30 new stores in Western Canada over the past 8 years. George is also the account lead for Omicron's work with Loblaws, Staples/Business Depot and Coast Capital Savings.

our people

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Omicron Architecture Engineering Construction Ltd. is a leading provider of integrated design/build solutions in Western Canada. Active in the retail, industrial, commercial and institutional markets, Omicron's total commitment to client satisfaction has firmly established us at the forefront of the industry. Omicron's LEED-CI Gold certified office in downtown Vancouver is the hub for our 150 staff of professional real estate advisors, interior designers, architects, engineers and construction managers.