

Blackfoot Elder Response

Received: April 22, 2019



Attn: Mr. Desmond Bliet
Senior Planner
Planning Implementation
Development & Building Approvals
Municipal Building

RE: DP review for Cell F DP2019-0211 & Cell G DP2019-0949

Dear Sir,

Over the past year or so I have been invited to consult with Metropia, the residential developers of The Village at Medicine Hills regarding the cultural and historical significance of the land. I have found the people to be sincere in their desire to honor, respect and incorporate indigenous understandings into their community plans and I support their efforts along with their application for development permits.

Carmen from NOOR writes,

"During the meeting with Elder Pablo we discussed the inspiration for the design of Block F and G. The central landscape design was inspired from previous discussions with Elder Pablo. This central area starts at the lower area which is based on the prairies, this includes plant material such as aspen and native grasses. As the seating areas progress up the slope, the next seating area uses plant material from the young forest, which includes mostly pine and then up the slope again to the next seating area which uses plant material from the old forest which is mostly spruce. As the design extends into Block G it becomes the mountain tops and include plant material from the upper slopes. All seating areas include rock seating. The Analematic sundial was something that Elder Pablo liked and he commented that we should include the colours based on the Directions. North being represented by Red West is represented by Black East is represented by Yellow South is represented by White He also taught us about the Cardinal Direction which is based on the stones that were placed for the tipis. NORR is going to relocate some of the plant material in the south seating area to represent the original Cardinal Direction."

Metropia has also incorporated some animal themes to differentiate the community blocks and plans some signage around the natural areas and upon entrance to the nature reserve reflecting some local stories and teachings about how to take care of Mother Earth for the enrichment of all who will live in and visit the area.

Feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,
Camille Pablo Russell
Blackfoot Cultural Carrier
403-606-7542
thebuffaloway@gmail.com