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Project:

North Vancouver School District No. 44 -
Ridgeway Elementary School

Project Type:

Education Facilities

Client:

North Vancouver School District No. 44

Dates:

Dec 2004 to May 2007

Description:

The Arlington Group was first retained in 2004 to conduct a heritage assessment of Ridgeway Elementary School, which was originally constructed in 1912. Then in 2007, the Arlington Group was retained again to conduct a public process and survey concerning development options for the school. The school is one of the most significant heritage resources on the North Shore. Options ranged from demolition and replacement to renovation. The school has high community and heritage values and drew a large number of residents from the neighbourhood and across the North Shore. As a result of the survey and public process, two options were identified that a vast majority of the public as well as the school district could support. The Ministry of Education provided capital funding for a heritage restoration of the school in 2009. To aid this funding, the City of North Vancouver created transferable density on the school site and has sold these rights to the purchasers of an adjacent site, which previously housed the North Vancouver School District. In the end, an important historical resource has been saved and value added to an appropriate adjacent site that will help fund the community's cultural ambitions.