



COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

## Archdiocese of Vancouver Going Green

### *New offices will include seniors housing in an eco-friendly building*

VANCOUVER (Sept. 12, 2013) – The leafy neighbourhood of Queen Elizabeth Park is getting a new green neighbour – the LEED GOLD certified eco-friendly headquarters of the Archdiocese of Vancouver.

The administrative offices of the Archdiocese will move to the 33rd and Willow area off Cambie over the next year, with construction beginning immediately and its doors opening in early 2015.

The new four-storey building, on the site where St. Vincent’s Hospital stood for 65 years, includes offices, auditorium, chancery, chapel, seniors housing, and underground parking for Catholic Charities and the Archdiocese of Vancouver.

The Catholic Church in Vancouver has had its offices at Robson and Cambie since 1958. The existing building at 150 Robson St. is home to the Archdiocese’s Chancery, Catholic Family Services, Catholic Independent Schools of the Vancouver Archdiocese, The B.C. Catholic, Matrimonial Tribunal, Project Advance, as well as offices of Finance, Human Resources, Evangelization, First Nations Ministry, Communications, Mission Appeal, Religious Education, Service and Justice, Vocations, Stewardship, and Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

The building was renamed the John Paul II Pastoral Centre in 2011 in honour of the late Pope being declared Blessed, the last step before he is canonized as a saint in the Catholic Church, expected in 2014.

Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB, said the current structure has served its purpose. “It is important that the Church’s administrative offices remain centrally located in Vancouver, but the existing building can no longer adequately serve the needs of the community or the Archdiocese.”

The property has been sold to Amacon, which has not yet announced its plans for the building. The sale of the existing building will finance construction of the new headquarters.



Archdiocese  
of Vancouver

JOHN PAUL II PASTORAL CENTRE

150 Robson St.  
Vancouver, BC  
V6B 2A7

T: 604-683-0281  
F: 604-683-4288

## COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

The building is the second stage in a Campus of Care being developed by Providence Health Care in partnership with the Archdiocese of Vancouver, furthering the legacy of care begun by the Sisters of Charity of the Immaculate Conception who operated St. Vincent's Hospital. The first stage was the Honoria Conway seniors residence completed in 2008.

The new building design incorporates nine housing units for retired priests on the Willow Street west side, with the building's main entrance facing east. The site will feature steep grade changes and a stand of mature evergreen trees wrapping the southwest corner to form a small woodland. The design is intended to contribute to the creation of a peaceful environment separate from the office functions and use, with paths connecting to a wellness walkway, making a quiet oasis that is accessible to the occupants, visitors and neighbours.

Providence Health Care operates nine sites in Vancouver including St. Paul's Hospital, Mount Saint Joseph Hospital, Holy Family Hospital, Youville Residence, Marion Hospice, and St. Vincent Sites: Honoria Conway, Brock Fahrni Pavilion and Langara.

-30-

*For more details visit:*

[Archdiocese of Vancouver](#) (project management page)

[Ventana](#) (general contractor's site)

Paul Schratz

Communications Director

[communications@rcav.org](mailto:communications@rcav.org)

604-683-0281 (office) 604-505-9411 (cell)

[rcav.org/communications](http://rcav.org/communications)