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Volunteers working on the mural "Blooms: Celebration of Diversity".

Mural project celebrates South Van's "diverse roots and shared future"

A community engagement mural project of the Reframing South Van Initiative has been completed at South Vancouver Family Place (SVFP), 7710 Nanaimo St.

One mural, "Blooms: A Celebration of Diversity" is described as "a vibrant and dynamic mural designed to celebrate the rich cultural tapestry of South Vancouver's migrant population. The mural features twenty national flowers "each representing a different country, symbolizing the unique heritage and contributions of the communities that call South Vancouver home." The intent was to pay "tribute to the multicultural essence of the community in South Vancouver... a harmonious garden, celebrating the diverse roots and shared future."



Mural entitle "Grow" is the backdrop for the South Vancouver Family Place community garden.

Another mural, "Grow" depicts a wall of greenery and foliage that serves as a backdrop for the South Vancouver Family Place community garden. The word "grow" was chosen as it describes the life of plants in the garden, but also the continuous growth of the community who use the space.

Reframing South Van navigator, Mara Cortez, an artist and lead for this mural project said it wouldn't have happened without the generous efforts of volunteers and the support of SVFP Executive Director Julio Bello and Playroom Coordinator Ingrid Rioz as well as Anna Marie Repstock from the City of Vancouver mural program

"I also want to take the time to thank and congratulate Kaira Peña for her efforts and design on "Grow" said Cortez. "I am excited to continue curating emerging BIPOC artists for Reframing's efforts of creative placemaking in South Vancouver.

The mural project was a culmination of three months of planning, multiple community engagement sessions about the design, nine days of painting and coordinating over 35 volunteers.

An official unveiling party is planned for mid-September.

Images courtesy of Taylor Goertzen, drone videographer.

24-storey condo tower proposed for Knight and King Edward

A new rezoning application by Conwest Developments calls for the redevelopment of the land assembly of 4001 Knight St. and 1348 E. 24th Ave. at the northwest corner of the intersection of Knight St. and King Edward Ave..

This site is currently occupied by a 1968-built one-storey commercial building with businesses, such as Vegas Donuts and a laundromat, and a 1994-built single-family house.

The proposal calls for a 261-ft-tall, 24-storey mixed-use tower, which would become the village area's tallest new building.

A 6,300 sq. ft. childcare facility for 37 children on the fifth level opens up to an outdoor play space on the rooftop of the four-storey base podium. The developer has expressed interest in having the YMCA operate the childcare facility, and the YMCA has confirmed its support for the project. This would be a city-owned childcare facility, as an in-kind community amenity contribution in exchange for the rezoning.

On the ground level fronting Knight St., there would be 4,200 sq ft of retail/restaurant uses.

A total of 233 strata market ownership condominium homes would be located within the second, third, and fourth levels of the base podium and levels six to 23 within the tower.

The unit size mix is 21 studios, 128 one-bedroom units, 60 two-bedroom units, and 24 three-bedroom units. Residents would have access to shared indoor and outdoor amenity spaces on the 24th-level rooftop of the tower.

Seven underground levels would contain 240 vehicle parking stalls. As well, 435 secure bike parking spaces would be

situated within portions of the P1 underground level, ground level, and mezzanine level above ground.

Immediately to the east of the site, just across the street, is King Edward Village, a mixed-use complex with 332 condominium homes, Save-On-Foods, and a Vancouver Public Library branch. Further to the east, the former Rona site was recently redeveloped into a 13-storey tower with 154 condominium homes and office and retail/restaurant uses.



24-storey mixed-use tower proposed for Knight & King Edward would become village area's tallest new building.

14-storey supportive housing tower gets green light

Just kitty-corner from the site above, BC Housing has approval to develop 1406-1410 King Edward Ave. into a 14-storey permanent modular tower with 109 supportive housing units.

As a transition directly from street homelessness or shelters, these units will be highly affordable, with half of the units set at maximum monthly rents of \$375 for annual incomes of \$15,000 and under, and

the remaining half of the units at monthly starting rents of between \$375 to \$719 for annual incomes from \$15,000 to \$28,750.

The base of the building will include a commercial kitchen, dining room, multipurpose room, tenant laundry, and support services. Vancouver Native Housing Society and Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society have been chosen as the building's operators.