

Development plan is closer to fruition

City council has given third reading to a plan to coordinate development of the area around the intersection of Victoria Street and Patricia Boulevard/15th Avenue.

City staff say the area is experiencing development pressure which will intensify when the Parkwood Mall redevelopment takes place.

"Development services guidelines for design and access are crucial. The City needs to provide this tool to regulate development before major action occurs," said Peter Bloodoff, the city's director of development services, in a written report to council.

"There are several possible projects that may take place on the Parkwood Mall site. One or two big-box retail facilities could fit along with several smaller commercial uses on vacant sites along Victoria Street and could impact Redwood Square and the Overwaitea store.

"For these reasons it is important to consider the whole area in a comprehensive manner. Building design needs to be coordinated and traffic flow needs careful attention."

Final reading is expected to be given in the new year.

Wife nabbed

Prince George police have now collared the wife of a man incarcerated in Mexico awaiting extradition to Canada on income tax charges.

Police say they arrested Jean Eileen Gibson, formerly of Prince George, in Kelowna last Thursday. She had been charged under the Income Tax Act in November. Mrs. Gibson is the wife of James Boyd Gibson who is in jail in Mexico in connection with a \$4.4-million fraud against Imperial Oil.

Peek-a-boo/Searching for Santa



Hayden Beddington find the best way to look at the Santa display at Pine Centre. ROB BIRON/FREE PRESS

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