

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
PLANNING AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE
FOR INFORMATION ONLY

PRESENTED BY: Bob Tyler, Chair, Planning and Priorities Committee

DATE OF MEETING: October 20, 2011

SUBJECT: College Quarter North East Precinct

COUNCIL ACTION: For information only

CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND:

The Planning and Priorities Committee discussed the concept for development of the College Quarter North East Precinct at its meeting on September 7, 2011. The concept was presented to the Capital Subcommittee of the Planning and Priorities Committee last spring. Given the significance of the development for the future of the University and campus life as a whole, the Committee elected to submit a separate report on this project and invite Richard Florizone, Vice-President Finance and Resources and Executive Sponsor for the project, to make a presentation to Council on the proposed development.

DISCUSSION SUMMARY:

The development of the College Quarter North East Precinct is a further extension of the development of this area, following upon the development of new undergraduate and graduate student housing on this land. The proposed area of development is approximately 31 acres south west of the intersection of College Drive and Preston Avenue. Proposed are a new twin-pad ice arena to replace Rutherford Rink, a hotel, athletic fields, retail and office space, and parking. A request for Board 1 approval is intended for submission in October to approve preliminary funding to proceed to the next stage of project development, which is the selection of a development partner to work with the University to define the project scope, design and financial details. Board 1 approval at this stage is consistent with the University's Major Projects Planning Process and is a commitment to explore the various possibilities presented. Development of the North East Precinct subsequently will require additional consideration and approvals as required under the University's governance process for major capital projects.

The Planning and Priorities Committee supports that a Request for Proposal be submitted to explore the development of the College Quarter North East Precinct as outlined. The concept for a focal area for athletics and recreation was initially outlined in the Campus Master Plan (2003) as an athletics precinct that would include a new ice arena and reconfigured playing fields. The concept takes advantage of the synergies provided

by the placement of Griffiths Stadium and the Field House, and is intended to enhance the student experience by creating a centre of excellence for athletics and recreation. The placement of a hotel on university lands, in close proximity to campus, is consistent with the use for this land identified in the College Quarter Master Plan (2009). The Planning and Priorities Committee has recommended that consideration be given to the aspect of accessibility to campus for hotel guests, and to the possible incorporation into the hotel concept of subsidized guest housing as it exists at many institutions.