

## The Future of Woodward's

The Woodward's building, located in the 100 block of West Hastings in Vancouver, combines market and non-market housing, along with commercial/retail and institutional arts space, all of which are designed to be socially, environmentally and economically sustainable. It is part of a larger effort to revitalize one of Vancouver's historic neighbourhoods with the addition of up to 6,000 students and faculty, residents, shoppers, office and other workers.

The Woodward's development will house:

- | 200 non-market housing units
- | 9 universally accessible units
- | a daycare facility
- | a sustainable environment with green spaces on rooftops and is Silver LEED certified
- | SFU School of Contemporary Arts
- | London Drugs
- | Nester's/ Woodward's food floor
- | non-profit and federal office space



### Community/ Social Benefits

Woodward's has long [played a pivotal role](#) in our city. It once provided food, household goods and employment to many people in the local community and beyond. Today, it is the focus of a neighbourhood's hopes and dreams.

The City of Vancouver purchased the Woodward's building from the Province of BC in March 2003. The City [began a unique process](#) to involve the community and other Vancouver residents in designing and planning the redevelopment of the building in a way that is socially, environmentally and economically sustainable.

Community involvement:

- | 18 local residents were trained and hired through programs such as [Bladerunners](#).
- | In the future, retail/commercial in the building have plans to hire local residents for jobs in the service industry, and for security, gardening and cleaning opportunities.
- | Westbank provided 15 low-interest loans to help people who otherwise couldn't afford to purchase units in the development.
- | The development has plans for affordable rental space, including theatre space, for community groups.
- | Local procurement of materials and services was a guiding principle during the project.

In September 2004, City Council chose [Westbank Projects/Peterson Investment Group](#) (Henriquez Partners, architects) as the developer for the Woodward's project. [Learn more about the proposal](#) and [meet the design team](#).



Woodward's Department Store ([City of Vancouver Archives](#) CVA 677-611)  
Photographer: Philip T. Timms