

# First United Church Community Ministry Society & Lu'ma Native Housing Society

## Redevelopment of 320 East Hastings

*Committed to community*

**First United Church Community Ministry Society and Lu'ma Native Housing Society are working together to address the critical housing, health and social justice needs in the Downtown Eastside.**

Currently in the planning stage, First United's new building will be a place where people can connect, find their strength and build a better future.

The proposed project is located in the unceded territory of the x̱məθḵəy̱əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səllilíwətaʔt (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations at 320 East Hastings Street – the current site of First United Church on the corner of East Hastings and Gore in Vancouver, B.C.

The first four floors, operated by First United, will provide a safe and inclusive community space where people are welcomed with joy, kindness, dignity and respect. The space will encourage healing by offering services and programming that reflect the needs and interests of the community.

Lu'ma Native Housing Society will offer safe, secure homes for Indigenous Peoples in a supportive and caring environment on the upper seven floors.

The proposed project includes:

- Two drop-in spaces, a large dining room, a legal advocacy clinic, a commercial kitchen, multipurpose spaces, public showers, a day sleeping room, a chapel and sacred spaces, outdoor decks, computer lab, and administrative offices, developed following consultation with Downtown Eastside residents
- 105 non-market studio and one-bedroom homes, with laundry and amenities



▲ Artist's rendering of the proposed redevelopment project



▲ Location of the proposed redevelopment project



## Moving toward reconciliation, healing and a better future

This project is an important opportunity for Non-Indigenous Peoples to move forward toward reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.

The space will honour the Indigenous and spiritual roots of the land it occupies and celebrate the culture and history of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh and Urban Indigenous Peoples.

This site is part of an area known by local Indigenous Peoples as K'emk'emelay/ḡemḡémələṭp, meaning place of broadleaf maple trees. It was once a rich and vibrant trading area which sustained Indigenous Peoples with an abundance of wildlife, marine life, forests and marshlands.

A church has been on this corner of East Hastings and Gore since 1892. Since 1925, this church has been called First United. First United has evolved from a congregation to operating community ministry and social programs to benefit the DTES community.

*This project demonstrates reconciliation in action and offers the opportunity for all British Columbians to see the land and its people as one, inseparable from history and personal story.*

*Known as K'emk'emelay/ḡemḡémələṭp, this land has been a rich and vibrant trading area for Indigenous Peoples*

## Project timeline



## Working together, committed to community.



First United Church Community Ministry Society is an inner-city ministry of the United Church of Canada committed to the struggle for social justice, offering programs of advocacy, housing and healing in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside (DTES).

First United has been operating in the DTES for 135 years.



Lu'ma is a Coast Salish word that means "new beginnings." Lu'ma Native Housing Society has been providing safe, affordable housing for Indigenous people and families in the City of Vancouver since 1980.

Lu'ma Native Housing Society and its sister societies are guided by a volunteer board of directors indigenous to Turtle Island.

## For more information about this project:

Visit: [www.firstunited.ca/redevelopment](http://www.firstunited.ca/redevelopment)

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