

Former Cyber City site to become new VI Fitness facility

NANAIMO - The next "phase" of Bowen Road is now underway.

It's not the City re-doing the road around the Quarterway bridge. The former **Cyber City/A&W Restaurant** property has been leveled, soon to be replaced by a new **VI Fitness** facility.

The **Cormier** family of Victoria bought the three acre Cyber City property from **Bill Stewart** and has big plans for the site, sandwiched between **VI Honda** and the **Greenrock Industrial Business Park**, which will feature a **TD Bank** and a second Nanaimo location of **Country Grocer**.

Perhaps it was the **Greater Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce**' decision to build their new home on Bowen Road in 2003. Or maybe it was simply the fact that an average of 8-10,000 vehicles drive down Bowen each day. Or the many other new buildings that have sprung up along the busy street in the past few years.

Whatever the reason, Bowen Road is the place to be in central Nanaimo.

"This is where all the development seems to be focused on," says **Brian McCullough** of **Coast Realty**, who is marketing the former Cyber City property for the Cormier fam-

ily. "The Westhill site across the road is 19.5 acres and includes commercial and residential. The site next door, Greenrock, is going up, and between the sites, the road connects out to Northfield Road now. It's become a very upscale area."

McCullough says other buildings on site as new tenants express an interest in the property.

"It would be nice if we had complementing businesses on the property," he notes. "The three acre site will allow for opportunities for other business and retail use in the future."



Brian McCullough

The Bowen Road VI Fitness Centre will be the 11th location on Vancouver Island, and they will continue to operate their current site, overlooking Long Lake, on Wellington Road.

"The new VI Fitness complex will be the only stand along women's fitness centre in Nanaimo,"

says McCullough, adding the building will be 10,000 square feet. "Membership to any VI fitness facility is good for all of their 11 facilities on the Island."

VI Fitness is a family-oriented business that supports numerous local charities. VI

Fitness is very involved in the community and supports children's organizations, including the Make a Wish Foundation and local sports programs. It also sponsored an event for BC Cancer Research which helped raise \$510,000 on Vancouver Island for cancer research.

"VI Fitness will be creating new jobs with the opening

of this large fitness facility and employing local residents," he adds. "**Westmark Construction**, a Nanaimo-based construction company, will be overseeing the construction of this new building. This will also help to create increased employment in the Nanaimo area for construction jobs."

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