

# josette dandurand elementary

23014

## client

School District No. 35

## location

Langley, BC

## size

3,037sqm + 1,133 NLC

## value

\$51.8 million

## contract type

Stipulated Sum

## status | dates

June 2023 - Sep 2025

## project summary

Situated next to a recently reconstructed riparian area, the design is inspired by the cascading wetland, using earthy rust tones, rock grays, leafy greens, water blues and golden tones in the colour scheme to evoke the rocks and fallen leaves. The design intends to celebrate the beauty of the gathering of the community in the same way that cascading water collects in the wetland. This is expressed through the cascading stepped structures, pointing toward the central gathering spaces like the main entry points, the multipurpose room, and learning commons spaces featured in blue.

The new school will have capacity for 80 kindergarten students + 475 grade 1-7 students. The two-storey building emphasizes an efficient linear style to maximize outdoor play space and allow for internal site connections to future planned municipal play fields to the east. The project applies mass timber Dowel Laminated Timber (DLT) panels as a structural component of the roof deck spanning over the gymnasium, kindergarten classrooms and NLC.

## reference

Tristan Schaufler  
tshaufler@sd35.bc.ca



**optimizing access on a sloped site**

Access to the site off 82nd and exit off 201 street posed a design challenge as the falls needed to suit the parking, the road ways and the pedestrian access whilst still working with a difference in level of 6+ meters between the entrance and exit. The school is placed lengthwise along the site which allows for longer circulation roads to accommodate the falls required for the progression of pedestrian and vehicular traffic across the site.



**inspired by nature**

To create a seamless connection to the outdoors, the school features staggered roofs, natural tones and striking contrasting colours inspired by nature. Indigenous vegetation envelopes the school and roadways to provide shade in the summer and create a 'corridor' for migratory birds and insects. These simple features create practical learning opportunities and the means to foster biophilic relationships as teachers and students.

**offering more to the community**

The school is informed by 21st century learning principles with a Neighborhood Learning Centre and childcare provided with an outdoor gathering spaces and a community garden. All facilities are designed with accessibility in mind, The building has an elevator and the changes in levels of the site have ramps where required.



**a building made to last**

State of the art energy modeling used to determine insulation requirements. Longevity of the building ensured with the use of durable materials.