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Langford gets 1.4-billion

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Lavish Bear Mountain development to feature vineyard, spa, concierge

BY CARLA WILSON
Times Colonist staff

A Vancouver developer known for building multimillion-dollar homes in "trophy locations" is planning a \$1.4-billion luxury project at Bear Mountain in Langford.

More than 1,000 condominium units with mountain and ocean views, large covered decks, a vineyard, private wine vaults, concierge services, an outdoor amphitheatre, a spa, a fitness centre and pools are planned. And, a "spectacular" restaurant and winery will be cantilevered 21 metres off the hillside, said developer Robert Quigg, who heads the Quigg Group, which bought the eight-hectare parcel of land on the mountain.

According to Quigg, the company creates "amenity-rich developments" that take advantage of a site's natural attributes to "bring the outdoors in." The Bear Mountain development will offer what Quigg describes as a "whole lifestyle community" providing the kinds of services seen in four-to-five-star hotels.

Designs for the two-phase project, which is expected to be complete in 10 to 12 years, are still being worked out, but units are expected to go up for sale in the early fall. Construction on the site is also expected to begin in the fall, as the site already has the required zoning

and approvals from Langford.

Units will range from 850 square feet to 5,000 square feet, and prices will start at about \$500,000, but Quigg did not cite a ceiling.

Bear Mountain Resort president Len Barrie said the residents of Quigg's development will represent about one-tenth of the total population of the site when fully complete.

"It's going to drive golf membership sales for us. It's going to drive revenues at all the other facilities that we have up here," Barrie added.

Bear Mountain already features a golf course, restaurants, hotel rooms, spa, athletic club and a village. Today, there are 600 residents.

Langford Mayor Stew Young said the Quigg plan will be an economic driver in the community and help residents by keeping taxes down. "It is going to give Langford a huge tax boost, probably the largest development to date that we have had."

Young said he met with Quigg about six months ago and encouraged him to come to Langford. "He is 'the' developer in Canada right now."

Quigg's previous projects include The Properties at Hollyburn Mountain in West Vancouver, with 44 multimillion-dollar residences, including a 4,800-square-foot penthouse that sold for \$5.9 million.

