

# WV couple donate \$6M to film at Cap

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## CAPILANO

University's new film centre is a substantial step closer to reality thanks to a \$6-million donation from a West Vancouver couple.

Nat Bosa, president of the Bosa Development Corporation, and his wife Flora gave the money to the Capilano's Centre for Film and Animation, due to open in 2011. It's the largest private donation in the school's history.

"I levitated," said film centre director Bill Thumm, describing the moment he heard the news. "When the actual commitment was made . . . it was the banner day."

The university announced the donation May 26.

The 70,000-square-foot centre, already under construction, will become the new home of the university's motion picture arts degree

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NEWS photo Mike Wakefield

**BILL Thumm, director of Capilano University's Centre for Film and Animation, looks out from the portable that his department has long since outgrown onto the construction site of a new film department.**

# Money will equip new centre

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program, which at the moment is housed in portables. In August last year, the federal and provincial governments put \$30 million toward the effort — enough to cover construction of the first phase of the two-phase project.

That money would only pay for the building itself, however. The Bosa donation will allow the school to buy the equipment that goes in it, said Thumm. That will include 3-D cameras, a high-definition 3-D movie theatre, sound mixing equipment, lights, computers, editing stations and other gear.

The new facility comes not a moment too soon, said Thumm, as the program has long outgrown its digs.

“We are crammed into a space now that is far too small for what we offer,” he said. “It’s a two-storey portable situation dating back from god knows when — the paleolithic era.”

At the moment, students have to rely on off-campus industry facilities to complete many of their projects. The new centre is

expected to change that.

“Everything the students now need to go from the very developmental part of their film to the final stages of post (production) will be available to them in-house,” said Thumm.

“To be able to deliver a first-class education, it is my contention that you need first-class facilities and it all needs to be industry standard.”

He estimates the school needs about \$9 million more, probably from the government, to complete Phase 2, which will house an expanded animation program. The Bosa donation will very likely cover all the equipment needed to outfit that portion of the centre as well, said Thumm.

Capilano’s School of Motion Picture Arts, the largest film school in Western Canada, serves 400 students annually.



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