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River Heights Place adds shopping spaces to south Cochrane

David Parker • Calgary Herald

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A rendering of the River Heights Place, an \$18-million retail project in Cochrane designed by BRZ Architecture and being built by the Ocgrow Group of Companies. PHOTO BY SUPPLIED /Calgary

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Cochrane has been recognized as the fastest-growing community in Canada, and its neighbourhoods on the south side of the Bow River among the fastest-growing residential areas in Alberta.

River Heights alone is expected to be home to about 14,000 people and Southbow Landing will attract several thousand more.

Last week, Cochrane Mayor Jeff Genung helped Ocgrow Group of Companies president Harish Consul launch construction of the \$18-million River Heights Place, a 35,000-square foot retail project designed by BRZ Architecture.

A Calgary developer and venture capitalist, Consul has been involved in the residential and commercial real estate industry for 30 years. His income and development portfolio is mostly focused on Vancouver and Calgary properties.

Consul bought the 1.65-acre parcel of land south of Cochrane Dodge four years ago, believing the new shopping plaza would be welcomed by residents in that area.

Bow Valley High School is already open in River Heights and a K-7 school has been approved one block from the site. Residents are also excited construction of the Bow River Bridge is expected to start by summer's end. The span will connect Griffin Road, near the Spray Lake Sawmills Family Sports Centre, to River Heights.

Already Consul's decision has proved to be a right one as even as Ocgrow's own construction company begin work on the site. River Heights Place is already 80 per cent leased through Colliers International senior associate Brendan Keen.

Contracts have been signed for a Petro Canada gas station, Subway, Domino's Pizza and Liquor District on the main floor, and above the space has been leased to a Calgary-owned preschool daycare called Genius Kids, which already has a waiting list, and an 8,000-square-foot fitness centre.

