

February 5, 2009

Council Appoints Task Force on Major Industry Tax Revenue Loss

As promised in Mayor Charlie Cornfield's inaugural speech in December, Campbell River's task force on major industry tax revenue loss has been established.

At Tuesday's meeting, City Council appointed nine members to the task force to make recommendations to Council on how to adapt to a major loss in taxation revenue, with an interim report due March 24 and a final report June 1, 2009.

Members of the task force will be: Lyle Boyce, Marc Crane, Jim Dobinson, Francois Egan, Jim Harris, Bill Howich, Doug Lang, Bill Matthews and Kent Moeller. Councillor Mary Storry will be the Council liaison to the task force.

"Each member of the task force offers significant professional knowledge of our community's economic history and future needs," says Councillor Storry. "From their finance, business and government careers, to the time they've volunteered with local organizations, foundations, charities and service clubs, these people bring incredible expertise to the table. Their experience, along with the public input process, will provide a comprehensive understanding to inform recommendations to Council."

The task force is asked to: review the City's current financial bylaws, policies, and guiding documents; review the City's current user fees and other sources of revenue; identify long-term taxation issues and trends that will affect the City's fiscal sustainability; review comparability of the City with other similar communities through the use of appropriate indices, benchmarks, performance indicators, taxation levels, and service levels; conduct a public involvement process and prepare a report to Council on or before June 1, 2009, recommending how to adapt to a major loss in taxation revenue from Major Industrial (Class 4) taxation.

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