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City's Wood First Policy: Proposals for City-funded projects to incorporate wood use

The City of Campbell River has adopted a Wood First Policy to encourage a community culture of wood use in city-funded projects.

The City's Wood First policy outlines requirements for the use of wood as the primary building material for design and construction purposes, and as energy production material wherever practical and appropriate. The policy is consistent with the British Columbia Building Code and the provincial Wood First Act and applies to City-funded projects and buildings or structures within the City of Campbell River.

"The City intends to lead by example to encourage others that wood should be considered for all projects and construction where it is economically competitive with other materials," says Mayor Charlie Cornfield.

Effective immediately, the City's purchasing procedures will incorporate criteria from the Wood First policy. Where practical and appropriate, all proposals on city-funded projects for the design, construction and installation of wood structures or wood-use in energy production shall include a detailed description of how wood will be used – and ideally, maximize wood use.

Proposals shall outline experience and excellence in utilizing wood as a key qualifying criterion. Favourable consideration may be given to design proposals for City-funded projects that demonstrate a greater degree of expertise in the use of wood and more substantial and/or innovative use of wood.

"Directly or indirectly, local sawmills and wood industries within the municipality of Campbell River will be supported and encouraged to prosper as a result of the use of wood," adds Councillor Ziggy Stewart.

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