



Media Release



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Food services return to Campbell River Airport

School District 72, through its non-profit Campbell River Educational Services Society (CRESS), will sign an agreement with the City of Campbell River to provide café operations at the Campbell River Airport starting in January 2013.

Under the agreement, School District 72 students will provide food services to staff, travelers and surrounding businesses under the direction of a teacher and CRESS. Students will also maintain a display cabinet featuring student work from various Campbell River schools, and they'll serve as community ambassadors, handing out brochures and conducting interviews with people using the airport.

“Providing café services to airport clients has the potential to teach local students numerous work and life skills,” says Tom Longridge, School District 72 superintendent. *“This opportunity also allows the district to expand our vocational education opportunities and is an excellent example of how the district is working to enhance community connections under the Board of Education’s Strategic Plan.”*

Through this agreement, students in the school district's ACE-IT culinary program will develop menu items, and students in the work experience and alternative education programs will provide services on site.

“By working with the Campbell River Airport Authority, special needs students will also benefit with additional opportunities for learning transitional workplace life skills in much the same way as the Ed and May Mailman Life Skills House is used to teach special needs students day-to-day household skills,” Longridge adds.

“The Campbell River Airport Authority is very pleased with this agreement that will meet the popular request for café operations at the airport and provide opportunities for young people in our community to expand their skills and reach out to travelers to promote the many great things Campbell River has to offer,” says Susan Sinnott, chair of the Airport Authority. *“We congratulate School District 72 on this innovative idea, and we look forward to seeing this grow into a successful enterprise.”*

All students working to provide airport food services will have required FoodSafe and safety training and certification.

As a not-for-profit society under the rulings of the Canada Revenue Agency, CRESS will use funds raised to maintain the business and fund other innovative, project-based learning opportunities for students in School District 72.

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