

PARTNERSHIPS

GREENWAYS LAND TRUST and the City of Campbell River completed the Greenways Loop, Jubilee Parkway Trail in 2011 and established the Laughing Willow Community Garden. Thanks to the **Noon Rotary Club**, the Walter Morgan Studio got a new roof this year.



SYBIL ANDREWS COTTAGE ON NEW FOUNDATION

In spring 2011, the arts hub and heritage focal point Sybil Andrews Cottage got a new foundation, perimeter drainage improvements, a new roof, a new wheelchair ramp and access door as well as minor exterior repairs and renewed landscaping.



Along with the donation from the Sybil Andrews Heritage Society, the project received financial support from the Coast Sustainability Land Trust, Heritage BC, the Heritage Legacy Fund and the City of Campbell River through the Strategic Parks Plan and the Parks Parcel Tax.

SECOND ANNUAL WATERFEST

Waterfest 2011 showcased the power of community when Campbell River celebrated the high quality of drinking water in the watershed and enjoyed good clean fun at McIvor Lake on Aug. 20.



ENVIRONMENTAL EVENTS AND COMMITTEES

The City of Campbell River has an active multi-stakeholder Environmental Advisory Committee and a staff-based Green Team to advise on environmental protection and sustainability projects and plans. The City also has an active partnership with School District 72

on energy and waste reduction initiatives, including the Annual Earth Day Festivities at the Tidemark Theatre. Each year, the City participates in a wide range of community events such as River's Day, Ocean's Day, the Bald Eagle Festival, National Waste Reduction Week, Earth Hour, and the bi-annual Home Expos.



THE PLAYGROUND AT THE GATHERING PLACE, BC Housing Complex was resurfaced thanks to a grant obtained through the partnership of Family Services, Laichwiltach Family Life, School District 72, Success by 6, Literacy Now and the City of Campbell River.

BAIKIE ISLAND RESTORATION

In 2011, efforts to return Baikie Island to nature included clearing the site and re-planting with more than 5,000 native trees and shrubs. The creation of riparian forest zone habitat was a very important element in the grant application for the BC Hydro Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program. BC Hydro supported the application and contributed \$50,000 towards the project. The project has also received financial backing from Tree Canada, the City, the Nature Conservancy of Canada, the Community Works Fund and a variety of other funders.



FACELIFT FOR LIBRARY-TIDEMARK COURTYARD

Landscaping between the Tidemark Theatre and the Campbell River Library got a multipurpose facelift in fall 2011. Trees were pruned, landscaping beds replanted, and the irrigation system was upgraded.

The new landscape design was developed by the City's two horticulturalists and incorporates crime prevention environmental design standards.

The Downtown Business Improvement Association and Stacey Larson of Ladybug Greenhouse also had input into the new look that will keep the area lush and green throughout the year and brighten it up with color in late spring and throughout summer. The new design will also visually tie in this area with Spirit Square and includes brighter lighting.

GREEN CANADA DAY

Canada Day 2011 had a green theme in Campbell River. Composting and recycling were available at each of the major event venues, and the green vendor award went to the greenest business – Acropolis Kuzina. The Water Department also supplied water bottle refill stations

at Robert Ostler and Frank James Parks in an effort to eliminate single-use plastic water bottles.



YOUTH ACTION COMMITTEE LAUNCHED

In October 2011, the City of Campbell River launched a Youth Action Committee for youth between the ages of 14 and 18 years old. The Youth Action Committee is helping develop a Youth Charter and Youth Engagement Strategy for Campbell River, and will provide strategic advice to Council on how to keep Campbell River a "youth friendly" community and how to give projects a youth flare.



The City's annual **United Way** workplace campaign in November welcomed pledges by 35 employees, who donated a total of \$5,396. Much fun was had at the senior management chili cook off, where Dogwood Operations staff feasted.

After many months of negotiations, the **City of Campbell River and CUPE Local 401** ratified a new collective agreement. The agreement runs for four years (2010 through 2013) and the negotiated wage increases were:

- 0 per cent in 2010
- 2.5 per cent in 2011
- 1.25 per cent in 2012
- and 1.25 per cent in 2013

WIND POWER EXPLORATION

In partnership with Science World and the Clean Energy Fund, a report on potential wind energy sites in Campbell River names Phoenix School and Robron Park as two of the best locations for wind power generation. The City is working with School District 72 to install anemometers to gather more wind data and explore options for a small-scale wind turbine demonstration project.

TASK FORCE ON ENERGY AND EMISSIONS PILOT

BC Hydro selected Campbell River to be the first community in the province to pilot a task force on energy and emissions. The task force was a multi-stakeholder group that shaped the development of the City's Community Energy and Emissions Plan – and provided strategic advice on economic development opportunities associated with energy conservation, renewable energy and greenhouse gas emission reductions. Task force work was funded through a \$10,000 grant from BC Hydro.

In recognition of the City's climate change and energy leadership, the Mayor was selected as the regional representative for Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast on the Community Energy Association's Mayor's Climate Leadership Council.

GREEN BUILDING LEADERS PILOT COMMUNITY

The Pembina Institute selected the City of Campbell River as one of two BC communities to explore a potential provincial minimum renewable energy requirement for all new buildings. This concept is similar to the Merton Rule in place in the United Kingdom, which requires a minimum of 10 per cent renewable energy for new buildings. Workshops were held with local developers, City Council and City staff, and the Pembina Institute is currently exploring this concept with other BC communities.

KIDS STEP UP

60 young leaders-in-training (LITs) volunteer in Recreation and Culture children's programs and events, helping lead activities and acting as positive role models for kids. LITs volunteered 2,441 hours in 2011. What an achievement!



CITY JOINS SUSTAINABLE CITIES INTERNATIONAL

In recognition of the City's sustainability leadership, Campbell River was invited to join the Sustainable Cities International network of 35 cities engaged in long-range sustainability planning. Other members include Portland, Olympia, Metro Vancouver, Calgary, Ottawa, Iqaluit, Durban, South Africa, Adelaide, Australia and more. Campbell River became an official member of the network in June 2011.

PROVINCIAL WOODSTOVE EXCHANGE PROGRAM CONTINUES

This spring 75 Campbell River residents received rebate cheques for replacing their old smoky wood burning appliances with high-efficiency wood, pellet or gas units. The \$250 rebates were made available through the Provincial Wood Stove Exchange Program, and many of the participating retailers offered additional rebates on purchases. Educational presentations included Burn It Smart and – through a partnership with the University of Victoria's Spatial Science Laboratory – expert advice from the provincial meteorologist and presentations on localized air quality monitoring. Funding has been secured to continue the popular program in 2012.

SPECIES AT RISK LOCAL GOVERNMENT WORKING GROUP

In 2011, as part of the provincial Species at Risk Local Government Working Group, Campbell River participated in developing an action-oriented report to enhance protection for the more than 1,500 plant and animal species at risk in British Columbia. Specialized local government training is planned for 2012.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

SOLAR COMMUNITY OF THE YEAR

Campbell River was recognized as one of British Columbia's newest Solar Communities, winning the 2010 BC Solar Community of the Year Award (presented in March 2011), in recognition of demonstrated leadership in promoting solar hot water. The City has solar hot water

installations and educational kiosks at the Sportsplex, RCMP station, Simms Creek Washroom, and the Fire Hall.



Campbell River's solar hot water initiatives were featured on CTV and the French channel of CBC, as well as in the Solar BC newsletter.

CITY STEWARDSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM CELEBRATED 10TH ANNIVERSARY

This program recognizes outstanding environmental achievements by individuals, groups, development, business, and industry in Campbell River. In celebration of the program's 10th anniversary, the award categories included air quality, pesticide free, water and energy conservation, habitat protection and creation, waste reduction, youth achievements and environmental excellence. The awards were presented by the Mayor at the annual Haig-Brown Festival on River's Day in September.



SUSTAINABLE OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN – CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AWARD

The City of Campbell River completed a draft Sustainable Official Community Plan (SOCP) that integrates a sustainability framework, and social, cultural, economic and environmental objectives. In partnership with the We Wai Kai, Wei Wai Kum and Homalco First Nations, the plan and has been guided by a multi-stakeholder Steering Committee. More than 1,500 residents participated in the



development of the draft Sustainable Official Community Plan. In recognition of the City's Community Engagement efforts, Campbell River won first place in the Civic Engagement Category at the Union of British Columbia Municipalities Excellence Awards in September.

COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM – NATIONAL AWARDS

The City of Campbell River took first place overall at the National Communities in Bloom Competition for a community our size. The City also received a first place award in the Sustainable Development Category and Honourable Mention in the Environmental Action Category.



AGRICULTURE PLAN – RECOGNIZED BY PROVINCE

City Council adopted Campbell River's first Agriculture Plan in October 2011. The Agriculture Plan was recognized by the Province with an official letter signed at the legislature in November. The Honourable Don McRae, Minister of Agriculture, commented on the significance



of the initiative and development of the plan as a major step toward economic diversification and job creation. The plan was also recognized by the Honourable Pat Bell, Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation, who noted that a robust agrifoods sector in Campbell River is good news for business, investment and job creation.

MARCOM GOLD AWARD –

In November, the City of Campbell River was recognized with a MarCom Gold Award for communications related to the Hwy 19A upgrade project. Marci Hotsenpiller of Zinc PR led the award-winning team that kept the community up to date on the project's progress.



COMMUNITY BUILDING

FIRST CANADIAN MUNICIPAL TIDAL POWER FEASIBILITY STUDY COMPLETED

In August 2011, Campbell River became the first Canadian municipality to undertake a tidal power feasibility study. Campbell River is uniquely positioned on the Discovery Passage, an area with some of the best tidal sites in Canada. According to the Ocean Renewable Energy Group, six of the top 50 tidal sites in Canada are located in close proximity to Campbell River.



The feasibility study results can be used to work with industry to promote Campbell River as a test site for tidal power technology. Campbell River now has the opportunity to access complete tidal model mapping of the Discovery Passage area surrounding the community that could also be used for developers interested in larger scale tidal demonstration projects.

The Tidal Power Feasibility Study was funded by a combination of funding from FCM, the City of Campbell River and the Infrastructure Planning Program.

SOLAR HOT WATER READY REGULATIONS

In June 2011, the Province of British Columbia passed new legislation that requires construction of new single family dwellings and single family dwellings with suites to be built to be solar hot water ready. Campbell River was one of 36

BC companies that signed on to this regulation. At its regular meeting on August 30, 2011 Campbell River City Council adopted revisions to the City's Building Bylaw to implement the new Provincial Solar Hot Water Ready Regulations. The first houses to become solar hot water ready are being built as you read this!

MARINE FORESHORE HABITAT ASSESSMENT AND RESTORATION PLAN

Adopted in October 2011, the plan outlines a comprehensive approach to shoreline management that incorporates natural processes and ecosystems. The City has already begun "soft shore" restorations at badly eroded sites using the report's initial analysis for guidance. For the very first time, forage fish egg sampling was included as part of the environmental management plan in place for the restorations. The report will form the basis for a Memorandum of Understanding with the Province and the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans to streamline regulatory processes. The report also incorporates recent work underway by the Province on sea level rise and coastal flood hazard land use.

URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN INVENTORY UNDERWAY

With Discovery Coast Greenways Land Trust, funding was secured from the Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia for the first phase of an Urban Forest Management Plan. The urban forest is an important natural asset and resource that supports community health and livability. Developing a management plan was recommended by a number of the City's advisory committees. Phase one involves conducting an inventory to catalogue tree health, calculate the extent of current canopy coverage and determine goals for specific land uses. Phase two will help guide all aspects of urban forest management from Character Tree recognition and street tree programs to climate change adaptation strategies.

IDLE FREE EDUCATION UP AND RUNNING

With a hearty endorsement from the Environmental Advisory Committee, Idle Free information was shared at Earth Week Celebrations and Bike to Work Week displays, during Ocean's Day and in the Live Green Guide published by the Courier Islander. Idle Free signs have been posted at four City facilities paralleling School District 72's signage efforts, and Bylaw staff work with the public at key locations to reduce vehicle idling. Idle Free builds on the City's Anti-Idling Policy to minimize emissions produced by City operations.

WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

- A major drinking watershed clean-up removed more than 475 tonnes of illegally dumped waste.
- Upgraded security, metering and leak detection improvements were completed at Evergreen Reservoir.
- Repairs were completed at the Snowden Forest Water System Lake intake and improved communications and controls were installed at the Snowden Reservoir back-up tank.



- A new hydrant flushing program was initiated to maintain high levels of water quality throughout the distribution system.
- A new water quality monitoring and



- early warning system was installed in John Hart Lake to provide enhanced water quality information.
- The aging watermain on Westgate Road was replaced.
- The City's website was modified with an improved Water section, providing updated information and easier access.
- A new customer feedback program was introduced to allow customers to provide feedback on their experiences with City crews and to measure how services meet customer expectations.
- A public education program on water conservation was rolled out with a focus on outdoor irrigation. This program helped reduce summer time peak flows from 1,182 litres/second to 829 litres/second.
- Staff completed an update to the comprehensive Water Emergency Response Plan.



2011 SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

- The new Simms Creek Pump Station was completed to provide additional capacity for growth in the Willow Point area. The building is adjacent to the seawalk and features local First Nations artwork. It also has public washrooms with solar hot water and drinking fountains for pedestrians and dogs.
- Upgrades to the City's sewage treatment facility – the Norm Wood Environmental Centre – began and are expected to be complete in December 2011.
- Additional land was secured to allow continuation of land application of treated biosolids in 2012 and beyond.

DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

- City crews initiated a comprehensive preventative maintenance plan for community drainage.
- Ditch improvements were completed along Greta, Merecroft and Garfield roads.
- Stream remediation work was completed along Willow Creek to address flooding and bank erosion problems.

SOLID WASTE IMPROVEMENTS

- Weekly curbside recycling was introduced at the start of 2011 (previously every two weeks).
- Weekly curbside yardwaste collection was expanded to eight months of the year (previously four months a year).
- A year-round yard waste drop-off facility was opened within the Quinsam Reserve off Willis Road – free for participants in the City's curbside collection program.
- New collection regulations were introduced that limited the amount of garbage collected from each residence for the base fee, with \$2 tags for extra garbage available at City facilities.
- The amount of material disposed at the landfill has dropped significantly, while the volume of yard waste and recyclables has increased. The City will provide final 2011 waste collection statistics in early 2012.



DOWNTOWN SECURITY PATROL

2011 was the first full year the City provided roving security patrol in the downtown core. The service is provided by local firm Safety Net Security. The patrol operates seven days a week in the summer, six in the



winter, and includes patrols of all downtown public facilities and the Spirit Square. The service has been well received by the public and downtown businesses.

HYBRID VEHICLES

In 2011, the City replaced four vehicles with fuel-efficient hybrid gas-electric versions and replaced an existing propane forklift with a fully electric model. These acquisitions were funded 100 per cent from federal gas tax dollars, reducing the draw on local taxation, and bringing the City's total hybrid (and electric) fleet up to eight.



NEW AIRPORT SIGNS

The City received a grant to fund new signs for the airport. Working with a local supplier, the signs were produced on a tight timeline and well under budget.



NWEC UPGRADES

Departments working together created a detailed request for proposal that used to hire an engineering consulting firm to begin design for required future upgrades to the Norm Wood Environmental Centre. It is expected that upgrades will be tender ready by the end of 2012.

DISPOSAL OF ASSETS

In 2011, the City introduced a new method for disposing of surplus equipment. This includes providing information to the public via the City's website and the opportunity to purchase via the online auction website, BC Auctions. Auctioning goods no longer used helps the City recover costs and eliminates disposal costs.

EVALUATION IMPROVEMENTS

The City has updated its method of evaluating submissions from suppliers to further enhance consistency, accountability and transparency. Suppliers and bidders are now better able to understand the City's evaluation process and to provide more detailed submissions that offer better overall value at a lower cost.



TWO-DAY PERMIT PROCESS

It's been a year since the City introduced a fast-track two-day building permit process. Currently, more than half of Campbell River's single family and duplex residential permits are issued through the two-day process.

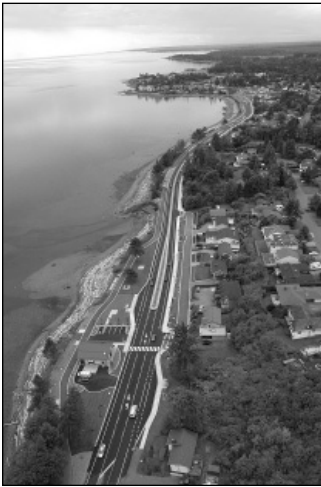
BUILDING STATISTICS

While the overall building project start numbers are lower than last year, Campbell River is ahead of other municipalities in the region with more single family and commercial building starts.



HWY 19A UPGRADES – ON TIME AND UNDER BUDGET

Surface upgrades to Hwy 19A between Hilchey and just south of Rockland Road include bicycle lanes adjacent to curb and gutter, accessible, sheltered bus pull-outs and a centre median with landscape islands strategically placed to enhance traffic flow while providing left turn lanes and traffic calming. With sidewalks and solar-powered electronically activated crossing lights placed at the crosswalks, this route provides a safer and more pleasant environment for pedestrians.



Power, cable TV and telephone lines have been run underground, and the new Simms Creek Pumping Station provides public washrooms with solar hot water and enhanced sewer pumping capacity in anticipation of more multi-family units to be built in this area.

AIRPORT UPGRADES

Campbell River celebrated the completion of the \$8.3 million airport upgrade in the revamped airport terminal where original “Thunderbird” artwork flies overhead. The 1,500-foot runway extension project included a new field electrical centre that provides increased electrical capacity and reliability to the entire site and provides for future expansion of the airport’s electrical distribution systems.



Airport terminal upgrades included increased seating throughout the airport, automated flight information boards, free Wi-Fi Internet service, new restaurant services, upgraded washrooms with hands-free low-flow devices and a new washroom accessible from the departures lounge. Motion-controlled lighting and high-efficiency heat pumps were also installed.

In 2011, fitness class participation

saw a 68 per cent increase over 2010. Check out the new Recreation Guide for the current fitness class line-up – including lunch time fitness classes at the Community Centre five days a week!



Spring 2011 saw the first **crushing and re-manufacture of asphalt and concrete waste**. The project was a joint venture of the City’s Roads and Facilities and Supply departments.



NEW DEVELOPMENT COST CHARGE BYLAW WITH REDUCED RATES

In January, Council adopted a new bylaw reducing development cost charges in all development categories. Development cost charges are charged at the time of initial subdivision for single family development or when a building permit is issued for other forms of development. The money collected through these charges helps pay for the capital improvements to the City’s water, drainage and sewer system as well as to the City’s road and park network that are needed to accommodate community growth.

The Development Cost Charge Bylaw No. 3411, 2010 is posted on the City’s website.

WE’RE 10!

The Campbell River Community Centre celebrated its 10 year anniversary on February 14, 2011. Open houses and art shows were held, and an art display telling the story of the old hall and the new building was installed in the main hallway at the Community Centre.



NEW AUXILIARY FIRE RECRUITS

Campbell River’s fire fighting forces at Fire halls 1 and 2 were bolstered with new auxiliary recruits in 2011. Eight new recruits graduated from basic fire fighter training in early summer, and another training session began in September. For more information, contact the Fire Department at 250-286-6266.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

- Began update of the Master Transportation Plan, which reviews the City’s road network and plans for growth for the next 20 years, in all modes of transportation, including walking, cycling, transit, and private car use.
- Initiated a traffic signal regular maintenance program to reduce liability and maintenance.
- Continued sidewalk infill program on Gazelle and Springbok roads.
- In conjunction with BC Transit, wrote Transit Future Plan, which plans for future transit improvements.
- Continued pedestrian crossing safety improvements with five new pedestrian amber flashing light crosswalks (at Alder / Pinecrest, Alder / Evergreen, Alder / 7th Avenue, Highway 19A / Dahl, Alder / Garnet).



WHAT DO I DO IF...?

Working with the Municipal Insurance Association of British Columbia (MIABC), the City posted an information brochure with tips and frequently asked questions about making claims related to property damage. Check it out at www.campbellriver.ca under City Hall / City Departments / Materials Management. The City also created a **How do I?** section on its website to answer a number of questions related to City services (see the link on the home page).

PROJECTS

CAMPBELL RIVER RECYCLES ONLINE DIRECTORY

The City of Campbell River launched a new tool to make recycling easier. The online community recycling directory (www.campbellriverrecycles.ca) details where residents and businesses can recycle more than what can be picked up at curbside. The directory provides online maps to indicate where to return a range of items such as medication, hazardous material and appliances that may otherwise end up in the landfill.

CORPORATE CARBON NEUTRAL PLAN

In January 2011, The City adopted a new plan that aims to reduce City greenhouse gas emissions to 10 per cent below 2008 levels by 2012. The plan includes long-term targets of a 35 per cent reduction by 2020 and, by the year 2050, City emissions reduced to 85 per cent below 2008 levels. The City of Campbell River is one of the 178 signatories of the B.C. Climate Action Charter committed to becoming carbon neutral in its government operations by 2012.

COMMUNITY ENERGY AND EMISSIONS PLAN

In October 2011, the City adopted a Community Energy and Emissions Plan. This plan measures current energy and emissions generated by residents and businesses in Campbell River, sets greenhouse gas emission reduction targets, and lays out a strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions – enabling the City to meet provincial requirements under Bill 27. The plan was 100 per cent funded through grants from BC Hydro and the Real Estate Foundation, and Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

ENERGY RETROFITS AND THE GREEN ROOF RESULT IN SAVINGS

Since 2007, overall energy consumption at City Hall has been reduced by approximately 25 per cent – saving almost \$15,000 per year at today’s electricity rates. The significant energy reductions are linked to the green roof at City Hall and comprehensive energy retrofits to the building’s lighting and heating, ventilation and cooling systems. In 2011, the City also completed energy retrofits at the Sportsplex and Enterprise Centre, and continues lighting efficiency upgrades. Energy retrofits, including the green roof, were 100 per cent funded through external grants.



*Season’s greetings,
happy holidays and
best wishes for the
new year, everyone!*



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