

Meeting Needs, Advancing Interests

2nd Avenue Sidewalk Widened for Increased Accessibility

Thanks to a request for improvements from the Seniors Advisory and Access Awareness committees, an additional 60 centimetres (two feet) means more room for seniors to maneuver, and for scooter traffic en route to Yucalta Lodge. Pending budget approval in future years, sidewalks will also be widened from four feet to six feet closer to the hospital to meet the current City standard at Dogwood Street and 2nd Avenue.



Wider sidewalks along 2nd Avenue mean better access for scooters traveling to Yucalta Lodge.

Clean Air Bylaw Passed—Bans Land Development Burning in City

Tighter restrictions around open burning now prohibit all burning related to land development in the urban areas of Campbell River (east of the Inland Highway and Duncan Bay Mainline and north of the Jubilee Parkway). Rather than burning land clearing material within urban areas, developers choose to grind or chip waste material on site; burn the waste material in the recognized provincial burn locations on Highway 28 or use the material for landfill.

Supported by both the City's Environmental and Development Advisory committees, the Clean Air Bylaw also shrinks by one-third the size of yard waste piles permitted for open burning during daylight hours in April and October (now a maximum of four cubic metres or five feet by five feet by five feet). The success of a pilot residential yard waste collection program this fall will determine the future of ongoing spring and fall yard waste collection service beginning in 2008.

"With such an alternative in place, the next step will be to recommend an end to burning yard waste, at least in the urban part of Campbell River," says Mayor Roger McDonell.

Council's move to restrict open burning in urban areas for improved public health and lifestyle follows decisions in a number of British Columbia and Vancouver Island communities to reduce or eliminate this form of air pollution.

Breaking Ground is Youth Park's Green Light

A ceremonial sod turning at Willow Point Park's Sportsplex this month began 16 weeks of construction on a professionally designed, full-feature facility for skateboarding, in-line skating, BMX biking and children's scooters. During the event, business representatives, members of local service clubs, city officials and community supporters praised partnerships and tenacity.

A "by youth, for youth" dream and business plan first presented to City Council in 2003 has been kept alive over the years, said the councillor for youth, community planning and recreation, Laird Ruehlen. Noting special recognition for the City's recreation and culture supervisor Michele Sirett, Mayor Roger McDonell lauded her efforts to bring together a number of community voices. Community interest and involvement found multiple funding sources for this recreation legacy, he added.

City Council unanimously supported funding the project this year to avoid further delay and cost increases. The site maximizes land use at Willow Point Park and lends itself to the design with sloped and flat areas. Along with access to washrooms and telephones, it's in an area that will have the most direct supervision from Sportsplex employees. The treed location will provide a noise and visual buffer to nearby residences, and it's located close to bus routes, in the neighbourhood with the largest youth population in our community.

"We're really happy kids are going to have a safe place to go now," said Wilf Gagnon Jr., president of the Lion's Club. "That was the whole point."

"Supporting youth is one of the best things we can do in Campbell River," added Barry Peters, president of Daybreak Rotary Club.

Building the park increases recreational opportunities and adds to an already fantastic facility, said RJ Dueck, construction coordinator with New Line Skateparks.



Young Campbell Riverites will soon have a new skate park next to the Sportsplex in Willow Point Park.