

June 28, 2010

Campbell River Marks Phase 1 Completion of South Island Highway 19A \$13.5M Upgrade

Campbell River Mayor Charlie Cornfield and members of Council were joined today at the Highway 19A construction zone by John Duncan, Member of Parliament for Vancouver Island North, to mark the successful completion of the first phase of the Highway 19A Upgrade project. Local construction contractors and crew were also present to mark the successful completion of Contract 610.

“The first phase of the Highway 19A upgrade project has been a success. Crews started work on March 8 and completed the first phase of work just 85 days later on June 1,” said Mayor Cornfield. *“I’m very happy to report that this phase was completed on schedule and on budget.”*

This phase of the project involved the installation of new water and sewer mains. More than 900 metres of new water main and sewer main pipe were installed, and both mains were successfully placed under Simms Creek without disturbing fish habitat.

“This project is significant, in terms of the long-term benefits for sustainable growth, as well as in terms of the jobs and economic opportunity we are able to generate right here at home,” said John Duncan, MP for Vancouver Island North. *“It is gratifying to see what we have been able to accomplish for the Campbell River area through the cooperation of all levels of government.”*

Funding for the \$13.5 million project is provided by the federal and provincial governments through the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund (part of Canada’s Economic Action Plan) and the Building Canada Fund, and by City reserves. Senior government funding amounts to approximately two-thirds of the cost. Federal contributions are \$4.38 million and provincial contributions are \$4.38 million. Campbell River contributes approximately \$4.73 million funded through surplus sewer and water funds and development cost charge reserves.

The first phase has created significant local employment. The equivalent of 75 worker years have been created so far on the project, with 90 per cent of all workers being local, and 100 per cent from BC.

“Local firms and workers have provided the skills and expertise on this first phase,” said Ron Neufeld, general manager of operations at the City of Campbell River. *“Upland Excavating was the prime contractor for Contract 610 and McElhanney Consulting Services acted as contract administrator. The next phase of the project is also being completed by local firms: Ketz Pacific, Upland, Highland and McElhanney.”*

As part of funding requirements, the City must complete the project by March 31, 2011. Work has been broken into three phases to meet this deadline. Phases two and three are underway now and involve constructing a new sewage pump station at Simms Creek and improving the roadway. It is estimated that Highway 19A will re-open to one-lane traffic between Hilchey Road and Rockland Road in November 2010, or as soon as construction schedules make possible.

For more information, visit the Highway 19A Upgrade pages on the City of Campbell River website: www.campbellriver.ca

– 30 –

NOTE: Event photos available on request.

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