



News Release

June 28, 2018

City celebrates Campbell River's new water supply centre

The Campbell River Water Supply Centre, the pumping and disinfection facility on the shores of John Hart Lake, officially opened today, capping off a six-year, multi-million-dollar project that will meet water needs well into the future.

"The direct, deep-water intake and consolidation of water treatment under one roof provides water in an efficient and safe manner and will serve the residents of Campbell River for many decades to come," said Campbell River Mayor Andy Adams. *"Water flowing from this new facility is disinfected with both ultra-violet radiation and sodium hypochlorite that is generated on site, and our water quality consistently meets and even exceeds Canadian drinking water quality standards."*

The new water supply system was required because the BC Hydro penstocks, formerly the City's connection to the water source, are being removed as part of the John Hart Generating Station replacement project. BC Hydro is funding the majority of the construction cost for the city's new water supply system – \$18.3 million of the \$29.1 million total cost.

"As BC Hydro shifted water flows from our 70-year-old penstocks to the new underground tunnel, we were able to arrive at a mutually beneficial solution to better meet both the City and BC Hydro's future needs," said Mark Poweska, BC Hydro's executive vice-president of operations.

The City's new system includes a deep-water lake intake, the water supply centre building, pumping and disinfection systems, 3.5 kilometres of large diameter water transmission main along Highway 28 and Brewster Lake Road, and connection to the existing water distribution system at the bottom of General Hill.

A Wood First approach was used in the design and construction of the water supply facility itself, with trees felled on the property used on the interior of the building.

Mayor Adams specifically acknowledged the work of local carvers Bill Henderson and Junior Henderson of the Wei Wai Kum First Nation. *"The three totems that adorn the structural columns on the front of the building and the intricate design on the front doors ensure the facility fits beautifully and naturally into its surroundings,"* said Mayor Adams.

"From concept to completion, this major infrastructure project was a complete cooperative team effort," added Mayor Adams. *"Our dedicated staff in water and capital works, BC Hydro, engineering consultants, and all contractors who worked on the project collaborated to bring this innovative and essential project to fruition."*

To see time-lapse photography of construction, and find more detailed information, visit campbellriver.ca/water-supply-centre.

Campbell River's water system distributes potable water for domestic, commercial and industrial use as well as fire protection via transmission and distribution watermains running throughout the community and to local First Nations and a portion of Strathcona Regional District Area D.

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