

November 22, 2018

Council approves funding for additional building inspector

There's additional support on the way for Campbell River's building community.

During pre-budget business case presentations on Nov. 20, City Council approved an additional building inspector position to help take care of a backlog of building and development permits and applications – and to help keep up with anticipated future demand.

“Campbell River is still seeing high levels of construction with hundreds of new dwellings built in the past year. There's a continued interest in new development as well, with many new subdivisions and multiple housing projects currently in the approval process,” says city manager Deborah Sargent. *“Our development services department has been struggling to keep up with demand, partly because we're down to one building inspector, but primarily due to increasing demand for service. Getting a green light to go ahead with recruiting a third inspector for this very busy department will help us address the significant backlog of work and speed up processing for the many applications and inspection requests.”*

The City has recently successfully filled the vacant position, and a second building inspector will start early December. With Council's approval, the City will begin recruiting for a third building inspector as soon as possible. Campbell River's team of three inspectors is led by supervisor and chief building official, who is an industry expert with more than 30 years of experience. He is responsible for reviewing and approving applications for all complex buildings (large commercial and multi-family) for the City of Campbell River.

Application numbers that contribute building inspector workload, as of mid November:

- 92 development applications (124 total in 2017)
- 290 building permits (328 total in 2017)

“Building booms present an increasing demand for service as well as a source of future property tax revenue that will support services for the entire community,” says Mayor Andy Adams. *“Having three building inspectors working for Campbell River will be welcome news as this added position will help reduce carrying costs for people builders and developers in our community.”*

A funding source for the new position will be confirmed during financial planning meetings coming up the first week of December.

Zoocasa recently announced that Campbell River is the third most affordable community in B.C. when comparing household income against average home price.

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