

### ENHANCED SERVICES

#### ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR RECREATION PROGRAMS

People can now search for programs, create an account, register and pay online from computers, tablets or smart phones for programs offered through the Community Centre and Sportsplex. Telephone and in-person registration is still available.



#### JET FUEL TRUCKS FOR AIRPORT

Two trucks will support the new airport fueling facility. Most of the funding for the new facility comes from the British Columbia Air Access Program (\$903,750), with \$100,000 from the Airport Reserve and \$306,250 from the Capital Lending Reserve. Proceeds from fuel sales are expected to pay back funds to the Airport Reserve within five years.

#### FRANK JAMES PARK MASTER PLAN

Based on public feedback, priorities for future improvements include new washroom facilities, Seawalk upgrades and parking relocation. Proposed changes could include: a festival lawn, event and plaza look-out, new park entry, crosswalk, picnic area, beach seating, a celebration space, art feature, landscaping and Sybil Andrews walk. Upgrades could be developed in phases as funding and senior government grants become available.



#### DISTRACTED DRIVING SAFETY CAMPAIGN

To remind people about the dangers of distracted driving, the City's summer road safety campaign

shared materials from ICBC and WorkSafeBC. The campaign featured graphic photos, infographics and videos through Facebook and printed advertisements in *City Currents*.

#### TOURISM GOES FOR BOLD

Destination Think! revamped tourism services for Campbell River.

Aligned with the City's five-year tourism plan and in association with the local Tourism Advisory Committee, the new services include running the Visitor Information Centre and the launch of a new look for print and online promotions.

Award-winning tourism professional Kirsten Soder moved from Tofino to become Campbell River's executive manager of destination marketing in August.

A new three per cent tax on accommodation bookings to help fund tourism marketing has exceeded revenue-generating expectations.

#### ONLINE MAPS CHART DEVELOPMENT

The online development applications map launched in October shows where new development is proposed and what type of application is in the works – rezoning, development permit or a variance request.



#### CRADVANTAGE GOES LIVE!

Campbell River is one of the key tech communities in Canada, enabling high-speed, high-bandwidth internet connectivity for businesses and residential developments in the downtown core. Funding to develop and market CRadvantage came from an Island Coastal Economic Trust grant of \$50,000 and a City investment of \$348,000.



#### DOG AGILITY PARK

Located in Willow Point Park, the fenced-in exercise equipment complements the off-leash area at Penfield West Linear Dog Park.



### COMMUNITY BUILDING

#### TIME TO GET GROWING

Campbell River's first admission-free Plant Sale, Garden Expo and Seedy Sunday hosted 23 Vancouver Island vendors and featured a seed swap, gardening demonstrations and a Li'l Sprouts kids' corner.



#### YOUTH CARNIVAL NIGHT

Youth Carnival Night launched Youth Week, with more than 125 young people showing up for the velcro wall and bungee run, laser tag and carnival games. Parents thanked recreation staff for providing a safe, fun event.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE

The annual open house at the No.1 Fire Station drew a crowd for hands-on activity, information displays and vehicle and high-angle rescue demonstrations. A by-donation barbecue raised funds for Cameryn's Cause.



#### STUDENTS VISIT DOGWOOD OPERATIONS CENTRE



In 2017, 18 Kindergarten to Grade 3 classes learned about where the community's drinking water comes from, how sanitary sewer is treated, how the roads are kept safe in the winter, and what it takes to keep the acres of City sports fields in good shape. Over the last five years, more than 1,500 students have visited the facility.

#### REFRESHED DISCOVERY PIER

Hundreds of residents and visitors took part in the grand opening of the refreshed Discovery Fishing Pier in June. Facility improvements include a fully-renovated concession area and accessible public washrooms, new roof, upgraded lighting and new exterior paint. The Vancouver Island North Women's Resource Society won the contract to operate the concession.



#### NATIONAL ABORIGINAL DAY CELEBRATIONS

On June 21, Campbell River celebrated our rich First Nations culture by flying a flag designed by artist and Wei Wai Kum First Nation Councillor Curtis Wilson.

The flag named "standing together in support of each

other" prominently features salmon, as a symbol of friends, family and strength in numbers.



#### CANADA DAY CELEBRATED

Decorated with the I heart CR theme, the City's floats marked the 70th anniversary of Campbell River's incorporation and the 150th anniversary of Canada's confederation. Approximately 40 employees volunteered their time to participate in the parade.



#### FIVE NEIGHBOURHOOD EVENTS

As part of the City's efforts to promote a healthy, vibrant and livable community, the recreation department helped host five fun neighbourhood, block party events over the summer. An average of 82 neighbours attended each event.



## DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION CONTINUES

As part of the Refresh Downtown program, a new parklet with open seating was installed at Stonehouse Teas on 11th Avenue.



In its second year, CR Live Streets again drew hundreds of people downtown for entertainment and festivities on four Wednesday evenings in July and August. The spruced up Tidemark Square hosted the popular music and food themed Kick-Off for this year's CR Live Streets, and served as a space for children's activities. Chalkfest transformed Shoppers Row with 119 art entries displayed between 11th and 13th avenues. Approximately 350 people attended the Show on the Row outdoor movie night. The Evening Market anchored this year's program and featured live music, driftwood sculpture, and more than 35 food and artisan vendors. This event drew the largest crowds and involved many downtown businesses.



## FIREFIIGHTERS IN THE PINK

Campbell River firefighters wore pink throughout October to encourage participation in breast cancer awareness and prevention activities.



## SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS

Council granted 2018 property tax exemptions for 87 organizations that provide community benefits through culture and recreation, health, housing and community services or culture and recreation. Total taxes exempted are valued at \$863,000.

Council also approved the Community Partnership Committee's 2018 grants-in-aid recommendations to support 14 community arts and culture organizations at a total value of \$596,411.

## ANOTHER DOWNTOWN TAX EXEMPTION

As part of the City's downtown revitalization tax exemption program, the owners of the property at 1241 Dogwood St. will be taxed at the pre-improvement rate for five years, giving the property owners a tax holiday on the value of new construction, beginning with occupancy of the building.



## REPAIR CAFÉ

Big thanks to the six repair volunteers who helped fix or partially fix more than half the items brought

in to the fourth annual event. Repair Café is an international organization that aims to keep items out of the landfill.

# PARTNERSHIPS

## AVICC CONVENTION SUCCESS

Council thanked deputy city clerk Tracy Bate and the staff committee for their support of April's successful Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities convention at the Community Centre. The convention returned to Campbell River for the first time since 2002 and drew approximately 300 local government and regional district delegates from Vancouver Island, the Sunshine Coast and Powell River.



More major events followed, with the Vancouver Island Sustainable Technology Association conference, the BC Elders Gathering and Standing Together, Tribal Journeys hosted by the Wei Wai Kum and We Wai Kai First Nations.

## WORKSHOP ON ENERGY-EFFICIENT HOMES

Twenty-six builders attended a workshop on building more energy-efficient new homes, which featured available incentives and the Energy Step Code in the provincial Building Act. The workshop was hosted by the City and delivered in partnership with the Community Energy Association and Canadian Home Builders Association, Fortis BC, BC Hydro, the Province of BC and BC Housing. Building energy efficiency into new homes is a key goal of the Community Energy and Emissions Plan.



## MINI WORLD CUP HOSTED HERE

In May, approximately 3,000 people attended a weekend Mini World Cup youth soccer tournament at Robron Park. Since 2001, the Upper Island Soccer Association has sponsored this annual event. The Campbell River Youth Soccer Association was chosen to host in 2017.

## SUPPORT FOR WILDFIRE EFFORTS

Campbell River sent fire and police support to the interior to help during wild fire season.

Fire dispatcher Paula Ripley assisted the BC Wildfire Service with expertise gained serving our community for 23 years as a fire dispatcher, and as an experienced aviation dispatcher and radio operator.

The RCMP detachment sent 15 members to 100 Mile House, Williams Lake and Anaheim Lake to assist with community evacuation and patrols.

## STANDING TOGETHER - TRIBAL JOURNEYS

In August, approximately 100 canoes carrying coastal First Nations families from as far as California and Alaska arrived at the Tyee Spit. The landing ceremony was followed by a public feast at the Wei Wai Kum Thunderbird Hall and ceremonies at the Big House.

(Photo credit: Daniela Karrass)



## FOOD SKILLS AND HEALTHY EATING

The City and Island Health worked with the Family and Teen Centre to offer a session on healthy snacks, particularly enjoyed by young participants.



## FIRE TRUCK DONATED

A retired 1986 fire truck will be redeployed to the Philippines through Firefighters Without Borders Canada.

(Photo credit: CR Mirror file photo)

## SUPPORT FOR BE MORE THAN A BYSTANDER

At the request of Campbell River Victim Services and Family Services Society, the City contributed \$2,500 to sponsor the *Be More Than a Bystander* program, which increases awareness about men's violence against women and works to create healthier and safer relationships and communities.

## BEAUTIFICATION GRANTS

Beautification grants up to \$10,000 were available for four local business groups again this year, with the Heart of the City Business Improvement Area Association, Willow Point Business Improvement Area Society, Campbellton Neighbourhood Association and Pier Street Association able to receive matching funding to beautify and/or enhance public areas.

## DOWNTOWN MURAL FUNDING

A \$10,000 grant from the City's downtown facade improvement fund helped cover costs for local artist Alex Witcombe to paint a mural on a blank wall facing 11th Avenue this fall.

The Downtown Business Improvement Association (BIA), property owner Dawn McLean, Discovery Community College owner Lois McNestry and the artist collaborated on this spectacular project that enhances the cultural district and downtown revitalization.



## NORTH ISLAND 9-1-1 DISPATCH EXPANDS

With the addition of the Peace River Regional District this year, the number of fire departments dispatched from Campbell River increased from 50 to 61, and the coverage area has grown from 56,000 to approximately 175,000 square kilometres. Since 1996, this partnership among regional districts has been delivering professional 9-1-1 fire call and dispatch services through a state-of-the-art fire dispatch centre, communications and mapping systems.



## CHARSTATE COMMUNITY GARDEN APPROVED

Greenways Land Trust will establish accessible community garden spaces in the north portion of Charstate Park.

## IMPROVED SOCIAL SERVICES

New facilities and agencies working together improved services for Campbell River people in need this year.

Thanks to a successful rental subsidy and placement program run by the John Howard Society of North Island, 324 people found or continued longer-term rental arrangements, which significantly reduced the number of people relying on shelter accommodation.

The City and Island Health worked with Vancouver Island Mental Health Society to establish a sobering and assessment centre, which opened downtown in July.

A provincial investment of \$5.1 million will add 40 affordable housing units for singles and couples through the purchase and renovation of the former Travelodge, to be owned and operated by M'akola Housing Society.

Radiant Life Church offered an indoor location for the Grassroots Kind Hearts downtown dinner program, with the City paying up to \$10,000 for costs associated with additional use of the building during evening hours until the end of April 2018.

Shelter from extreme weather for the 2017-18 winter season is provided by the Salvation Army at the year-round shelter that offers showers, laundry facilities and clothing as well as home-cooked meals. Transportation from downtown and six additional temporary emergency shelter beds will be available until March 31, funded through BC Housing.

Also, Council adopted a zoning bylaw amendment to encourage more construction of affordable housing. Density bonusing allows developers and not-for-profit organizations to incorporate additional residential density in development plans, in return for adding affordable housing units. The Campbell River Head Injury Society successfully applied for density bonusing for new construction on 9th Avenue.

## SIGN UP FOR CITY NEWS...

Get email updates from [www.campbellriver.ca](http://www.campbellriver.ca)

Subscribe to see news releases:

- Follow the steps when you click on the orange NewsFeed button at [campbellriver.ca/news](http://campbellriver.ca/news).

Subscribe to see meeting agendas and minutes:

- From the homepage, select Council Webcasts and Agendas
- Click on View Council Agendas on CivicWeb.
- Select Home
- Scroll down and select E-Updates.
- Choose agendas and minutes and provide your email address.

Subscribe to see job opportunities:

- Follow the steps at [campbellriver.ca/employment](http://campbellriver.ca/employment)

## PROJECTS

### FUTURE WATER SYSTEM COSTS REDUCED

The City's new water supply project reduces the cost of future water system upgrades by an estimated \$16.5 million over the next 10 years. The new system will come online in early 2018 and include water delivery to the industrial park and Gordon Road residents, an area currently supplied by a separate water system.



### WETLAND RESTORATION CONTINUES

Following work to remove invasive plants and regulate water levels as part of preliminary wetland restoration this summer, the City issued a development permit, and the project will be completed in 2018. The restoration design includes a range of water depths and a mix of wetland forest, shrub and aquatic vegetation habitat to help bring back biodiversity to the damaged wetland south of Jubilee Parkway.



## 3.5-ACRE WATERFRONT SITE

The Waterfront Task Force presented a concept for future development of the City-owned 3.5-acre portion of vacant land at the corner of Highway 19A and Roberts Reach.

The task force's vision was inspired through six months of public consultation that included 27 ideas pitched by community members at two open house events, public review of the conceptual plan and a public survey seeking feedback on the concept.



The conceptual plan maintains the 3.5-acre site as public property, with more than 60 per cent of the space as an urban park – blending green areas with tree cover, benches and views along the waterfront, a walkway to the beach at Roberts Reach, and areas for entertainment, food shops and shopping for local products. The concept also includes a mixed-use building to house a range of public services and amenities.

The overall project cost is estimated at up to \$30 million, and timing for development of the site would depend on funding, which could come through senior government grants, corporate and private sector partners as well as lease payments by building tenants.

## AWARDS & MILESTONES

### DISTINGUISHED BUDGET AWARDS

Campbell River was one of only 11 communities in the province and 40 communities in all of Canada to receive the international Distinguished Budget Award in 2016 from the Government Financial Officers Association of North America, the highest form of recognition in government budgeting. The organization honoured Campbell River again in 2017.



### BC RECREATION AND PARKS RECOGNITION

Recreation and Culture Department staff were recognized for their work to develop a values-based, high performance team. Their efforts began in 2012 and have been noticed by other municipalities as well as the association for parks and recreation professionals. City staff presented and shared their process at the annual symposium.



### SPORTSPLEX WINS PEOPLE'S CHOICE – AGAIN

For the second year in a row, the Sportsplex won the People's Choice award for best fitness facility in Campbell River. Fitness instructor Denise Tomlinson (left) and fitness supervisor Mary Fast accepted the award on behalf of the City. The awards are sponsored by the Campbell River Mirror.

### MARKETING INNOVATION

Economic development officer Rose Klukas received an award from the BC Economic Development Association for the Campbell River Investment Portal launched in February. The award recognizes that businesses rely increasingly on online information, and the portal makes data more accessible for entrepreneurs and others considering investment opportunities in Campbell River. The portal complements an online Community Profile.



**CITY MARKS 70TH ANNIVERSARY**

June 24, 2017 was the 70th anniversary of Campbell River's incorporation as a village.



Other community anniversaries in 2017 included:

- 85 years – Chamber of Commerce
- 70 years – Tidemark Theatre
- 60 years – Campbell River and District General Hospital (Museum celebrates 60 in 2018)
- 50 years – Salmon Festival and Centennial Building (Art Gallery and Visitor Information Centre)
- 40 years – No. 1 Fire Hall (downtown)
- 30 years – Discovery Pier
- 25 years – Laichwiltach Family Life Society
- 20 years – Norm Wood Environmental Centre



**REFRESH DOWNTOWN EXCELLENCE AWARD**

The City received a Planning Institute of British Columbia silver award of excellence in the small town and rural areas category for Refresh Downtown, which gathered extensive public feedback through surveys and design workshops. The initiative established options for sidewalks, public gathering spaces, lighting, landscaping, decorative

features, bicycle areas, signs and buildings to showcase Campbell River's unique history and identity. One stand-out element was a colour palette based on the work of internationally-acclaimed linocut artist Sybil Andrews.

To help coordinate street upgrades with future private development, the City also conducted downtown water, sewer, drainage and parking infrastructure reviews.

The City previously won a Planning Institute award for the Alder Street/St Ann's block upgrade.

**16TH ANNUAL CITY STEWARDSHIP AWARDS**

The 16th annual awards program recognized efforts by volunteers, groups and businesses toward environmental excellence in Campbell River. Recipients were: **Karen Baily** (Air Quality / Alternative Transportation); **Ann Hazlett** (Pesticide Free / Urban Agriculture); **Catherine Menard** (Waste Reduction); **Dave Hadden** (Habitat Protection / Creation); **Keely Finn, Louise Guevremont**, Principal Ecole Willow Point (Youth Special Recognition); **Chuck DeSorcy** (Environmental Excellence); **Emily Lohn** (Tom Easton Remembrance Youth Bursary).



**COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD**

McDonald's Restaurant owners Mary and Jens Rolinski won the City-sponsored Community Spirit honours during the Chamber of Commerce Business of Distinction Awards for supporting local non-profit agencies, school initiatives, sports teams and a multitude of community events. In the past year, they donated to more than 200 local activities, events, school initiatives and sports events and teams. Recently, they raised the most money in Canada for McHappy Day 2017 – more than \$80,000!



**RCMP OFFICERS HONOURED**

In November, the BC Government honoured some of Campbell River's finest RCMP members.

Corporal Martin Neveu and Constable Angela Tenisci received Awards of Valour – the highest award for a police officer in British Columbia. The officers received medals for putting themselves in harm's way to stop a domestic assault and give the victim life-saving first aid.

Awards of Meritorious service went to Corporal Kyle Ushock and Corporal Ronald Vlooswyk and Constables David Dormuth, Tae Kim, Andrew Pedersen and Glen Stewart – for their response to an armed man who had barricaded himself inside his home.



**AWARDS FOR THREE CITY VIDEOS**

*At Your Service, Campbell River and Our Forests, Our People, Our Future* won an international videographer award of distinction. *Work Where You Love to Live* received honourable mention.

View the videos on the City's YouTube channel.

**CAMPBELL RIVER GETTING ATTENTION**

*BC Business* featured Campbell River as one of the best places in the province for work. *Planning West* showcased Campbell River's progressive planning work through the Youth Action Committee. *The National Post* featured Campbell River in its December *Made in Canada* insert that will reach approximately 870,000 people in print and be shared at business events across Canada in 2018 and launched online at [industryandbusiness.ca](http://industryandbusiness.ca).



*Best wishes for a safe, happy and prosperous 2018!*

