

Council Meeting Highlights June 27, 2016

Please note Council meeting highlights are not a substitute for the City's comprehensive Council meeting minutes, found on the City website at: www.campbellriver.ca. Council meeting agendas, minutes and webcasts are available from the link on the homepage.

City publishes 2015 Annual Report

Council reviewed and accepted the City's 2015 Annual Report. The City is required by law to produce an annual report that includes the audited financial statements before June 30 each year. The document also contains historical and demographic information and provides a comprehensive summary of the City's strategic goals and objectives as well as services provided to the community. It highlights 2015 achievements and awards and lays out goals for 2016-17. The City of Campbell River's 2015 Annual Report has been updated with a more contemporary look, more images of our spectacular community, and graphic icons provide a reader-friendly summary of City services at a glance.

The 2015 Annual Report is posted on the City's website (www.campbellriver.ca) under What's New – and is archived with previous annual reports on the website under Your City Hall / Financial Plans Reports. People can also request a paper copy from City Hall reception.

Citizen commendation for heroism in house fire rescue

Gordon Anderson, Fire Commissioner/Emergency Management BC, presented the Fire Commissioner's Commendation Award to Colby Shaw, for his rescue (with his friend Glen Magbanua) at a house fire in June of 2014. Mr. Shaw and Mr. Magbanua saved four people that morning, ensuring everyone survived the blaze.

According to the fire commissioner, "Colby Shaw was sleeping in an upstairs bedroom, and awoke to a fire in the home. Smoke was thick, making breathing difficult and visibility almost nil. Colby evacuated the home, yelling to other possible occupants to leave. Once outside, Colby realized that his friend Glen Magbanua's younger sister was still inside the house. Colby fought his way back to the second floor, where the fire was now raging in the kitchen area and across the ceiling, the smoke thicker than before and the temperature over 500 degrees at the ceiling level. He made his way to the bedroom door barely able to breathe, where the young girl was sleeping. As he got to the door he heard shouting from his friend Glen Magbanua -who had climbed a ladder to the bedroom window - advising that he was getting his sister out the bedroom window. Colby exited the home again having to fight his way past the flames, heavy smoke and heat."

Recognition for exceptional volunteers

Mayor Andy Adams publicly recognized Herb Osing and Chuck Saults for their long standing years of volunteer service on the Board of Variance. These gentlemen have collectively served the community through more than 60 years on the City's Board of Variance. It is extremely rare to have a citizen volunteer for such a length of time, and to have two such long-term volunteers is exceptional, the Mayor said.

Bike Park Society update

Wendy Ravai and Beth Pechter of the Campbell River Bike Park Society presented an update on planning, development and fundraising for a bike park facility at Willow Point Park. The construction budget is estimated to be \$300,000, with approximately \$30,000 in community funds and in-kind donations already committed for the project. They also presented a budget for operating and maintenance costs to have the facility open for 250 days per year (March 1 to October 31), and requested that Council include the estimated funding requirement of \$36,000 for annual maintenance in the City budget. The society reported that, along with serving a broad base of bike riders, a similar facility in Powell River supports economic development and tourism. The society hopes to have the facility open in spring 2017.

Crosswalk art project update

The public art subcommittee chose to enliven crosswalks with temporary art installations to tie in with Council's goal of creating a vibrant and prosperous downtown core. The proposed marine theme also reflects the history of the location and the essence of our seaside community. Before the Tye Plaza was developed on reclaimed land, these locations were along the shoreline, and the area was locally known as Codfish Flats. The project budget is \$9,020.

Public hearing to be held for zoning amendments for social care facilities

In response to inquiries for suitable locations to establish social care facilities, particularly in downtown Campbell River, Council directed staff to amend the current zoning bylaw to more clearly differentiate between “community care facility” and “social care facility” and to clearly identify where social care facilities are permitted in downtown zones. A public hearing will be held in the future.

Bylaw contravention notice for 763 Nancy Green Drive

Council instructed the City Clerk to file a bylaw contravention notice with the Land Title Office under Section 57 of the BC Community Charter regarding the property known as 763 Nancy Green Drive. This property will have a Notice on Title on file to reflect an existing, non-conforming secondary suite.

Council supports application to remove some parking area from Tye Plaza to make room for re-development, as long as current number of parking stalls remains, or number increases

In response to the Ministry of Forests, Land and Natural Resources' request for feedback, Council supported a proposal to reduce the dedicated parking area on Tye Plaza, subject to the proponent maintaining a minimum of 523 publicly available parking stalls within the shopping centre parking area. The re-development plan includes 535 public parking spaces through more efficient use of the remaining parking area, as well as dedicated parking for any residential units built on the property.

Often referred to as a “parking covenant” public parking at Tye Plaza is a requirement cited in a Crown Grant Agreement with the Province of British Columbia. The parcel is a land-filled area of Discovery Passage, and, at the time of land reclamation and development, this area was considered Crown land. As there was an identified need for additional public parking in the

downtown area, the Crown land was granted to the shopping centre with the condition that the area was to provide free public parking.

A 2007 parking study of the downtown area concluded that there was ample parking available at that time. The analysis included the 523 parking stalls available within the Tyee Plaza shopping centre. A 2016 study, currently underway, will re-assess the parking supply and configuration and will be coordinated with the current Refresh Downtown initiative.

Robron Park field house to be named Rotary Community Field House

Council approved the request by Campbell River Youth Soccer Association (CRYSA) to name the Robron Park field house the Rotary Community Field House. The Campbell River Youth Soccer Association (CRYSA) is in the process of fundraising to construct a field house at Robron Park, adjacent to the new artificial turf field. CRYSA has received a substantial contribution of \$100,000 from the Rotary Club of Campbell River in exchange for naming rights.

Staff to research options for property taxes relief for seniors home

In response to a letter from Evergreen Seniors Home requesting temporary reduction of or deferral of property taxes, staff will research options for property tax relief for the care home.

Council lobbying for relief from overcrowding in hospital by using extra space in seniors home

Council will send a letter to Island Health requesting that any extra room at seniors care homes be used to relieve demand for hospital beds.

Syrian refugee update from Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training

Council will forward a provincial update to Mary Cook, the Campbell River Syrian refugee coordinator, on the arrival of the 2,300 Syrian refugees in B.C.

Council wants Campbell River buildings nominated for Wood Works BC awards

Council directed staff to forward Wood Works BC's call for nominations of a recently completed civic building/structure with wood use for the 2016 Community Recognition Awards to both the Wei Wai Kum First Nation and BC Hydro, so they can consider nominating their new administrative office and interpretive centre, respectively.

Public transit infrastructure fund announcement

Council received a letter from the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure regarding the \$900 million federal and provincial public infrastructure fund announcement. The City Manager confirmed that staff are exploring opportunities to access this new funding.

Minister Stone's letter advised that B.C. is the first province to sign an agreement with the federal government for the first phase of the new Public Transit Infrastructure Fund. Of the \$774.3 million in federal and provincial dollars available over the next three years for expanding and updating transit, \$157.8 million will support BC transit systems with new transit depots and facility upgrades, the purchase of new cleaner burning buses, CNG-enabled maintenance and operations facilities, transit technology and the expansion of transit services, including handyDART and others.