

June 11, 2009

City Served Petitions for Judicial Review of Property Taxation

The City of Campbell River has been served with separate petitions for a judicial review of “unfair property taxation” to the BC Supreme Court by Catalyst Paper and TimberWest.

“While the City has not had an opportunity to review the petitions in detail, our understanding is that Catalyst is challenging the bylaws in all four mill communities in an attempt to change the existing assessment-based taxation model to their proposed consumption-based model. Campbell River and the other communities where Catalyst operates rejected the proposal to revise property taxation according to this model,” says City Manager Tom Stevens. *“Catalyst is not challenging the property assessment, rather the tax levy, which varies from community to community due to differing circumstances in each location.”*

TimberWest is challenging the City’s increased tax levy on managed forest land.

“The City of Campbell River plans to defend its bylaws and expects Catalyst and TimberWest to pay their property tax bill like any other responsible taxpayer,” Stevens adds.

Both petitions will be referred to the City’s lawyers, and the City will refrain from further formal comment during the judicial review process.

- 30 -

Contact: Tom Stevens, City Manager

250-286-5708