

February 24, 2010

Public Input Sought in Waste Management Survey

In an effort to receive public input on the future of waste management in Campbell River and the surrounding region, the City of Campbell River is encouraging residents to complete a short questionnaire.

The questionnaire considers current and future waste management options available in the area pertaining to garbage, recycling and composting.

“Reducing waste is extremely important in efforts to prolong the life of our near-capacity landfill,” says Mayor Charlie Cornfield.

By completing the questionnaire, Mayor Cornfield says residents can give policy makers a better understanding of their waste management priorities. This information is critical to the Comox-Strathcona regional waste management planning process currently underway.

“On average, residents of Campbell River produce four pounds of garbage per person per day. That’s a statistic we all need to help change,” says Mayor Cornfield.

The survey is the first part of the Comox-Strathcona Waste Management Service’s public review process for the regional solid waste plan. The survey can be completed online or downloaded at www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/itsnotgone. Additionally, print copies can be completed and dropped off at Campbell River City Hall. The deadline for submissions is March 5, 2010.

“We recognize that the future is going to need more creative ways to manage our waste,” says Drew Hadfield, the Comox Valley Regional District’s manager of solid waste. *“We know that talking about solid waste management might not sound very exciting, but it’s critical to get public input as we look at how we can move towards the ultimate goal of zero waste.”*

Under provincial regulations, regional districts in BC are required to have solid waste management plans: set waste diversion targets on landfills, and identify programs and services for managing that waste. The last regional solid waste plan was published in 2003.

Since 2008, Campbell River has had a Green City Strategy, a commitment to move the City towards environmental sustainability through a broad range of means including waste reduction, expanded waste diversion methods and improved recycling education. The regional solid waste management plan will assist the City in implementation of this strategy.

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