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Real Estate Foundation grant to support Campbellton neighbourhood planning

A \$10,500 grant to the City of Campbell River will provide a funding boost for the Campbellton Neighborhood Association's plans to improve life for people living and working in the area.

The association is gathering comprehensive block-by-block information about things to change and things to preserve in this neighbourhood. The action plan developed by the Campbellton Neighbourhood Association will address specific issues and propose solutions to neighbourhood priorities.

"To move this initiative forward Vancouver Island University students, with funding from the Real Estate Foundation, have been engaged to gather information and draft a plan that will ultimately support neighbourhood change," explains Ross Blackwell, the City's land use services manager.

The Foundation's grant program supports progressive initiatives that address current challenges and plan for the future.

"Real Estate Foundation grants are often key for funding important local projects that would otherwise not occur," Blackwell adds.

The City has been assisting the newly-formed Campbellton Neighbourhood Association over the past 12 months on an ambitious exercise to develop a comprehensive, block-by-block information inventory.

Early information collected in this neighbourhood-driven planning process indicates interest in community gardens, walkability, safe common areas and a directed, complimentary mix of residential and businesses to support a sustainable community.

"This is a very concrete step in a series towards the development of a neighbourhood action plan, a blueprint for change created and supported by the people in the area," says Campbellton Neighbourhood Association co-chair Brian Shaw. *"Such positive grass roots efforts remind us of the change a group of committed people can achieve."*

The Campbellton Neighbourhood Association is an inclusive group of residents and business owners committed to neighbourhood improvement. The association is headed out of an office on 16th Ave. near Crystal Lanes Bowling Alley.

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