

March 31, 2014

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**Province confirms Area D sewer grant can be transferred to City, timeline extended if voters support boundary change**

The City of Campbell River has received confirmation from the Province that a \$3.4 million Build Canada Fund grant to support sewer service in Area D would be available to support municipal sewer service in the event of a boundary extension – as long as people in the proposed boundary extension area agree to join the City.

Confirmation came March 28 from the Provincial Treasury Board through the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development. The update also confirmed that it will also be possible to extend the expiry date of the grant from March 31, 2015 to March 31, 2016. Both the transfer and extension of the grant would require a joint request by the regional district and municipality.

*“This news will make the referendum question for voters in the northernmost portion of Area D more clear and certain,” says City Manager Andy Laidlaw. “Council had directed that the offer to provide sewer and other City services in the proposed boundary extension area would be conditional upon the availability of the grant funding, and it is beneficial for everyone to know that this financial support from senior governments would be available as people reflect on this offer.”*

*“Senior governments receive more requests for infrastructure funding than can be provided, and the Province has communicated to us that it would be disappointing if the funding that has been reserved to improve the sewer service in Area D is not used for this purpose,” adds Councillor Andy Adams, who holds the finance portfolio for Council.*

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