

June 30, 2014

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***Area D residents reject proposal for boundary extension and sewer service***

During the June 28 referendum, a majority of residents and property owners in the northernmost portion of Area D voted not to join the City of Campbell River and have sewer service provided to their property.

Chief elections officer Lynn Ketch confirmed that 699 ballots were cast, with 589 voters answered “no” (84.3%) and 110 voters answered “yes” (15.7%) to the question: “Are you in favour of a boundary extension to include a portion of Electoral Area D within the boundaries of the City of Campbell River for the purpose of connecting to the City of Campbell River sanitary sewer service?”

*“The City appreciates the time residents and property owners in Area D took to inform themselves about the proposed boundary extension, and we respect the referendum decision,”* says City manager Andy Laidlaw, adding: *“I would also like to thank the staff at the Strathcona Regional District and Province of BC for their timely help as well as all the City staff who met every deadline and expectation through the process.”*

Laidlaw says the referendum results provide some certainty and closure for the City and Strathcona Regional District regarding future direction for long-term infrastructure and service planning. The City has identified several sewer upgrade projects that will be designed and constructed within the next five years. These sewer upgrades will be constructed with a life expectancy of up to 100 years.

*“The referendum results will inform our municipal infrastructure planning and budgeting process as they confirm that we do not need to build a system to treat and dispose additional sewer volume from northern Area D,”* Laidlaw says. *“It was important for the City to ensure that these upgrades are built to accommodate current and projected community growth, and we now have confirmation on what size of system will be built, what we need to budget for in our financial planning and where we will focus our efforts in terms of infrastructure improvements.”*

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