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**NEWS RELEASE**

April 8, 2013

**Support Campbell River Youth at the Earth Week Film Festival**

Show your support for Campbell River youth and local environmental initiatives by attending this year's Earth Week Film Festival! The festival takes place Wednesday, April 16 at the Tidemark Theatre, with doors opening at 6:30 p.m. and the show starting at 7 p.m. Proceeds from the event will support an environmental bursary for a graduating School District 72 student.

*"The Earth Week Film Festival is always lots of fun because it provides an opportunity for you to meet and network with people you don't often see," says Paige Derouin, Co-Chair of the Youth Action Committee. "It is the Youth Action Committee's major event and provides a taste of all the great local environmental initiatives you might not be aware of in our community."*

Campbell River's Youth Action Committee identifies actions and solutions to address community issues such as youth programs, transit scheduling, local food initiatives, and much more. The members of this advisory group supported by the City of Campbell River, are innovative and motivated youth, and, for the past two years, the Youth Action Committee has raised funds at the annual Earth Week Film Festival to contribute to community organizations. Recipients have included raptor rehabilitation initiatives through the Mountaineer Avian Rescue Society, as well as an annual \$500 bursary for a graduating School District 72 student pursuing post secondary studies with a focus on the environment.

The committee is helping coordinate this year's Earth Week Film Festival, which features local films that address energy consumption and local food, such as *Power Down Campbell River* and *Harvest Campbell River*, as well as the multiple award-winning feature film *Truck Farm*, which follows the journey of two, slightly goofy and musically talented friends/filmmakers as they transform their grandfather's '86 Dodge into a mobile micro-farm through the help of green-roof technology and then visit various urban agriculture initiatives with guitars in-hand.

*"I don't think that local agriculture is promoted as well as it should be. It would be great to see local stores promoting local products so we can know that our money is supporting local families and providing local job opportunities," says Greta Hamilton, Youth Action Committee member. "I'm looking to start to grow my own sprouts, tomatoes and herbs. I'd also like to raise my own chickens."*

The festival is an action-packed event that the City of Campbell River and School District 72 organize each year. The event coincides closely with Earth Day, and is intended to inspire the community and support local action on environmental projects. The event is often thought-provoking, refreshing and humorous; with a focus on local issues and opportunities. Film festival attendees can also look forward to community organizations hosting information booths in the lobby, as well as great door prizes at the end of the night.

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