

May 10, 2017

City's general manager of parks, recreation and culture resigns

After 10 years with the City of Campbell River, Ross Milnthorp, general manager of parks, recreation and culture has resigned.

"It's important for me to make some life changes at this time, and I want to acknowledge and thank Mayor and Council, and the employees in the parks, recreation and culture division, for their hard work and significant community contributions," Milnthorp says. "It has been a great privilege and a pleasure to have been part of a group focused on public consultation and customer service. In particular, I am proud of the parks team moving from an operational, public works function to a department that supports sports, special events and weddings and, like the recreation and culture department, delivers exemplary customer service to improve the quality of life in Campbell River."

Milnthorp credits all City staff with contributing to the division's successes. *"The many accomplishments would not have been achieved without all staff working together,"* he says.

Highlights of parks, recreation and culture work over the last 10 years include:

- the restoration of Baikie Island and Sybil Andrews cottage
- Spirit Square construction and event/entertainment programming
- community gardens in Willow Point and Campbellton
- the City's first dog park
- Greenways Loop/Jubilee Connector
- Communities in Bloom awards
- the Willow Point Splashpark and new playground at Ostler Park
- lacrosse facility and synthetic turf field in Robron Park
- foreshore restoration and Urban Forest Management Plan
- upcoming online recreation registration

"We are sorry to see Ross leave and will miss his people skills and ability to establish positive working relationships, both with employees and community members," says City Manager Deborah Sargent. *"We wish him well, and know that the programming and planning work of parks, recreation and culture sets the stage for continued forward momentum and future projects."*

Milnthorp came to Campbell River in 2007, taking on the role of parks, recreation and culture manager. He became parks, recreation and culture general manager in 2008.

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