March 14, 2018

City maps expanded with open data catalogue

The City of Campbell River is expanding mapping services available through its website thanks to a new open data catalogue.

"To increase access to the City's mapping data, our geographic information services (GIS) department has launched a catalogue to allow people to pinpoint features and download for viewing on Google Maps," explains Warren Kalyn, the City's information technology manager. *"We anticipate this open data repository will be of particular interest to developers, businesses and citizens who required enriched data access delivered through interactive mapping."*

New information available includes:
- the municipal boundary
- property parcels
- building footprints
- roads and bike routes
- City-maintained parks and public washrooms
- community gardens
- garbage routes
- electric-vehicle charging stations
- areas of interest such as the hospital, fire halls, museum and library

The Open Data Catalogue is available at http://data-crcc.opendata.arcgis.com/ for downloading geospatial data in the form of shapefiles and KML files for viewing on Google Maps.

The City continues to offer more robust interactive mapping applications for viewing data from http://www.campbellriver.ca/city-services/maps. Maps are best viewed using Google Chrome.

For assistance accessing the City of Campbell River's open data catalogue, please contact the GIS Department at 250-286-5700.

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Contact: Warren Kalyn, Information Technology Manager   250-286-5716

Background:

What is open data? Open data is available to be freely used, modified and shared by anyone without restrictions from copyright, patents or other control mechanisms.

Why is it important? Data is now available for developers, researchers, community organizations and entrepreneurs to use. This supports problem solving and collaboration. An open data catalogue also supports our smart cities challenge application.

Who benefits? The community benefits as well developers, researchers, entrepreneurs.

Does it save time, reduce costs or enhance services? Direct access to the data saves both time and money. The GIS department will no longer need time to prepare these files for download. Open data will also result in enhanced services and products when developers build applications using this data to provide valuable information for residents and tourists.

Why is this available now? Software that supports this service is now available and has been tested by the GIS department.

For details on this and other City of Campbell River services, events and information, please visit our website at **www.campbellriver.ca**

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