

HIGHLIGHTS of OCTOBER 18, 2021 COUNCIL MEETING

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COMMUNITY SERVICES UPDATE

- **Funding for Campbell River Crime Stoppers**—In response to correspondence from the Campbell River Crime Stoppers Board of Directors requesting one-time financial assistance to fund annual operating costs, Council approved a one-time donation of \$4,000. The funds will come from Council's contingency fund. Crime Stoppers works closely with RCMP, municipal police services, and other law-enforcement agencies by providing tips and information that could be used in criminal investigations.
- **Correspondence with the City of Ishikari, Japan, regarding exchange programs**—In response to correspondence from the Mayor of the City of Ishikari regarding the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on exchange programs between Campbell River and Ishikari, Council will continue discussions with the City of Ishikari about how to proceed with these programs. The City of Campbell River has been twinned with Ishikari, in Hokkaido, Japan, since 1983.
- **Letter of support for Tree of Life Culture Society**—Council approved a letter of support for Tree of Life Culture Society's application for a federal transportation grant.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw adopted—Council adopted a permissive tax exemption bylaw. Permissive tax exemptions support community organizations by exempting land and/or improvements from municipal property taxation. Council has the option of granting a full or partial exemption to charitable, philanthropic or other not-for-profit groups that provide community services, as well as church halls and the land adjacent to churches. Council policy currently limits the value of taxes exempted to 1.7 per cent of the City's general tax levy. To qualify for exemptions, organizations must meet criteria in the Community Charter, as well as Council's policy.

The Community Partnership Committee reviewed applications for Permissive Tax Exemptions for 2022 and provided its recommendations to Council. Following first and second readings of Bylaw No.3833, the City provided public notification of the properties to be exempted as outlined in the Community Charter. Following the public consultation process, Council gave third reading to Bylaw No. 3833 on Oct. 4. Staff will prepare direction to BC Assessment identifying which properties were approved for a permissive tax exemption. Notification of properties exempted must be submitted before Oct. 31.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

- **Correspondence with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries regarding aquaculture**—Subsequent to Council's meeting with the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries during the virtual Union of British Columbia Municipalities Annual Convention, Council received a letter confirming an upcoming meeting with the Parliamentary Secretary for the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries. Topics to be discussed include aquaculture operations within the Discovery Islands and the British Columbia Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund.
- **Correspondence with the BC Utilities Commission (BCUC) regarding Island Generation**—Council received a reply to its Sept. 10 correspondence with the BCUC regarding an extension of Island Generation's electrical purchase agreement (EPA) with the British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority (BC Hydro). The BCUC does not have the jurisdiction to order an extension of Island Generation's existing EPA at this time, although it would be in a position to consider an extension request from BC Hydro.

For the most recent information on City services, please see www.campbellriver.ca.
For general inquiries, please email info@campbellriver.ca or telephone 250-286-5700.

DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

- **Rezoning proposed for 2079 and 2099 Mercroft Rd.**—Council gave first and second reading to a Zoning Bylaw amendment to rezone 2079 and 2099 Mercroft Rd. to allow for a future low- to medium-density subdivision. The proposal includes a conceptual road layout, parkland area, environmental buffer areas, phasing plan and preliminary utility-servicing information. Anticipated conditions relate to transportation upgrades in the area, limitations on units based on number of accesses and a required parkland agreement. Council directed staff to organize a neighbourhood public meeting in advance of the public hearing. More information about registering to attend a public hearing, including options to participate remotely, is available on the City's website (<https://www.campbellriver.ca/your-city-hall/city-council/public-hearing>).
- **Zoning amendment for 2221 Dalton Rd. adopted**—Council approved rezoning 2221 Dalton Rd. to allow construction of an apartment building of approximately 60 units. Council gave third reading to the proposed zoning amendment at the July 12 meeting and withheld adoption of the bylaw at that time, pending registration of a restrictive covenant to ensure the extension of offsite frontage improvements, including:
 - extension of the sidewalk from the subject site, to the intersection of Westgate Rd. and Dalton Rd., along the south side of Westgate Rd. to where the existing sidewalk begins at the northwest corner of 2204 Island Hwy. South; and
 - provide a painted crosswalk to be installed at the eastern point of the intersection of Westgate Rd. and Dalton Rd.

The restrictive covenant has been executed by the City and the landowner, and registered on title.

- **Development at 854 South Island Hwy. approved**—Council approved a variance permit application for construction of a 70-unit, market-rental apartment building, with a variance to the front-yard setback from 7.5 metres to 4.41 metres.
- **Council approves redevelopment of existing 7-Eleven at 2016 South Island Hwy.**—Council approved a major development variance permit application for form and character to enable redevelopment of the existing 7-Eleven site at 2016 South Island Hwy. to accommodate a new convenience store, outdoor patio area and four double-sided gas pumps with canopy. Variances to proposed signage for the business include: a variance to the sign area for a freestanding sign (from 24 square metres to 34.86 square metres), a variance to the minimum vertical clearance of a freestanding sign (from 2.13 metres to 1.88 metres) and a variance to the total area for all fascia signs (from 9.3 square metres to 13.83 square metres).
- **Hwy 19A Rockland Road roundabout centre feature**—Council directed that the Rockland Road roundabout centre feature design process be put on hold and that further public consultation involving the arts community be initiated, as requested by the Arts Council in their August correspondence to Council.