

HIGHLIGHTS of JUNE 28, 2021 COUNCIL MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING

*To help prevent the spread of COVID-19, meetings use online video conferencing technology.
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Opening Remarks by Mayor Andy Adams

I want to open tonight's meeting with a reflection on more news of unmarked graves near a residential school site in Saskatchewan – and the shared dread that there will be more findings like this.

To the children who never returned home from residential schools: we know you were missed. We know you were grieved. You have not been forgotten.

We recognize the ongoing pain of the children who were hurt, and the families and communities damaged by Canadian policies.

We want to work with you to help right the wrongs that persist against Indigenous peoples.

Which brings me to a message about Canada Day.

In particular, I want to acknowledge that much of the history and many of the laws and institutions of Canada give Indigenous people little reason to celebrate.

In the spirit of reconciliation, and in recognition of the truth, the City of Campbell River and our Council members recognize that systemic racism, oppression and discrimination against Indigenous peoples continues.

We are truly sorry for this legacy of harm. We acknowledge that Campbell River has grown and prospered thanks to the natural abundance of this region – the traditional territory of the Laichwiltach people.

City Council members have renewed our pledge to work for a more inclusive community.

While Campbell River will not host a Canada Day event this year, it is my sincere hope that future celebrations will be an opportunity to recognize the full character of our shared history – both the immense harm that's been done, and the phenomenal achievements of our country.

One of these is our ability as contemporary Canadians to openly reflect on our past, and remake our country for the greater good – to truly honour all members and strive to become even better with time.

Let us focus on building a stronger more connected community to truly see, understand and know each other as we talk and walk together into the future.

Because, to borrow from Reconciliation Canada, our future wellbeing rests on the relationships we build today.

It will not be easy or quick to repair connections and create a new way of being that reflects the values we aspire to in our community and in our country. And we will undoubtedly make mistakes along the way.

This Canada Day, I urge everyone in Campbell River to remember that we are all responsible for building the future.

We must proceed with humility and in a spirit of cooperation to heal and to harness the power of many to build a better future, for all of us, together.

COVID-19

Please note: We have new procedures in place to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

For the most recent information on City services, please see our website campbellriver.ca/COVID-19
Reach us with general inquires by email: info@campbellriver.ca or telephone 250-286-5700.

City of Campbell River 2020 Annual Report

Building on the award-winning features of the past three annual reports, the City's 2020 Annual Report includes extensive financial analysis and a City Scorecard with graphic icons to track trends and illustrate service delivery. The report includes a year-in-review milestones section and features spectacular Campbell River photos as well as department sections that highlight key municipal services, with goals for 2021 and 2022.

The report is compiled and published in accordance with requirements in the *Community Charter*, and best practice standards set out by the Government Finance Officers Association of United States and Canada.

Find the 2020 Annual Report on the City's website at campbellriver.ca/annual-report

DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

- **Rezoning considered for 130 Barlow Road** – The proposed rezoning would accommodate a secondary residence in the rear yard. Council gave first two readings to the bylaw amendment. No public hearing will be held.
- **Rezoning approved for 130 Strathcona Way** – Council approved a request to rezone 130 Strathcona Way from residential to residential multiple so that the number of residents in the Golden Grove Care Home can increase from six to eight – to allow live-in residential care with a double-occupancy room for couples. An online public hearing was held April 26. In response to comments during the public hearing, the applicant installed an additional parking area on the property.
- **Duplex approved at 2257 Dalton Road** – An online public hearing was held June 14.
- **Beech Street renewal project design** – To encourage downtown development, Council awarded a contract of up to \$165,008 to Highland Engineering Services Ltd. for design work that will extend the improvements from the St. Ann's block upgrade a few years ago. This will include renewal of underground utilities and improvements to the roadway and sidewalks as well as new street lighting and landscaping from the intersection of Alder and Beech toward 10th Avenue and Cedar Street. Council requested information about funding options for project construction management. Council will consider a construction budget during financial planning later this year.

BEECH STREET OPTION A DESIGN FEATURES

1. 15m ROW
2. North side street parking 8-10 stalls
3. 2m – 2.3m sidewalk both sides of street
4. 2m – 2.3m sidewalk and street trees south side of street
5. No street trees at parking stalls on north side of street
6. Minor Mid Block Pedestrian Crossing
7. Rain Garden feature near curve in road
8. Boulevard and Street Trees on south side with associated rain gardens



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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

- **Economic development five-year strategic plan endorsed** – *Innovative by Nature* was developed with community input to guide annual tactical plans for the department over the next five years. Council endorsed the plan and directed that the unused \$33,000 from the strategic plan budget help advance a business centre and business advisory team, to capture new marketing photos and to purchase a licence for BC BusinessCounts, customer relations management software.
- **Reconsideration of tourism consultation on posting signs in support of major industries** – In light of the interest shown by the Tourism Advisory Committee (TAC), Council reconsidered a June 14 decision and will now seek TAC's feedback on posting signs in support of major industries. If the committee wants to contribute more than what they had already shared in a letter to Council, they are welcome to provide additional feedback.

COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE

- **Mutual aid agreement renewed with 19 Wing Comox** – Council approved the renewal of the fire services mutual aid agreement with 19 Wing Comox. Eleven fire departments within the Comox Valley and Campbell River regions have agreed to pool common and specialized emergency resources when required.

TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

- **BC Transit amended 2021/2022 operating agreement** – Council endorsed the amended annual operating agreement with BC Transit to reflect a cost-share arrangement that requires 53 per cent paid by the municipality and 47 per cent by BC Transit (Provincial funding) for the conventional bus service. HandyDART services are funded 66 per cent from the province and the remainder from the municipality. Starting this fall, a province-wide initiative will permit children 12 and under to ride transit at no cost. The City will receive additional funding to offset this loss in revenue.
- **Nodales Drive traffic calming** – In response to concerns about traffic speed on Nodales Drive, the City will reduce the speed limit to 40 kilometres per hour along this route between Alder Street and Erickson Road. The City will also paint signs on the pavement to highlight the speed change at both entrances and install speed humps to slow traffic.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

- **Quarterly Financial Report** – Council received the City's 2021 first quarter financial report. These reports provide regular updates on the progress of the work plan approved during financial planning, ensuring alignment with approved budgets, and that any variances are investigated and explained. Financial results for the City's departmental operating budgets are within expectation for the first quarter of 2021. Operating and capital projects are well underway for the first quarter of the year with most projects well into the planning or construction phase. The second and third quarters are typically the busiest for the City, with capital project works and operations crews completing most of their projects during these months.

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- **BC Social Procurement Initiative update** – Council received a copy of a provincial news release announcing funding to expand the British Columbia Social Procurement Initiative, which enables local governments and other public sector organizations to purchase goods and services in line with local economic and community benefits. The initiative makes it easier for small and medium-sized businesses to work with government and benefit from opportunities created through government contracts.
This funding announcement means the great work of last two years is now available to all communities across B.C., said Councillor Colleen Evans, co-chair of the Coastal Communities Social Procurement Initiative, adding that she’s looking forward to seeing how the City can demonstrate added value and community benefit through local government purchasing in Campbell River.
In step with a worldwide movement to advance social and economic goals through government purchases, the City of Campbell River and Vancouver Island partners have been exploring ways for local government projects and purchases to add even greater community benefit. The province-wide expansion of this program provides potential for positive social change by aligning existing local government spending with strategic social goals and benefits such as economic and employment objectives. These will add even more community value to the overarching goal of local government purchasing policies, which includes meeting legal requirements such as respecting trade agreements, a fair and open bidding processes and transparent financial disclosure, and providing best value for tax dollars.
In 2016 the AVICC and UBCM membership passed a resolution to “advance the use of social procurement practices to help achieve policy goals in the areas such as inclusive economic development, indigenous economic reconciliation, skills training and workforce development, youth employment, supportive employment, supply chain diversity, social enterprise capacity building and improved small business access to public sector supply chain.
Learn more at <https://bcspi.ca/>
- **Provincial Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program cancellation** – This May, the Province announced this funding will be cancelled next year. The City of Campbell River has used this consistent funding source to leverage significant external grant funding and partnerships to move forward on climate mitigation and adaptation efforts. Program cancellation will result in a loss of approximately \$38,000 per year for the City, and will significantly impact the City’s climate action efforts. In addition, the corporate greenhouse gas emission reporting framework and tools provided a consistent reporting mechanism used by local governments in B.C. The City will send a letter to the Province and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities requesting the establishment of new greenhouse gas emission reporting options as well as a replacement, non-competitive climate action fund for local governments, with local government involvement to establish fund parameters.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

- **Nanwakolas Council Society corporate golf challenge** – \$1,500 sponsorship
- **Indigenous Resource Opportunities conference** – \$1,000 sponsorship

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PUBLIC HEARING – Rezoning considered for 60-unit apartment building at 2221 Dalton Rd. If approved, this would permit a density increase from 33 to 60 dwelling units. Three people spoke in opposition, citing concerns related to proposed density, traffic and congestion. Council will consider third reading and adoption of the application at the July 12 meeting.

Highlights of June 29 Committee of the Whole

Centennial Pool change house upgrades

Upgrades to the change house facility will be the next step in Centennial Park outdoor pool rehabilitation work. Council reviewed two design options for upgrades, and opportunities for public feedback will be available during this summer's pool season.

One option is a relatively modest renovation of the existing change house interior, with some small updates to plumbing fixtures, and the fit and finish of the facility. The second option is a more extensive renovation that replaces the current layout with single and family-use stalls and a common area open to the pool deck for additional monitoring by pool staff.

For either option, an accessible washroom and deck showers would also be added, and the City will apply for a federal infrastructure grant that could fund up to 80 per cent of project costs.

Council will make a final decision on pool change house upgrades after receiving public input.

Information on how to provide public feedback will be shared via news release and posted to the City's website and Facebook pages.

Bylaw offences amendment on parks uses – In response to concerns about the use of the Penfield Dog Park after hours, Council approved an amendment that allows bylaw officers to write tickets for this offence. Signs at the dog park indicate hours of use are from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Quarterly forestry sector update meeting

This resource sector stakeholder meeting focused on the forestry industry. Several organizations presented to Council, including the Council of Forest Industries, the Truck Loggers Association, Western Forest Products and Holbrook Dyson Logging Ltd. Mayor Andy Adams facilitated a discussion among all participants on the current challenges and opportunities in B.C.'s working forest and forest sector, modernizing forest policy and ways that local government can support this vital industry. Also in attendance were representatives from neighbouring north island communities, including; Port Hardy Mayor Dennis Dugas, Port McNeill Councillor Derek Koel and Gold River Mayor Brad Unger.

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