

AWARD

City recognized for achieving milestone four in Partners for Climate Protection program

Mayor Andy Adams presented the Federation of Canadian Municipalities award for achieving milestone four of the Partners for Climate Protection program. The City received acknowledgment on this achievement at the recent Union of B.C. Municipalities convention.

The Mayor highlighted that local governments influence or control half the sources of Canada's greenhouse gas emissions and are on the front lines of responding to severe weather events and other impacts of climate change. He emphasized that taking action can save money in municipal operations, lower energy costs for residents and businesses and increase investment in the local economy.

He called on Amber Zirnhelt, the City's Long Range Planning and Sustainability Manager, to receive Council's thanks for the work of her team on achieving this milestone.

The City of Campbell River signed on to the BC Climate Action Charter in 2007, and continues to measure and work to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The City is also actively planning for anticipated impacts of climate change and has conducted extensive public consultation around adaptation measures in relation to sea level rise. The City has also established a home energy reduction program that offers a number of ways community members can reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.

Related to this recognition, Council received an invitation to join the BC Municipal Climate Leadership Council and attend the BC Climate Institute in November. At the Oct. 22 committee of the whole meeting, Council will select a representative to participate at the two-day event.

The BC Municipal Climate Leadership Council engages with all levels of government to advocate for strong climate action. Core members are locally elected officials who are recognized as climate leaders by their peers, the Community Energy Association, Federation of Canadian Municipalities and the Union of BC Municipalities.

The Climate Leadership Institute is a two-day workshop designed to help British Columbia mayors, councillors, and regional district directors lead or support bold climate action in their communities. The event will showcase a new resource, the Climate Leader's Playbook, with practical tools and levers around transportation, building, waste and land use that local governments can use to achieve a zero emission-ready community.

DEVELOPMENT, PERMITS and ZONING

- **Jubilee Heights zoning bylaw amendment adopted** – With the proposed amendment approved by the provincial Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, Council adopted a zoning amendment that would:
 - add duplexes as another use in existing residential zones
 - revise the zoning map to align to new lot boundaries
 - and permit a maximum grocery store size of 3,200 square metres
- **Zoning for a duplex on Dalton Road approved** – Following the September public hearing, Council approved rezoning to permit a duplex on a large lot at 2245 Dalton Rd. The property owner proposes to subdivide the lot into two and construct a duplex on each parcel located near the Willow Point village centre. The rezoned and subdivided property would comply with all zoning requirements for lot size and parking, and the current single-family dwelling on the property would be demolished before a duplex is built on that parcel.

Council Meeting Highlights October 7, 2019

- **Duplex proposed for 384 Hilchey Road** – Council is considering a rezoning application to permit a duplex at 384 Hilchey Rd. A public hearing will be held Oct. 21. Traffic impact will be assessed as part of the building permit application process.
- **Secondary suite proposed for 191 Island Hwy** – Council is considering a rezoning application to permit a secondary suite at 191 Island Highway. A public hearing will be held Oct. 21.
- **Industrial zone amendments in the works for property on Midport Road** – Council requested a site-specific zoning amendment for 4300 Midport Rd. to allow for heavy equipment storage and repairs at this address.
- **Airport permitted uses to be updated** – Council directed that the City's airport zoning be updated to ensure permitted uses of this property align with the provincial government's Land Use Operational Policy for Airports. Revisions to the Airport Master Plan will also be drafted for Council's consideration to bring the document in line with the Province's policy. In future, the provincial policy would be considered prior to confirming any lease agreements on airport-one zoned lands and before issuing any business license on these lands. City staff will work to determine if there are any uses currently occurring on these lands that are in contravention of provincial government policy and report back to Council on a recommended course of action.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

- **Permissive tax exemption amendment** – The property at 170 Dogwood St. has been removed from the permissive tax exemption bylaw currently under consideration because it has been sold and is no longer owned by a community organization that would qualify for a permissive tax exemption. Every year the City's Community Partnership Committee reviews applications for inclusion on the City's permissive tax exemption bylaw. Council gave first and second reading to the bylaw on Sept. 9, which will be amended to remove this property from the bylaw to ensure consistency with Council policy.
- **2019-2028 Financial Plan amendments**
 - Council directed staff to create a \$35,000 budget for annual property tax the City pays for sewer infrastructure located on Wei Wai Kum (Campbell River Indian Band) territory. This tax is the result of a legal settlement between the City and the Wei Wai Kum to recognize the placement of a City pump station that was constructed on land recognized as Wei Wai Kum territory.
 - Council directed staff to increase the 2019 airport development servicing budget from \$60,166 to \$200,000. The 2019 airport south development budget will be increased from \$40,000 to \$50,000. Both funding increases will come from the airport reserve.
- **Disc Golf Society request for course upgrades** – Council referred the society's request for \$29,700 for course improvements and \$5,000 annual maintenance to financial planning meetings in early December.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT and SOCIAL SUPPORT

- **Council requests regulations to permit more food trucks in Campbell River** – Based on a report on the outcomes of the CR Street Eats pilot program and public engagement, Council requested regulatory options enabling mobile vendors to operate more permanently on public property, including within the downtown.

Council Meeting Highlights October 7, 2019

- **Social benefits to be incorporated into City purchasing** – Council passed a resolution to update the City’s purchasing policy to incorporate social benefits for the community into existing spending. Including social procurement in the purchasing policy will allow the City to incorporate and promote community betterment as part of its purchasing process.
- **Social grant program consultation and implementation** – In response to challenges facing Campbell River, the City has created a grant program to build capacity in the social purpose sector to support local solutions. A pilot social grant program for 2019 has begun, with approximately \$90,000 available. Consultation with community groups and the Community Partnership Committee has informed potential partners and applicants about the new program and asked for their feedback on the program. The social grant program will be refined using consultation feedback and lessons learned during the 2019 pilot program, with the formal program launch expected in February 2020. Watch for more information on the City website (campbellriver.ca) and through social media. Please direct questions by email to sustainability@campbellriver.ca or contact senior planner Cleo Corbett directly at 250-286-5764.

SUPPORT for COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

- Campbell River will mark the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the Netherlands in 2020 with a parade, flag raising at Spirit Square and tulip planting at City Hall.
- Council will send a letter of support to Consumer Protection BC in support of St. Patrick's Catholic Church plans for a columbarium, a space for funeral urns.
- Council approved the Royal Canadian Legion request for approval of a Canadian Air Force flyby at 500 feet over Campbell River’s downtown during 2019 Remembrance Day ceremonies.
- In response to a request by the CR Bowling Association, Council directed staff to arrange free transit for participants in the upcoming tournament.

CORRESPONDENCE GENERATING REPORTS

- In response to correspondence from Don Kolonsky, Council requested a report on zoning at 5800 Argonaut Road.
- Council referred a request to amend the City’s animal control bylaw to ban unattended dog tethering to staff for recommendations.
- Council referred a request for a buffer and trail as a condition to requested rezoning for 2079 and 2099 Merecroft to staff for report.

UBCM Convention

Several members of Council spoke to the value and benefit of the recent UBCM convention they attended and noted that Campbell River’s strategic approach is noticed and appreciated by provincial ministers and staff.

From the Oct. 8/19 Committee of the Whole meeting

(A committee of the whole meeting is a Council meeting without the usual limits on debate and urgency of a final vote, to allow a more open exchange of views.)

Decision on a proposed 500-plus unit development in Quinsam Heights to await future housing growth areas recommendations

Council is delaying consideration of a proposal for a 500-plus unit residential development at 2079 and 2099 Merecroft Rd. until recommendations are available on future housing growth areas.

The applicant wishes to change the land use designation on 142 acres (57 ha) in Quinsam Heights from *estate* to *neighbourhood* and change the zoning to permit a mix of urban density zones, including:

- single family dwellings
- single family dwellings on small lots
- and single family dwellings, duplexes and triplexes

A budget of \$80,000 supports a study on how best to support future housing development, with recommendations for areas of housing growth and whether or not to extend the City's urban containment boundary.

This study is underway, and recommendations are expected in the first half of 2020.

The current estate zoning in Quinsam Heights supports servicing lots that are at least one acre to maintain semi-rural character and *"provide opportunity for hobby farms, equestrian activities, and small-scale agriculture within close proximity to the downtown and other urban amenities."*