**2016 YEAR IN REVIEW** 

Highlights of City of Campbell River activities, initiatives and projects

# AWARDS AND MILESTONES

#### **SIX NEW COMMUNITY BUILDERS**

Another six exceptional Campbell Riverites have been named community builders. Max Chickite, Mike Gage, Bill Henderson, Jim Lilburn, Kris Mailman



and Morgan Ostler were honoured by the City of Campbell River for their community contributions during an appreciation dinner and ceremony in April.

A total of 41 community builders have been recognized to date, including previous award recipients: Art Lightfoot, Ruth Barnett, Buford Haines, Roderick and Ann Haig-Brown, Sam and May Henderson, Tom and Mavis Hudson, Rose McKay, Dick Murphy, Ned and June Painter, Bruce Saunders, Charles and Mary Thulin, David and Eliza Vanstone, Van Egan, Pat Martin, Skip McDonald, Mac McDougall, Lynn Nash, Doris Ritchie, Jack Baikie, Wallace Baikie, Harper Baikie, Bob Langdon, Kimtalaga Elizabeth Glendale Quocksister, Lillie Thulin, Carol Chapman, Jacqueline Gordon, Chuck Saults, Jim Luckhurst and Barry Henshall.



#### 2016 **STEWARDSHIP AWARDS**

The 15th annual awards program recognized efforts by volunteers, groups and businesses toward environmental excellence in Campbell River. Pictured are: Frank

Jones and Marcus Willems (Air Quality / Alternative Transportation); Ross Mountain Farm, Michelle White (Pesticide Free / Urban Agriculture); Sidney Demuth and Jack Worsley (Water/Energy Conservation); David Baar (Waste Reduction); Bill Murray and Dave Cunning (Habitat Protection/Creation); Keely Finn, Mackenzie Bryla and Alexandria Uzzell-Paulos (Youth Special Recognition); Mainstream Biological (Environmental Excellence); Mikaia DeMaiffe-Elliot (Tom Easton Remembrance Youth Bursary).

# PHOENIX LEADERSHIP STUDENTS RECOGNIZED

Big thanks to five Ecole Phoenix middle school leadership classes who donated 2,358 volunteer hours to improve the lower, paved section of the ERT at 14th Ave. and identified invasive species to remove. such as blackberry, ivy and broom. With guidance



from Greenways Land Trust volunteers, the students picked up garbage (including fire extinguisher parts and vehicle wheel rims), removed invasive plants and planted native species like alder and cedar. An Adopt-a-Walkway sign was mounted at the entrance of the ERT at 14th Ave. in honour of this work.



## **MIRROR WINS COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD**

The local newspaper won the City-sponsored Community Spirit honours during the Chamber of Commerce business awards. The Mirror has published in Campbell River for 45 years. The newspaper also publishes WAVE magazine and the Campbell River Guide, supports hundreds

of local events, and every year for the past three years donated almost \$1 million in advertising sponsorship to more than 120 local non-profit groups.

# COMMENDATIONS

# YOUNG SAFETY VOLUNTEER

Mayor Andy Adams presented a letter of commendation and a certificate of recognition to Garrett Warkentin for his ongoing volunteer work to encourage his peers to spot the danger before they play. Garrett was born a left arm amputee, and he volunteers with the War Amps Child Amputee program (CHAMPS) as a safety ambassador. His determination inspires Council.

#### **CULTURAL LEGACY**

For her legacy of sharing knowledge and cultural traditions with her community, Council recognized *Carol Bear*. Her commitment to sharing and teaching her cultural knowledge – through native dancing, singing, or sewing the traditional button blankets inspires others to learn and share them with future generations.

Colby Shaw received the Fire Commissioner's Commendation Award, for his rescue (with his friend *Glen Magbanua*) at a house fire in June of 2014. Mr. Shaw and Mr. Magbanua saved four people that morning, ensuring everyone survived the blaze.

# **BOARD OF VARIANCE VOLUNTEERS**

Mayor Andy Adams publicly recognized *Herb Osing* and *Chuck Saults* for their long standing years of volunteer service on the Board of Variance. These gentlemen have collectively served the community through more than 60 years on the board. It is extremely rare to have a citizen volunteer for such a length of time, and to have two such long-term volunteers is exceptional, the Mayor said.

# CITY EMPLOYEES WIN WORKSAFEBC CONTEST

Facilities service workers from the City's recreation department submitted a winning entry when they named 23 hazards in the provincial January/February What's Wrong with this Photo? contest published in WorkSafe Magazine. The team maintains a steady focus on safe work procedures, and continues to improve, through



examining options to reduce the use of chemicals for cleaning, ergonomic equipment, safe work methods and training opportunities.

# CITY EMPLOYEE B.C. WATER OPERATOR OF THE YEAR

Ed Travanut, the City's water foreman, was awarded the 2016 Excellence in the Water and Waste Industry Award from BC Water & Waste Association. Travanut was nominated for his proactive and preventive maintenance planning, which has helped extend the operation of some critical assets, allowing the City to defer costly replacement of water assets as well as for his leadership skills, his calm, logical approach to problemsolving and his commitment to work and public safety.

Congratulations to the City's Community Planning and Development Services Manager Amber Zirnhelt and Finance Manager Myriah Foort (pictured here with councillors Larry Samson, Marlene Wright and Colleen Evans, City Manager Deborah Sargent and Mayor Andy Adams) on winning Future 15 awards!



## LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE

Ron Neufeld, the City's deputy city manager and general manager of operations was recognized with a professional service award for excellence in leadership from the BC Local Government Management Association. The award is for outstanding achievement and positive impact and contributions by local government professionals.

Neufeld is considered an exceptional recipient, who has demonstrated leadership in the development of management procedures and programs.

# **TWO VIDEO AWARDS**

The City won two Videographer Awards of Distinction for the 2015 videos Campbell River Smile and Revitalizing Downtown, Campbell River's People Place. Approximately 16 per cent of the estimated 1.5000



in the international competition received awards of distinction for exceeding industry standards. The City's communications department scripted and produced both videos. See Revitalizing Downtown, Campbell River's People Place at https://youtu.be/fb-BMxQRQpg. View Campbell River Smile at http://goo.gl/m61Irm

#### **NEW EMPLOYEE VIDEO**

At Your Service, Campbell River features newer and long-term employees sharing in their own words their pride in the community and their work.

View *At Your Service* on the City's YouTube channel or website (www.campbellriver.ca). Big thanks to all employees who were interviewed for this video!



#### **CURBSIDE RECYCLING SUCCESS**

Campbell River residents were among the lowest of the low when it came to the amount of unacceptable material in blue bin recycling boxes, making our community's curbside recycling program among the very best and most efficient in the province. The amount of unacceptable material in the city's single-stream recycling mix was 3.9 per cent. Campbell River introduced curbside recycling, using single-stream blue bins, in 2008.

## **AUXILIARY FIREFIGHTERS RECOGNIZED**

In October, the hard work and dedication of auxiliary firefighters was recognized at the annual firefighter graduation and new recruit welcoming ceremony held at the Maritime Heritage Centre. Campbell River's fire department strives to be a leader in meeting the training standards set forth by the Province of BC for all its members.

### **POSITIVE PROVINCIAL AUDIT RESULTS**

A performance audit of the City of Campbell River's activities between 2010 and 2012 found that the City had many elements that are useful building blocks for strong capital asset management.

In its March report, the Auditor General for Local Government said "Overall this is a positive report. While we found areas where the City could make improvements, these would be enhancements to an already sound foundation...In addition, the City had sound processes and controls to protect taxpayer interests in the planning and procurement of capital."

The audit also found that the City has taken a number of significant steps since 2012 to strengthen its approach to asset management, including establishing a 10-year financial plan, an asset infrastructure management committee and restructuring its reserves policy.

The report recommends updates to the City's purchasing policy, continued development of an asset management framework and its balanced, long-term financial planning approach to address risks related to infrastructure deficit. The City of Campbell River has committed to act on the audit recommendations.

## 10-YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN ADOPTED - A FIRST IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

The City's 2016 financial plan focused on long-term financial stability, and a 10-year budget was approved, a first in British Columbia. Council conducted its annual financial plan deliberations in December 2015, and the adoption in February was the earliest budget completion ever by Campbell River Council. A property tax increase of 2.45 per cent, including a newly-established ongoing capital funding of approximately 0.75 per cent (\$190,000 per year).

The 2017 budget deliberations were concluded in December 2016. Council confirmed a 2.5 per cent property tax increase, which supports new funding for asset renewal and expanded services.

# INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR CITY BUDGET

The City was recognized with a Government Financial Officers Association – 2016 Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the Campbell River Financial Stability and Resiliency Program. The City has built upon this success and will apply again for the 2017 budget award.

# CITIZEN SATISFACTION SURVEY

Results of the citizen satisfaction survey that interviewed 400 residents in September indicate that people are more satisfied with City services in 2016 than they were during previous surveys in 2013 and 2006. People who were not interviewed by telephone could share their opinion through an Internet survey, and 182 people completed the online survey. The detailed statistically-valid survey findings were presented at the Oct. 24 Council meeting.

"Residents were asked to rate their satisfaction with the quality of life and a wide range of services provided by the City of Campbell River. The results show that we're going the right direction to meet community needs," said Mayor Andy Adams.

The survey provided information for Council's budget deliberations in December.

# **COMMUNITY BUILDING**

# **WORKING GUIDE AND SERVICE DOGS RECOGNIZED IN BYLAW AMENDMENTS**

Council adopted a bylaw amendment to waive dog licence fees for guide and service dogs, RCMP dogs and Search and Rescue dogs and to allow these dogs access to otherwise restricted public or park areas.

### **COME FLY WITH US!**

A new roadside sign highlighting the location of the Campbell River Airport was installed at the intersection of Jubilee Parkway and the Inland Island Highway. Big thanks to the provincial Ministry of Transportation, Grant Signs, McGrath Contracting Ltd., Epic Design Studio and



Home Structural Inc. – and to the City's Capital Works Department.

No airplane travel coming up in your schedule? Visitors are welcome to drop by the YBL terminal to enjoy free Wi-Fi and a snack at the Fuel Up Café while watching planes come and go.

# EXTREME WEATHER SHELTER OPENED LONGER THIS YEAR

Thanks to additional funding from the provincial government, the extreme weather shelter for homeless people remained open until June and re-opened in mid-October before intense fall rains next to the downtown fire hall. Council made up to \$5,000 available for safety modifications to the site next to the



fire hall at 675-13th Ave. This is the fourth winter that the portable extreme weather shelter is available. In previous years, the shelter was open from the beginning of November until the end of March. The City contributed \$15,000 in 2015 to refurbish the shelter, and sponsored the operation of one of the rooms at a cost of \$6,000. The 16-bed shelter is owned and operated by Campbell River Family Services.

Also this year, Island Health announced funding support for a sobering assessment centre. The Campbell River RCMP is also actively working with Island Health to establish street-level access to health care support and services for adults in Campbell River living with substance disorders.

#### **MULTI-FAMILY RECYCLING BYLAW**

All multi-family buildings are to implement recycling services by Dec. 31, 2016. Multi-Material BC will offer financial incentives to enable multi-family buildings to receive recycling services from qualified collectors at a low rate and in many cases free of charge. The City has provided multi-family building owners with information on the City's bylaw changes and the MMBC recycling program, as well as educational material for residents.

#### **EARTH WEEK FILM FESTIVAL FOCUSED ON ZERO WASTE**

Hosted by the Youth Action Committee, this event screened *Racing to Zero*, a film that tracks San Francisco's waste stream diversion tactics and innovative solutions as well as a short film that shares the story of The Campbellton Neighborhood Association's new community garden. The Youth Action Committee chose these films to bring light to the importance of reducing our consumption and the amount of material that ends up in Campbell River's landfill.

## **URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN**

This policy document signals a general intention to increase the level of tree canopy cover within Campbell River's urban area from 33 per cent to 40 per cent by 2035. If no action were taken, tree canopy cover could drop as low as 20 per cent. The plan contains a wide range of options for Council to consider to increase and improve tree cover. Along with increased property values, improved aesthetics and enhanced psychological wellbeing, urban forests provide a broad array of environmental, economic and social benefits, including: improved air quality; energy conservation through shade, cooling and wind reduction; storm water retention; noise buffering and wildlife habitat.

### **AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY GRANT**

A \$20,000 grant from the BC Ministry of Health supported Campbell River's efforts to conduct an age-friendly assessment and community planning process in 2016. The City pursued this work with the Campbell River Age-friendly Committee. Members include Campbell River Seniors' Centre Society, Campbell River Better at Home, Laichwiltach Family Life Society, Willow Point Supportive Living Society, Immigrant Welcome Centre and Campbell River Access Awareness Committee.

### HERE WE GROW

Campbell River has seen another busy development year – with more than 95 development applications, 231 new business licences and 330 building permits reviewed. There has been a 25 per cent increase in development applications and a 30 per cent increase in building permits in 2016 over 2015 – a trend expected to continue into 2017. In addition to application reviews, more than 200 pre-application meetings with businesses and potential developers were conducted.

Downtown saw significant investment with the completion of Healthyway, Beach Fire Brewing and the construction of the new Tyee Plaza apartment building. Willow Point is home to new So Cal, Sea Wok and Waffle House restaurants, while Campbellton is Nesbit Coffee's new location.

# **ENHANCED SERVICES**

# WILLIS ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

During the 2016 budget deliberations, Council confirmed the priority to create safer cycling and walking access along this route. The project replaced deep storm water ditches with culverts, which allowed for a two-metre wide paved shoulder on Willis Road between Petersen and Carolyn roads. Work also included maintaining fish habitat in Fisher Creek and future spawning ground enhancements downstream of Willis. Wacor Holdings was awarded the contract for this work, valued at \$262,931.

# **OPEN ACCESS MUNICIPAL BROADBAND NETWORK**

The City is investing in a new open access municipal broadband network that will provide businesses in the downtown core with access to affordable, enterprise level high-speed internet. Island Coastal Economic Trust is supporting the project with a \$50,000 grant, which will help fund infrastructure to complete an existing broadband ring and to set up a co-location space for service provider companies. High-speed internet is a necessity for most of today's growth-oriented businesses, and the investment is expected to help foster a local tech sector economy. Campbell River will offer the first municipal open access broadband network on Vancouver Island and will serve as a model for other Island and Sunshine Coast communities.

#### **NEW ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**

Rose Klukas became the City of Campbell River's economic development officer May 16. Council decided to make economic development part of City operations, and Klukas came to Campbell River following five years as director of economic development for the District of Kitimat.

Networking and developing strategic partnerships with the local and regional business community, all levels of government, First Nations and industry associations is a top priority for this role, which will also manage industrial and commercial inquiries, encourage expansion and development of existing businesses and promote Campbell

In November, the City launched its first edition of In the Spotlight, a quarterly newsletter highlighting business-related updates, resources, tips and advice, and information about Campbell River's economic development initiatives.

## TOURISM TRANSITION AND MARKETING PLAN

River as a business-friendly community.

With the economic development function integrating into City operations, Council undertook extensive community consultation to evaluate the best model for future tourism services delivery. A new five-year tourism strategy will launch in early 2017 with a new tourism advisory committee and new management and operation of the tourism function.

The approval of a three per cent tax on bookings for local hotel/motel rooms is anticipated to generate an additional \$250,000 per year to promote year-round tourism opportunities and build on community partnerships to enhance visitors' experiences. The goal is to raise awareness of Campbell River as a destination of choice and to increase the number of visits and longer stays in the community.

2017 is expected to be a busy year for visitors with Campbell River hosting the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities and the Vancouver Island Sustainable Technology Association conferences as well as major events such as the BC Elders Gathering and Tribal Journeys hosted by the Wei Wai Kum and We Wai Kai First



#### REFRESH DOWNTOWN & LIVE STREETS

Public workshops to help develop options for downtown streetscape improvements were complemented with 920 survey responses from the general public and 550 responses from youth. The Refresh initiative highlighted the community's priorities for creating a vibrant heart of the community by improving roadways, sidewalks, public gathering spaces, lighting, landscaping,

decorative features, bicycle areas, parking, signage and the look and character of buildings. The City is also undertaking infrastructure reviews for water, sewer, drainage and parking to be ready to support new development in the downtown.

Small initiatives inspired by public suggestions such as the sidewalk "parklet" on Shoppers Row, and the Tidemark light canopy were undertaken this summer to help revitalize the heart of our community.

CR Live Streets festival series ran three Wednesday evenings in August. Activities included an outdoor movie, a chalk fest event and a festival of art and artisans.

## **CROSSWALK ART**

The public art subcommittee enlivened crosswalks with temporary art installations to tie in with Council's goal of creating a vibrant and prosperous downtown core. The marine theme at Shoppers Row and 11th Ave. reflects the history of the location. Before the Tyee Plaza development, this area was known as Codfish Flats.





# A NEW LOGGER MIKE

At nearly eight feet tall and 400 pounds, the new work of art in west coast red cedar by award-winning local carver Cody LaFrance replaces the weather-worn 30-year-old icon carved by Dean Lemke.

The old and new Logger Mike carvings were on display at Frank James Park, along with the Transformations on the Shore carving contest creations, right up until Canada Day, when they were part of the downtown parade. The new Logger Mike was raised partway up the spar pole in Spirit Square later in the summer.

# **AIR PHOTO HISTORY MAPS**

The new air photo history webmap includes photos from 1950 with additional images before 1980, and more from 1994, 2002, 2005, 2007, 2012 and 2014.

Aerial photos are regularly updated and often used by City staff to view

and update data on community infrastructure, property boundaries, new buildings and to investigate illegal garbage dumping.

All interactive mapping applications are available at www.campbellriver.ca (under City Services / Maps).



The new easy-to-use Park Finder at www.campbellriver.ca (under Maps) works on a desktop computer or mobile device and helps users locate a park or recreation facility and obtain information about recreation activities in the community. (Best viewed using the Chrome search engine.)

#### **ONLINE TRANSIT TRIP PLANNER**

A Trip Planner on the Campbell River Transit System website combines the latest BC Transit schedule and route information with the power of Google Maps. Type in trip origin, destination, date, and time of departure or desired arrival, and the most direct bus routes, connections and times are automatically calculated. In Campbell River, BC Transit provided more than 600,000 passenger trips in 2015/16 in Campbell River.

# **PROJECTS**

## WATER SUPPLY PROJECT PROGRESS CONTINUES

A significant milestone in the largest single capital project ever undertaken by the City of Campbell River was reached in 2016. The lake intake structure. which required a 150-metre long section of 1.5-metre diameter pipe assembled on land, was floated into the lake, submerged and fixed onto the lake bottom



building

in 2017.





#### **CEDAR STREET WATERMAIN**

In January 2016, a major watermain break occurred at Cedar St. and 9th Ave. Although the watermain was back in service later that day and the road providing safe access later that week, the damage to Cedar St. and the watermain required full reconstruction. While this unplanned project was not included in

the City's budget for 2016, staff fast-tracked the work. The approved budget included \$300,000 for watermain replacement design work.

## **ROAD REPAIR AND STREET LIGHT REPLACEMENT**

The City and Tayco Paving were busy repaving this spring. Major work included new pavement for: Dogwood between 4th and 7th avenues (southbound lanes); Evergreen from McPhedran to the old BCHydro yard; Coho, Steelhead (connection to Park) and the top of Park. The City also replaced nearly 500 lamps with lower cost and longer-lasting light-emitting diode fixtures, with more to come throughout the community – continuing a retrofitting program that began three years ago.

# **ROBRON FIELD**

Grand opening festivities on Feb. 28 coincided with the Youth Soccer Jamboree. The latest generation of synthetic turf, installed at Robron Park, provides a reliable year-round



surface for athletic fields, built to withstand extended use and wet weather. Added benefits include a weed-free surface and a grass-like appearance that doesn't need to be watered or fertilized. Along with serving the needs of local sports organizations, the local economy will get a lift from tournaments hosted here.

# **OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN REVIEW**

A seven-month review of the Official Community Plan included five public consultation sessions on four focus areas: secondary residences, commercial designations, development permit clarification and streamlining and Quinsam Heights.

# **PARTNERSHIPS**

# PERMISSIVE TAX EXEMPTIONS AND GRANTS-IN-AID

Council granted \$790,310 in tax exemptions to 82 organizations that provide community benefits through culture and recreation, health, housing and community services or culture and recreation. Council also approved the Community Partnership Committee's recommendations to award \$578,214 in 14 grants to local organizations to assist with important community services and events.

#### **BACK-TO-SCHOOL SAFETY CAMPAIGN**







This September, a series of *City Currents* ads and Facebook posts reminded drivers about speed limits and other aspects of school zone safety. Each Facebook post was seen by an average of 1,300 people, with one reaching more than 1,800. Students featured in the photos were enrolled in a Recreation Department program taking place at Cedar Elementary School over the summer.







#### **OSTLER PARK SETS SAIL**

The July grand opening for the new playground in Ostler Park unveiled rubber surfacing inlaid with an orca and a treasure map, a toddler area and pirate ship play equipment for older adventurers complete with spy glass. The playground was funded thanks in part to the Government of Canada's Enabling Accessibility Fund and Tire Stewardship BC. The Lion's Club of Campbell River built the first playground at Ostler Park in 2001, which provided many years of fun and exercise for children visiting the park.



#### REPAIR CAFÉ

The City held two more Repair Café events this year, where volunteer fixers worked on small appliances, stereos, video components, electronics, phones, cell phones, clothing, upholstery, digital cameras, jewelry, musical instruments, wooden chairs, toys, bikes and more. Repair Cafe is a worldwide initiative started in Amsterdam in 2009 to encourage people to repair broken belongings and learn practical skills. There are now more than 900 Cafes in 22 countries worldwide.

#### **COUNCIL CURRENTS BY CITY & SHAW TV**

Council Meeting Highlights published after each Council meeting became a new Shaw TV update called Council Currents. Hosted by City clerk Peter Wipper, the show captures key topics from the week's meeting highlights in a segment up to five minutes long. Episodes are also posted online on Shaw TV's YouTube channel and shared on Facebook.



Watch Council meetings live through the City website (follow the link from the home page at www.campbellriver.ca) and sign up to receive Council Meeting Highlights, Council agendas and other City news via email through the newsroom section on the website.



# CHILDREN'S CHARTER SIGNED

Mayor Andy Adams, John Powell of the Kwakiutl District Council and Susan Wilson of the School District 72 Board were part of a ceremonial signing of the Campbell River Children's Charter. The Charter outlines support for children's esteem, safety, social and basic needs.

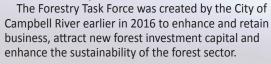
### **POWER DOWN 2**

Power Down 2 Campbell River offers rebates on home energy evaluations conducted by a qualified energy advisor who will assess a home's efficiency and make recommendations for improvements. This incentive program builds on Power Down Campbell River that ran in 2013 as a home energy conservation video challenge between five families. The winning family received \$1,500 for energy-efficiency renovations.

The City also provides top-up funding to both the Province's Oil to Heat Pump program and to a number of rebates available through the BC Hydro and FortisBC Home Renovation Rebate Program.

# NATIONAL TREE DAY PLANTING

Mayor, Council and the City of Campbell River's Forestry Task Force planted a red horse chestnut at the Splash Park in Willow Point Park to mark National Tree Day.





#### **JOINING FORCES FOR FIRE TRAINING**

Crews from the Campbell River Fire Department and the BC Wildfire Service joined forces to train together in July, strengthening emergency response to fight forest or wild fires near developed areas.

The training included planning to combine resources when necessary and hands-on work with portable pumps and water tanks, drafting from a minimal water source and water shuttling – all techniques to employ when a fire is burning far from a readily available water source.



#### YOUTH ACTION COMMITTEE SUMMARY

The Youth Action Committee of 2015/2016 was made up of approximately 15 high school students in grades 9 to 12 at Carihi and Timberline schools. Highlights from the year include the Earth Week Film Festival, a presentation to Council on YAC's downtown revitalization survey, a visit from MLA Claire Trevena, and making recommendations to the transportation department about cycling in Campbell River.

#### **BEST EVER BIKE TO WORK AND SCHOOL WEEK**

This was the ninth year that Campbell River residents and businesses participated in Bike to Work Week. Close to 150 teams participated in 2016, compared to 90 in 2015. A total of 480 riders (104 first-time riders) in Campbell River logged more than 18,000 kilometres.

#### **WOOD STOVE EXCHANGE**

Back by popular demand for a sixth season, Campbell River's wood stove exchange program offered another 28 \$250 rebates

to help Campbell River residents switch out uncertified wood stoves with a high-efficiency cleaner-burning wood, pellet or gas heating appliance certified to national standards. The exchange program is made possible through an \$8,900 grant from the BC Lung Association with support from the Province of BC and the Hearth, Patio and Barbecue Association of Canada and participating local retailers.

#### SUPPORT FOR VALUE-ADDED WOOD INDUSTRY

Campbell River will contribute \$5,000 to explore opportunities for value-added wood production on Vancouver Island. The recommendation to support this economic development project led by the Vancouver Island Economic Alliance came from the City's Forestry Task Force. The City is one of a number of community and private sector partners contributing \$30,000 toward the total budget of \$60,000. The Island Coastal Economic Trust is funding the other half of the budget.

#### FALL RAINS BROUGHT FLOOD WARNING ALONG RIVER

City crews worked to protect properties along the river when fall rains brought a flood warning.

On the Remembrance Day long weekend, crews built a foot-high, 75-metre long sandbag berm to reduce the possibility of water overflowing the lowest part of the river bank in front of the Campbell River Lodge. In case the water level in the river overflowed the banks despite the additional height gained with sandbag berm, City crews also built a temporary 90-metre dike adjacent to the Campbell River Lodge parking lot to prevent water from spreading into low-lying areas of Campbellton. The temporary dike of portable steel-cage containers filled with gravel and sand extended from Redwood Street almost



to Petersen Road. Funding for the portable flood protection system supplies and dike assembly work came from the provincial emergency program. The City made sandbag supplies available for property owners, and Campbell River fire fighters went door-to-door twice with written notices advising people of the flooding risk and how to prepare to protect their property from flood damage.

## MOSAIC MURAL

Campbell River's Canada 150 Mosaic Mural was a collaborative effort between the City's Public Art Committee, local First Nation artist Curtis Wilson, mosaic artist Lewis Lavoie and 400 Campbell River residents. This is one of the 150 murals connected across the country to celebrate Canada's 150th birthday in a 365-metre virtual train.

Campbell River's mural represents our past and future. The mural features Discovery Passage, the view of Quadra Island from Campbell River with the iconic Cape Mudge lighthouse, a Tyee row boat, and

a symbol of a wild salmon created by Curtis Wilson.

Through July and August 2016, Campbell River residents painted tiles. Mayor and Council, local professional artists, children, parents and even one family dog contributed to this creative endeavour.

Best wishes for a safe, happy and prosperous 2017!





