

March 23, 2016

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**Earth Week film festival features *Racing to Zero: In Pursuit of Zero Waste***

What does it take for a city to achieve zero waste? This year's feature film at the Earth Week Film Festival will share the story of a city trying to do just that.

Three years ago, the mayor of San Francisco pledged to achieve zero waste by 2020. ***Racing to Zero*** tracks San Francisco's waste stream diversion tactics and presents innovative new solutions to waste. This film documents a surprising, engaging and inspiring race to zero.

Hosted by the Youth Action Committee, this event will also feature 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.

The average household in Campbell River discards 340kg of garbage each year, but only 10 per cent of this garbage belongs in the landfill. Remaining items can be recycled or composted. The City of Campbell River is striving to reduce the amount of material going into the landfill through public education and recycling programs.

*"We hope that this film will bring the issue of over consumption and overflowing landfills into the forefront and inspire residents to think twice before they toss materials into the trash bin,"* says Nigel Neufeld, Chair of the Youth Action Committee.

City representatives, the Youth Action Committee and community environmental groups will be on hand to share information about composting, recycling, and other green initiatives taking place in Campbell River.

*"The Earth Week Film Festival is an event for families, students and community members of all ages,"* says Councillor Marlene Wright. *"It is a great opportunity to celebrate Earth Week and share knowledge with the community on how we can lower our impact on the environment."*

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the film begins at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 21 at the Tidemark Theatre. Admission is by donation, with proceeds going to a student environmental bursary.

Tickets will be available at the door on a first come first serve basis at the Tidemark Theatre.

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Photo caption: Youth Action Committee members (left to right): Brendan Mainprize, Nigel Neufeld, Sidney Demuth and Kianna Shwaluk.