

April 4, 2017

The visitors are coming! First major event of 2017 hits Campbell River beginning of April!

The first of several major events in Campbell River this year runs April 7 to 9 at the Community Centre.

Campbell River will host this year's Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) conference for the first time since 2002.

The conference will draw up to 300 local government and regional district delegates from Vancouver Island and neighbouring coastal communities (Sunshine Coast and Powell River) to our community.

"The timing is great for hosting this conference as 2017 is Campbell River's 70th anniversary, and we have other major events happening this year to entice visitors back," says Mayor Andy Adams. "City staff helping to prepare for this event are ensuring Campbell River's official motto – Enriched by Land and Sea – will be front and centre, and that our area's culture and heritage and extraordinary upcoming events will be showcased."

Lavern Henderson to sing a celebration song at the opening ceremonies, and Nuyumbalees Cultural Centre will present information about the Standing Together – Tribal Journeys event.

"The Community Centre halls will be transformed into a path through a live forest, minus the wild animals," Mayor Adams says. "The meeting rooms will captivate delegates with Eiko Jones' underwater photography."

City staff are also organizing a delegate partner tour that will feature a visit to the Museum at Campbell River, Sybil Andrews' Cottage, House of Treasures and Campbell River Art Gallery.

"The guided tour will begin at our own museum, which was voted one of the top 10 in Canada by Trip Advisor in 2014. Along the seaside route to Willow Point to visit Sybil Andrews' cottage and back into town, the tour guide will point out local attractions, and provide insights along the drive to the Wei Wai Kum House of Treasures and Art Gallery," says the Mayor.

"Rooms have been reserved at multiple local hotels, and local businesses should expect to see more people out and about downtown, especially Saturday," the Mayor adds. "We encourage local residents to welcome and share their stories with visitors."

Campbell River will also have a booth in the trade show area staffed by City employees to highlight cultural, economic and tourism opportunities.

Local sponsors for the AVICC convention include: Acropolis, All In One Party Shop, Anchor Inn, Campbell River Arts Council, Campbell River Art Gallery, Campbell River Whale Watching, Destiny River Adventures, Eiko Jones Photography, Harbour Grill, Kask Graphics, Ladybug Greenhouse, Museum at Campbell River, Mussels and More Pottery, Quay West, RH Printing, Sure Copy, The Tye Club and Wei Wai Kum House of Treasures.

Other major events scheduled for 2017 in Campbell River include the Vancouver Island Sustainable Technology Association conference, the BC Elders Gathering and Tribal Journeys hosted by the Wei Wai Kum and We Wai Kai First Nations.

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