

July 12, 2016

Another successful year for City's Youth Action Committee

The City of Campbell River's Youth Action Committee (YAC) has disbanded for summer vacation after another successful year.

YAC summarized their year-in-review accomplishments over a pizza and sushi party with Mayor and Council, the city manager and deputy city manager, who expressed appreciation and encouragement to the youth who volunteered their time to share their perspective on a broad range of topics and City projects.

"Members of YAC often act as stakeholder representatives at consultations and events," explains deputy city manager Ron Neufeld. *"They have been invited to help on a number of projects, including gathering data for a public art inventory this spring. They also welcomed guest presenters who attended their meeting to ask their opinion on various projects."*

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 by three YAC members 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.

"YAC's presentation on downtown revitalization at a council meeting earlier this year was high-quality, one of the best Council has seen," says Councillor Marlene Wright, who holds the youth portfolio. *"I have been so impressed by the dedication of these students to make our City a better place and share the youth voice."*

"To me, YAC is a really fun way to have a voice in my community," says Sidney Demuth, who just finished Grade 10 at Timberline. *"One of my favourite parts of YAC is seeing a project you've worked really hard on come to life! I definitely plan to come back to YAC again in the fall. It's a really fun time, and I encourage other youth to give it a shot."*

"On behalf of the City of Campbell River, we congratulate all YAC members who have graduated this month, and we wish them all the best in this new stage of life," says youth action committee staff liaison, Cassie Smith.

Adds staff liaison Jennifer Furst, *"We wish all members a wonderful summer vacation and look forward to seeing some familiar faces return in the fall!"*

Campbell River youth interested in being involved in meaningful volunteer work over the next school year are invited to apply to join the Youth Action Committee (applications accepted until Oct. 7).

For additional information on YAC, and to apply, please: Cassie Smith (Cassandra.smith@campbellriver.ca) or Jen Furst (Jennifer.furst@campbellriver.ca)

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