

Council Meeting Highlights February 10, 2020

AWARD – Two Campbell River businesses win business excellence awards

Mayor Andy Adams congratulated Christine Lilyholm, owner of Stonehouse Teas and Steve Gabryush and Tyler Bruce, owners of Campbell River Whale Watching Tours, on winning Vancouver Island Business Excellence awards at the end of January.

DELEGATIONS

- **BC Hydro annual update** – BC Hydro’s stakeholder engagement advisor, Stephen Watson, presented to Council on current operations and upcoming hydroelectric projects in Campbell River. View the presentation in the Council meeting webcast, available at campbellriver.ca.
- **Legacy Canoe project** – Shelly Haunch, Wei Wai Kum Nation councillor, and Fred Schaub, Carihi Secondary School principal, presented to Council about the Legacy Canoe. The project is a collaboration between the Laichwiltach Nation, Carihi Secondary School, the Museum at Campbell River and community members to create a traditional indigenous ocean canoe as an educational tool.

HOUSING and DEVELOPMENT

- **Supportive housing land donation** – Council adopted a housing agreement bylaw for land donated by the City to support a BC Housing project to build a 40 unit complex for women and children at 1180 Fir St. Half the building will be second stage housing, and the other half long-term affordable rental housing, with a mix of unit sizes and types. All adult tenants will be women. Their children, male and female, would be allowed to live in the complex. Men would be allowed to visit the long-term rental side of the building.
- **Mobile home on Vallejo Road** – Following a public hearing, Council gave third reading and adopted a zoning amendment to allow replacement of an existing single-wide mobile home at 2794 Vallejo Rd. The amendment supports more affordable housing options and maintains neighbourhood character. The City received no opposition to the proposed change.
- **Zoning application considered for 7050 Gold River Highway** – Council received correspondence from Karl Ebdrup regarding a zoning application to allow a second residence on a lakefront property at 7050 Gold River Highway. At the Jan. 27 meeting, Council gave first and second reading to the rezoning request. A public hearing will take place once Council has discussed concerns about watershed protection and the lakeshore residential zoning designation at a future committee of the whole meeting. This correspondence was referred to that same meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATES

- **Sea Level Rise Action Plan** – Council adopted a Sea Level Rise Action Plan to inform infrastructure renewal decisions and to position the City for future grant funding applications.
- **Together for Climate project update** – In 2018, Campbell River was one of eight Vancouver Island local governments selected to participate in a partnership with ICLEI Canada (Local Governments for Sustainability) in *Together for Climate*. The project provides technical expertise from ICLEI Canada to an island-wide network of communities developing climate adaptation plans over two years. Developing a Climate Adaptation Plan complements the City’s sea level rise and asset management planning initiatives. Funding is through the Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia.

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ECONOMIC and COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- **Grant application for Emergency Support Services** – Council endorsed an application to the Union of British Columbia’s 2020 Emergency Support Services Grant for \$24,000 that would pay for supplies and training for the Campbell River Emergency Support Services Team.
- **Strategic Plan** – Council adopted the Strategic Plan 2020-2023. (See Feb. 11 news release for more details.)
- **Vancouver Island University/North Island College partnerships** – Ongoing partnerships with these post-secondary institutions have benefitted both the City and community organizations such as the Campbellton Neighbourhood Association and M’akola Housing Society. The City will continue to seek opportunities to work together on future projects.
- **Campbell River Area Angel Group letter of appreciation** – Council received correspondence from the Campbell River Area Angel Group outlining their appreciation of the City’s economic development department, particularly for the work of economic development officer Rose Klukas. Council highlighted the importance of the angel investors’ willingness to collaborate and provide funding to promote Campbell River as a location for technical innovation and will send a letter thanking them for their ongoing community support.

SUPPORT for COMMUNITY GROUPS

- **Coldest Night of the Year event** – Valery Puetz, executive director, and Diane Palmer, event director, of Campbell River and North Island Transition Society, presented to Council about the Coldest Night of the Year event, which takes place Saturday, Feb. 22 this year. This national fundraiser benefits charities that combat homelessness.
- **Child care** – Council endorsed the *Planning for Child Care Space Needs in Campbell River* report to support future child care creation and will provide a letter of support to School District 72 for a Child Care Space Creation Grant application. (See more details in the Feb. 11 news release.)
- **BC Forestry Alliance Rally** – Council received information about a BC Communities Forestry Rally taking place Feb. 18 in Victoria. Council representatives will attend the rally.
- **Campbell River ATV Club advertising support** – Council agreed to purchase advertising valued at \$300 in a map road book following a request from Campbell River ATV Club representative Mike Coulter.
- **Downtown dinner program funding support** – Council will continue to provide funding support for a downtown dinner program at the Radiant Life Church. Council will fund \$3,900 for November and December 2019 and \$23,400 for 2020.

Highlights of Feb, 11 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.)

Dam and flooding area evacuation plan presentation

Behr Integrated Solutions made a presentation to Council about a flood evacuation plan developed for Campbell River that would be used in the event of a community emergency. The plan addresses the risk from a major earthquake that could damage BC Hydro's dams and cause deep and extensive flooding in low-lying areas of Campbell River, including Campbellton and downtown. The City and BC Hydro will hold a public event to share information at the Tidemark Theatre April 22 and will distribute an information brochure to community members at properties in flood risk areas. Information will also be posted on the City's website campbellriver.ca under City Services / Public Safety.

Secondary suites

Council discussed potential changes regarding secondary suites in Campbell River and raised questions about demand, rental rates, neighbourhood consultation and cost to meet building code requirements. Council directed that zoning bylaw amendments be brought back for second reading to permit secondary suites only in new construction and requested a report on options to streamline the process to build secondary suites in existing homes in established neighbourhoods.

Improving bicycle routes

Council endorsed a plan to remove parking on the east side and install bicycle lanes on both sides of Highway 19A between 5th and 6th avenues. Parking will remain on the west side of road. This will provide a continuous cycling lane along the Seawalk through to the Maritime Heritage Centre.

In response to a request from River City Cycle Club representatives Sandra Milligan, Chris Round and John Elson, Council discussed projects that meet grant application requirements, and the City will consider applying for funding to upgrade the Greenways Loop intersections at Maple and 14th and at Evergreen and the ERT Road.

Cycling infrastructure will be considered as part of the Master Transportation Plan Review to begin later this year.

Great blue heron conservation measures

Council received a report on great blue heron nest sites based on a colony that has grown from one to three nests in Willow Point's Twillingate Road area.

Council requested a report on conservation options for further consideration, including:

- retention of mature trees in the proposed tree protection bylaw
- establishing development permit areas around nest trees
- incorporating nest trees in the Environmental Protection Bylaw, conducting annual monitoring of known nesting locations and exploring new nesting locations
- any related costs

Council also asked for information about any current development applications that might conflict with potential conservation efforts, requested information on conservation covenants and referred the matter to the environmental and planning advisory committees.