

April 17, 2019

CR street eats – Help bring food trucks to downtown streets this summer

Calling all foodies... You've got it, and we want it! Help bring food trucks to Campbell River this summer as the City gears up to launch CR Street Eats pilot program downtown.

Sandwiched between June and August, the pilot program aims to liven the streets and spice up the downtown as a sizzling destination for food.

The City is seeking up to four mobile food vendors to give Campbell River a taste of the diverse, well-priced, quality food and beverages that could be offered in the CR Street Eats pilot program. Expressions of interest will be accepted until noon on May 3.

“Food trucks continue to be a fast growing sector in the restaurant industry, complementing traditional bricks and mortar restaurants,” says Rose Klukas, Economic Development Officer for the City. *“Campbell River looks forward to joining this movement, giving residents and tourists more dining options.”*

“Extensive community feedback confirmed a hungry appetite for food trucks, and the 12-week pilot program is expected to draw more people to downtown sidewalks,” adds Laura Walker, the City's long range planning and sustainability planning technician.

Food truck recruitment will be based on selection criteria such as vehicle size and vendor availability. Participating mobile vendors will be regulated through a series of conditions and must provide bi-weekly feedback to City staff. They must also operate within a designated food truck area and ensure the cuisine offered doesn't directly compete with downtown restaurants.

“More traffic and variety of food options in the downtown will be a good thing for our community,” states Laura Gosnell, owner of Beach Fire Brewing Co.

“Grey Dog Diner is excited about this initiative and feels it will bring more business to the downtown,” adds owner Sarah Lotridge.

“CR Street Eats Pilot Program is a time-limited opportunity to explore what works best with food trucks downtown and whether any challenges arise,” says Chris Osborne, the City's long range planning and sustainability supervisor. *“If the City opts to continue with downtown food trucks into the future, we will use this summer's pilot program experience to make sure we have the right regulations in place.”*

The City sought feedback on food trucks in a 2016 survey, and through Refresh Downtown consultations, CR Live Streets events, and the Youth Action Committee. At the end of *CR Street Eats Pilot Program*, the City will conduct further public consultation to solicit feedback about the program which will help determine the long-term suitability of food trucks in Campbell River.

Email expressions of interest and a completed application to foodtrucks@campbellriver.ca, or drop off paper copies at City Hall no later than noon Friday, May 3.

Find more information about the pilot program, including an application form and a frequently asked questions document, at <http://campbellriver.ca/planning-building-development/downtown-revitalization/initiatives>, or contact Laura Walker at 250-286-5727, laura.walker@campbellriver.ca

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