

April 23, 2018

Advisory committee re-structure to focus more precisely on current community needs

Campbell River City Council is inviting volunteers to join three new advisory committees to begin work this September – focused on issues related to community planning, environmental protection and healthy community, including public safety.

“Over the past year, Council has reviewed the existing commissions and committees in an effort to streamline this important work by community volunteers,” says Mayor Andy Adams. “We’ve carefully considered the strengths of the existing advisory groups, and, to continue the momentum of these hard-working volunteers, we’re re-structuring four of these groups into three, to focus more precisely on Council’s strategic priorities, which reflect current community needs.”

The Mayor adds *“We extend our deep appreciation to all our current volunteers and encourage anyone interested to apply to the new committees later this spring.”*

Three new advisory committees and their focus:

- Community Planning Committee – visioning such as long-range and parks planning, Official Community Plan and Zoning bylaws, affordable housing, development issues and opportunities, public art, community wellbeing through sustainable neighbourhood development and downtown revitalization
- Environmental Advisory Committee – issues of concern related to the waterfront and estuary, landfills, organic waste (composting), energy and emissions, effects of climate change (storm severity, sea level rise, etc.), foreshore restoration and protection, natural and conservation areas, passive parks and ecosystem services
- Healthy Community and Public Safety Committee – downtown security, homelessness, affordable housing and related social services, assisting social service providers, opioid crisis

Council will continue to seek the expertise of the local arts community for planning and placement of public art, particularly during the development of the Public Art Master Plan.

“Council’s strategic priorities are focused on good governance and relationships, fiscal responsibility and economic opportunity, community wellbeing and livability and support for diversity and our most vulnerable citizens,” the Mayor says. “This new advisory committee structure will better serve these widely-held priorities and help us refine the processes moving us toward achieving the community’s long-term vision for Campbell River.”

Terms of reference for the new advisory committees are established through bylaw, and the application process for the new committees will begin in May. The new advisory committees will be up and running prior to the 2018 general election, with first meetings to take place in September.

The Advisory Planning and Environment Commission (APEC), the Community Services, Recreation and Culture Commission (CSRCC), the Public Safety Sub-Committee and the Public Art Sub-Committee were established approximately five years ago. Their mandate will conclude June 1, and terms for six APEC members and three CSRCC members will be extended to ensure groups have quorum to conclude their work by this time.

There are no mandate changes or term extensions for Campbell River City Council’s other advisory groups (Airport Advisory Committee, Tourism Advisory Committee, Community Partnership Committee, Youth Advisory Committee and Forestry Task Force).

To learn more about advisory commissions and other volunteer opportunities, check out the City of Campbell River’s website at www.campbellriver.ca (search under Your City Hall / City Council / Advisory Committees & Commissions) or contact the City Clerk Elle Brovold at 250-286-5709.

###

Contact: Deborah Sargent

250-287-5740