

Council Meeting Highlights January 11, 2016

Please note Council meeting highlights are not a substitute for the City's comprehensive Council meeting minutes, found on the City website at: www.campbellriver.ca. Council meeting agendas, minutes and webcasts are available from the link on the homepage.

Public hearing to rezone 129 Westgate Rd. for third Habitat for Humanity dwelling

Rezoning this property would allow a duplex to be constructed, which is supported by the Official Community Plan, consistent with the zoning requirements and the general form of character of the neighbourhood. Habitat for Humanity proposes to build one unit for a family of three, and one for a family of five. If approved, starting in March, hundreds of volunteers would help build affordable, quality dwellings that are easy and economical to maintain, with wastewater heat recovery, low-demand heating and lighting and low-water irrigation. This would be the third Habitat for Humanity construction in Campbell River. People can support the project with donations to and purchases from the local ReStore.

Public hearing for downtown craft brewery at 594 - 11th Ave.

Council held a public hearing to introduce craft brewing as a permitted use within the City's Zoning Bylaw. If adopted, new regulations would permit craft brewing at 594 - 11th Ave. and allow this use at all properties zoned commercial one in Campbell River. Beach Fire Brewing wishes to open a craft brewing/brewpub and food services at this location. There are two similar establishments in Courtenay and one in Cumberland.

Update on Canada goose banding project

Biologist Cynthia Bendickson and Leona Adams of the Campbell River Environmental Committee updated Council on banding of introduced Canada geese that have been appearing in increasing numbers in the Campbell River estuary during the summer molt (when the birds are shedding old feathers and growing new ones). Thanks to Greenways Land Trust, other environmental organizations and many volunteers, a July banding event was very well organized, and 200 neck bands were applied to geese. Banding will help track the birds and provide valuable data re: migration and population levels. All over southern BC, Canada goose populations are increasing and damaging shoreline vegetation, which compromises ecosystem health and affects other fish and wildlife. In Campbell River, the data gained from banding will help determine whether a management plan is needed for the local population, and this group will report back to Council later in the year with results and potentially make recommendations for wildlife management. Find out more about Canada goose banding in the Campbell River estuary at www.crcago.ca.

1641 Perkins Rd. development permit approved for an oversized garage

Council approved construction of an oversized garage at 1641 Perkins Rd. after determining there would be little impact on the neighbourhood, and no identified concerns from adjacent property owners were raised. The proposal is also consistent with surrounding development.

Transition continues for Economic Development Corporation

A number of initiatives are underway to support the evolution of the City's economic development and tourism functions. Part of the process involves changes to the City's Economic Development Corporation. As sole shareholder, the City is responsible to adopt certain resolutions to satisfy the requirements of the *Business Corporations Act (BCA)*.

Council approved four resolutions to adjust the City's contract with the corporation to permit appointment of a single interim trustee director, appointment of an auditor, publication of financial statements and holding an annual general meeting.

Mary Ashley, interim trustee director for the Campbell River Economic Development and Ron Bowles, the City's general manager of corporate services have been named as authorized signatories for the Campbell River Economic Development Corporation. The changes supports the ongoing transition to move economic development services into City operations.

Minister of Transportation re: Willis Road and Seawalk

A letter from the Province indicates Ministry staff will seek more detail from the City of Campbell River to further discussions about constructing a Willis Road connector. This was a topic Council brought to the Province's attention at the September 2015 Union of BC Municipalities convention.

City receives \$20,000 grant to support age-friendly community planning and projects

A \$20,000 grant will support Campbell River's efforts to conduct an age-friendly assessment and community planning process in 2016. The grant from the BC Ministry of Health supports Council's resolution to establish an age-friendly community. The City will pursue this work with a group of local organizations, whose mandates include the well-being of seniors, and have come together to form the Campbell River Age-friendly Committee. The community organizations include Campbell River Seniors' Centre Society, Campbell River Family Services Society, Laichwiltach Family Life Society, Willow Point Supportive Living Society, Immigrant Welcome Centre, and Campbell River Access Awareness Committee. Additional organizations will likely join the community as work progresses. The Campbell River age-friendly assessment work will involve surveys and focus groups to develop an age-friendly action plan.

Council to consider eliminating licence fees for service dogs

A local resident has requested that Council eliminate licence fees for service dogs, and Council has asked City staff to provide a report on the definition of a service dog and to quantify the potential effect of waiving licence fees for these assistance animals.

A current dog licence is helpful for returning missing dogs to owners.

The City sends out invoices in December to owners of licenced dogs and publishes a reminder notice in January.

Dog licence fees within the City boundaries for 2016 are:

Male or Female	\$40, or \$20 if it's spayed or neutered
Lost Tag Replacement	\$10

If a licence is no longer required, please notify the City.

Province shares update on plans for spill response

On June 15, 2015, the Honourable Mary Polak, Minister of Environment, announced that British Columbia will be creating a world class spill response regime to address a wide range of potential land and marine-based spills. The Province is seeking feedback from First Nations, industry organizations, communities, stakeholders and regulators on a new report which will set out the details of the proposed new spill response regime. Council was invited to provide detailed comments on the new report through our online information portal on the ministry's Land Based Spill Preparedness and Response in British Columbia website at www.gov.bc.ca/spillresponse. From this webpage, people can subscribe to receive updates when new content is posted, including the new report. A new provincial report is expected mid-January, and Council asked staff to review this issue and provide a report for Council consideration.

Five-year review of RCMP Police Service agreement coming up

To support a five-year review due in 2017 to ensure that policing services community needs, Council was invited to send feedback. Issues raised to date include: the potential impacts of the

impending new RCMP labour relations model; cost implications of the national programs (i.e. Police Dog Service Training Centre, the Cadet Training Program); clarification around the ability to provide provincially established/governed integrated teams; having stronger language related to the federal commitment to local policing; and other cost drivers. Negotiations for the Integrated Homicide Investigation Team are proceeding separately from the five-year review, and issues such as DNA analysis services costs are not part of the RCMP police services agreements. Staff will review and report back to Council on issues, including opportunities to increase efficiency and speed up the security clearance process for municipal police services staff.

New Horizons Care Home update

Council received correspondence from both Island Health and Park Place Seniors Living about service levels for residents at New Horizons. Island Health confirmed New Horizons meets all the conditions of its contract and of the provincial *Community Care and Assisted Living Act*. Island Health also stated that no job loss will result from the proposed changes; while care aide hours are being decreased, the hours worked by registered nurses and licensed practical nurses are being increased.