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City's 2010 Annual Water Report released for Drinking Water Week

The City of Campbell River has released its 2010 annual water report to help residents get to know their H₂O during drinking water week.

The report shows that in comparison to other public utilities, the City's water department:

- has a lower number of full-time employees relative to the number of customer connections
- receives fewer water quality complaints
- and has a 30 per cent lower cost of operation and maintenance.

The City's targets for water quality were met throughout the year, and the response time to customer requests has improved.

"The community continues to receive very high water quality with neutral pH, low turbidity, and minimal chlorine, which makes it some of the best tasting in the world," says Mayor Charlie Cornfield, "Obviously, the addition of ultra violet disinfection has allowed us to make that possible while still ensuring the water is properly treated, and this is something we are very proud of."

In 2010, the City's water department reduced emergency repairs and alarms through preventative maintenance, but continued to experience a high number of service and main breaks due to aging water mains. Consumption in 2010 increased over 2009 to 496 litres per person per day, and peak flow was still above the target at 1,182 litres per second. Education efforts to reduce water consumption during peak times this summer will focus on high-demand activities like lawn watering.

In addition to releasing the annual water report, the City has been offering tours of the watershed, UV facility and the Norm Wood Environmental Centre to celebrate drinking water week.

"The first weekend tour last Sunday gave participants a first-hand look at why our water is of such high quality and the importance of watershed protection to keep it that way for future generations," says Mayor Cornfield.

The 2010 Annual Water Report is available on the City's website at www.campbellriver.ca.

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