

June 10, 2015

Grant applications now being accepted to revitalize downtown storefronts

Interested in revitalizing your storefront? Apply for Campbell River's Downtown Façade Improvement Program.

Back for a second season, and in support of Council's priority for downtown revitalization, the City is offering a façade improvement funding program. Grants of up to 50 per cent of eligible project costs – to a \$10,000 maximum – are available for commercial storefronts, restaurants, and offices located within a special revitalization area of downtown Campbell River. See attached map for specific locations.

For detailed information, or to discuss a project's eligibility, a public information meeting will take place at 7 p.m. on June 25, 2015 at the Enterprise Centre, located at 900 Alder Street. Everyone welcome.

"This program will provide grants to business owners in making their visions for storefront improvements a reality and helps revitalize and attract more people and businesses to the downtown core," says Councillor Colleen Evans, who holds the economic development portfolio for Council. *"The Downtown Façade Improvement Program helps improve the look of storefronts making our downtown a more welcoming place to shop and visit. A refreshed downtown helps to attract more people, encourage more businesses to upgrade their storefronts and contribute to economic growth."*

"Last year's program was a success, with three businesses receiving grants for improvements," adds Ron Neufeld, Acting City Manager. *"The City grants helped fund a range of improvements including significant changes to windows and a building entrance, exterior tiling, and a significant façade enhancement including new siding, lighting, signage, and redesign of an awning."*

The program encourages improvement to exterior architectural and decorative details, windows and window openings, exterior lighting and façade painting and more. The City has a pattern book available for applicants with visual examples of the types of façade improvements the program supports. City staff will be working with applicants to provide advice on how best to make their project fit with the program guidelines.

The deadline for applications is July 31, and business owners must contact the City prior to submitting an application to set up a pre-application meeting. Application packages can be picked up at City Hall or visit www.campbellriver.ca. Go to Planning, Building & Development/ Downtown Revitalization/ Façade Improvement.

Applications will be reviewed by a committee consisting of members of the Chamber of Commerce, Campbell River Arts Council, the City's Advisory Planning & Environment and Community Services, Recreation & Culture commissions and City staff.

Questions? Please contact the Community Planning and Development Services Department at 250-286-5725 or email planning@campbellriver.ca

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