



May 26, 2020

City cancels plans for safer camping location, exploring alternative option

The City has cancelled plans to establish a safer camping location on Homewood Road and will instead explore an alternative option to support people experiencing homelessness in Campbell River.

"With minimizing the threat of this virus as our top priority, we continue to review options and opportunities to be as responsive as possible," says Mayor Andy Adams. "This is a quickly evolving and constantly changing situation, and Council were advised as of late yesterday afternoon that there is a promising alternative that could better address public health and security needs. After thorough deliberation at last night's meeting, Council has decided to explore another option that is more cost effective and offers greater opportunity for meeting objectives to support the most vulnerable members of our community."

The City is actively working to confirm details and timing.

"Our goal is to provide more information and support for people experiencing homelessness as quickly as possible, but discussions are preliminary right now, and a number of details are yet to be confirmed. As soon as more information is available, we will share that with the community," says city manager Deborah Sargent.

"This change of plans demonstrates the City's responsiveness in a fast-changing situation, and the power of partnership to pull together and continue to pursue options that address community concerns and support members of our vulnerable population," the Mayor adds.

The City will continue to enforce municipal bylaws, including prohibiting public nuisance and camping in environmentally-sensitive areas. People wishing to report concerns are encouraged to contact the RCMP or the City's bylaw enforcement department.

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