



Council Meeting Highlights

May 27, 2019

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Provincial award for Chris Osborne, City's acting long range planning supervisor

Acting Long Range Planning and Sustainability Supervisor Chris Osborne has received the 2019 Planning Institute of British Columbia (PIBC) Award for Leadership in Advocacy and Innovation. This prestigious honour recognizes the efforts of planners who demonstrate leadership, tenacity and advocacy on planning issues in their community and farther afield. It identifies the game-changers whose persistence and innovation contribute to the success of PIBC and the planning profession.

Destination Campbell River 2018 annual and financial report

To complement the annual and financial report for last year, Kirsten Soder, executive director of Campbell River's destination marketing organization discussed 2019 plans, including:

- higher-than-anticipated hotel tax dollars available for use in 2019
- the current \$120,000 regional seasonal campaign (a collaboration with municipalities in the Strathcona Regional District)
- the focus on digital and video outputs
- plans for broadening visitor services outreach at sport and events.

BC Tourism Week is May 26 to June 2.

Council also discussed staffing safety and the downtown washroom next to the Visitor Centre.

Council approved that Destination Campbell River's financial and annual report, already presented to and accepted by the Tourism Advisory Committee at their April 18, 2019 meeting, be approved for submission to Destination BC.

Arts Council shares plans for 50th Parallel Art & Earth Festival

Ken Blackburn, executive director of the Campbell River Arts Council, provided an update to Council on plans for a 50th Parallel: Art and Earth Festival from Sept. 20 to 22. The festival would coincide with World Rivers Day and Campbell River's annual Haig-Brown festival to highlight the importance of environmental initiatives from the perspectives of the arts. The Arts Council is working with Destination Campbell River to promote the multiple activities and multiple art forms featured at multiple venues. Many of the events over the three days will be free of charge.

Development, land use applications and permits

- Council approved re-zoning to permit a mixed use **commercial/residential building at 2424 South Island Highway**. The building will have ground floor retail space and second floor apartments.
- Proposed rezoning considered to permit duplex at **1951 Galerno Rd.** – This application had previously proceeded to Council for first and second and public hearing but is being reviewed by Council again due to an administrative error in the initial bylaw attachment. Rezoning would result in demolition of the existing dwelling, and construction of a duplex, increasing the rental stock in Campbell River, at a time when the community is experiencing low vacancy rates. A public hearing will be held June 10.
- Official Community Plan and zoning bylaw amendments considered for **Couverdon's Jubilee Heights development** – Council gave first and second reading to the proposed bylaw amendments, which would:
 - permit a larger commercial development of up to 6,600 square metres, including a grocery store with a maximum floor area of 4,000 square metres. (A larger grocery store is considered appropriate given the historically rapid residential expansion of the



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southern Campbell River area coupled with the fact that the larger full service grocery stores are concentrated in the City's north end.)

- permit duplexes in existing residential zones. (Adding duplexes as a permitted use aligns with the City's objectives that seek to provide a mix of affordable housing types.)
 - and amend the Official Community Plan and zoning boundaries to reflect recently created lot boundaries and road alignments.
 - A public hearing will be held June 10.
- **Closure considered for portion of Pinecrest Road adjacent to 220 Island Highway South –** The property located at 220 Island Highway South was purchased in 2018 for the development of a hotel. The property owner has proposed a land exchange that would transfer ownership of the waterfront portion of the property to the City in exchange for a portion of Pinecrest Road (approximately 270 square metres) to consolidate with the existing lot at 220 Island Highway South. Council gave the bylaw first and second reading.

UBCM funding opportunity for housing needs report

To support the requirement to prepare a report on current and future housing needs, the City of Campbell River will apply for up to \$30,000 funding from the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM).

In 2018, the B.C. Legislature introduced the requirement for local governments to develop housing needs reports. This April, the Province passed regulations that specify data, analysis, and the format required in these reports, which must be adopted by April 16, 2022. To assist local government in their reporting, the Province set aside \$5 million, distributed and managed by UBCM.

Neighbourhood association beautification funding considered

Applications for the 2019 Community Beautification Grants Program have been received by:

- Campbellton Neighbourhood Association
- Downtown "Heart of the City" Business Improvement Area
- Willow Point BIA
- Pier Street Association

Council approved in principle the proposed partnering agreements that enable the City to provide up to \$10,000 in funding for each organization's project. Public notification will be published in the Campbell River Mirror May 31 and June 7. Any public correspondence will be brought back to Council in a staff report accompanying consideration of final approval on June 24.

Council considering increases to airport fees, charges

Following the Airport Advisory Committee's review of the annual fee comparison and analysis report from the airport manager, Council gave first and second reading to proposed fee increases to bring Campbell River's fees for aircraft landing and general service changes in line with other airports serving a similar size population.

Vehicle parking fees remain the same, and passengers on scheduled commercial flights will not be affected by the proposed adjustments as they do not apply to commercial air carriers.

City to investigate airport land development opportunities

Council supported an initiative to assess environmental features of lands near the airport to determine areas suitable for development. First steps will include obtaining cost estimates for the assessment and recommend sources of funding for consideration in the 2020 budget discussions.



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Council supports the Salmon Capital Film Project – Request for Financial Support

Council has endorsed the economic development department's \$10,000 financial support for production of the film Salmon Capital – Campbell River. The film will showcase how salmon have been and continue to be a vital component of history, culture and economy in our community, the Salmon Capital of the World.

Council fine-tuning social grant policy

At the May 28 Committee of the Whole meeting, Council continued extensive discussion on policy development for a social grant program. Topics included the purpose of the program, desired community benefits and impacts, eligibility criteria, application processes, program evaluation and reporting.

Following Council's review of a draft policy, the City will invite feedback from local not-for-profit agencies as well as the Community Partnership Committee.

The program is expected to be finalized this fall, in time to receive 2020 funding applications through Community Partnership Committee review process, subject to Council's final approval.

The remaining funds available for use this year (approximately \$70,000 of \$100,000 allotted for 2019) will be administered on case-by-case basis by Council consideration.