

CREC – Campbell River Environmental Committee

CREC is a registered, non-profit society working on environmental issues in the Campbell River area. It began in the early 1970's as a group called "Save our Salmon" (SOS) which met monthly at Haig-Brown House. This group of local citizens sought to protect Campbell River's naturally-abundant environmental gifts as it grew from a small town into a city. Early founders, who included Don McIver, Peter Winter and Stan Goodrich, were instrumental in investigating and advocating on issues such as air and water quality, wild salmon stocks, industrial impacts, and real estate development. They were successful in halting the deposit of mine tailings into Buttle Lake and keeping the Beaver Lodge lands from housing development.

Today, CREC continues this tradition. Our mandate includes:

- promoting environmental awareness so citizens, governments and businesses can make informed decisions
- informing the public of environmental risks associated with ongoing or planned activities
- addressing environmental issues in a fair and equitable manner
- safeguarding the natural environment

Our main interest is the protection of water: for domestic drinking and for fish health. Last year, CREC worked on a landfill application by Upland Excavating Ltd., reviewed the Quinsam Coal mine reports/closure plan and the Nyrstar Myra Falls mine reports and operations, and reviewed Discovery Park's (formerly Catalyst Mill) landfill application. In addition, this year CREC is reviewing the Comox Strathcona Waste Management Board's proposed compost facility plan and is researching the use of bio-solids.

CREC members contribute to a number of local committees: BC Hydro Liaison Committee, Campbell River Streamkeepers Stewardship Committee, City of Campbell River's Environmental Advisory Committee, Mid Island Forest and Lands Advisory Group, Snowden Demonstration Forest Advisory Group, and the City of Campbell River's Climate Change Committee. CREC is also a member of the BC Mining Law Reform Network.

In the course of this work, members find themselves involved in diverse activities such as site visits to industries, meeting one-on-one with local politicians, writing letters to all levels of governments, working with professionals such as foresters and hydrologists, monitoring the health of the Campbell and Quinsam rivers for aquatic life, and engaging with the multiple stakeholders active in the protection of the Campbell River Watershed.

If you have skills or experience in the following:

- resource management
- forestry, mining, fishing, water quality
- media relations
- environmental law, governance
- fund raising
- engagement with local service groups

and would like to donate your time to a worthy cause, CREC would like to hear from you! We meet monthly, in the evening. As we are a non-profit society, donations are always welcome.

Website: <https://crecweb.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Campbell-River-Environmental-Committee-187879208288455>

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