



## MEDIA RELEASE

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July 6, 2017

### **Strathcona Gardens Welcomes BC Elders Gathering**

**Campbell River, BC** – Now that the popular Cod Jiggers Stomp is over, Strathcona Gardens is turning its attention to hosting over 3000 First Nation elders and leaders, and other government dignitaries at the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual BC Elders Gathering, July 11-13.

The elders gathering was last held at Strathcona Gardens in 2000, and facility manager Koreen Gurak is excited to welcome the elders back. “We are honoured that our facility will be the host venue for this important gathering,” she said. “We understand that planning and executing an event of this magnitude involves the cooperation of all involved, and we are willing to do whatever is necessary to support it to ensure its success.”

To accommodate event requirements, Strathcona Gardens will be closed to the public from Tuesday, July 11 through Thursday, July 13. Activities and entertainment will be taking place throughout the facility from 6:30 am to midnight each day. Event organizers have arranged for additional parking at nearby schools, churches and other establishments. Traffic and parking control will be on-site for the entire event. The community recycling bins will also be closed, and residents are requested to use the bins located at the Sportsplex.

Strathcona Gardens will resume regular hours, 6:30 am to 1:00pm, on Friday, July 14.

“Having a venue like Strathcona Gardens in the community permits Campbell River to host large-scale events such as the Cod Jiggers Stomp and the BC Elders Gathering, but additional services and amenities are required to ensure the facility is up to the task,” Gurak added.

The Strathcona Regional District is planning for the future of Strathcona Gardens through the REC-REATE project. Further information may be found at [www.recreatesq.ca](http://www.recreatesq.ca).

For further information on the BC Elders Gathering, visit [www.bcelders.com/elders-gathering.php](http://www.bcelders.com/elders-gathering.php).

The Strathcona Regional District is a partnership of four electoral areas and five municipalities providing approximately 43,000 residents with 55 services including parks, liquid and solid waste systems, fire protection, emergency preparedness programs and a full-service sports facility.

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