

NEWS RELEASE

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City Defines Area of Contamination at 1 Port Drive

Results better than expected

Summary

The City of Nanaimo, with the assistance of consultants Tetra Tech EBA, has completed a detailed site investigation defining areas of contamination on its key waterfront property located at 1 Port Drive. As a result of the investigation, the City is aware that contaminated soils are defined within 4 areas on the property. The water lot portion of the property requires further investigation. This phase of work is an important step in preparing the property for redevelopment and will inform future approvals from the Ministry of Environment.

Strategic Link: Waterfront Enhancement: enhanced public access and use. Transportation and Mobility: Work with the RDN on a transportation hub. Taking Responsibility: Continuing to facilitate change

Key Points

- The contamination is limited to 2.8 acres of the 20 acre upland portion of the property. The majority of the contamination within that 2.8 acres can be managed on site and does not require any action to be taken.
- The sediments in the water lot require further investigation to determine if there are any human health or ecological risks.

Quotes

"When the City purchased this property in 2013 from CP Rail, we knew there were areas that might have contamination given the history of the site. The results of this study are reassuring as they show that the areas of contamination are actually quite small and can be managed without a large expense to the City."

Bill McKay
Mayor
City of Nanaimo

Quick Facts

- The City acquired 1 Port Drive from CP Rail in 2013 for \$3.4 million.
- The property is 10.8 ha (26.7 acres) in size and includes a 6.8 acre fee simple water lot.
- Defining the areas of contamination will inform future site planning and enable the City to obtain future development and subdivision approvals from the Ministry of Environment.

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