



VILLAGE OF BELCARRA

"Between Forest and Sea"

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NEWS RELEASE

Village of Belcarra unveils its new Coat of Arms

Belcarra, BC – November 7th, 2005 – Celebration and ceremony will ring through the Municipal Hall as Belcarra unveils its first official Coat of Arms. Invited guests will gather tomorrow, November 8th, at 12:00 noon to participate in the historic event.

Belcarra was one of only a handful of municipalities in the Lower Mainland who did not have a Coat of Arms. Council felt that this project would be a special way to mark the Village's 25th year of incorporation in 2004, when a "draft sketch" was presented to the community.

"The Village is very proud of our heritage and our new Coat of Arms is a symbolic reflection of our history", Mayor Ralph Drew said. "The community design incorporates Belcarra's First Nation's and Irish history, and we certainly have that with the traditional Tseil-Waututh wolf symbol and the green shamrocks in the crown." The Mayor went on to explain some of the symbolism — "the Coat of Arms has elements representative of forest, sea, mountains and wildlife. The Eagle perched on a crown surrounded with shamrocks adorns the new symbol."

The motto "Between Forest and Sea" refers to the geography of Belcarra. Robert Watt, Chief Herald of Canada, said: "It has been delightful working with Belcarra on this project. I'm always excited to see others take an interest in heraldry and in their communities."

Nearly a year ago the request was made for the granting of armorial bearings to the Governor General's office. On the recommendation of the Chief Herald of Canada, the Herald Chancellor (*the Secretary to the Governor General*) signed a warrant authorizing a grant of armorial bearings to be made. Council then worked with the Chief Herald to develop the design and the ceremony protocols.

The grant document, called *Letters Patent*, will be on display at the Municipal Hall. The document includes the final artistic illustration accompanied by the legal text that will be officially unveiled on Tuesday at 12:00 noon.

To view the Coat of Arms, join us at the Municipal Hall on November 8th, 2005, for refreshments and cake.

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For more information contact:

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Village of Belcarra — Coat of Arms

