

Man drowns while camping at Comox Lake

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ERIN HALUSCHAK / Jul. 17, 2012 12:00 p.m. / NEWS

An evening swim in Comox Lake claimed the life of a 66-year-old man Monday.

Comox Valley RCMP confirmed Tuesday the man was found floating face down near the Courtenay and District Fish and Game Protective Association.

Around 6:20 p.m., RCMP responded to a call of a possible drowning and found the man had been swimming in a designated area when a witness had seen the man floating in the water. Police add the man sank below the surface prior to rescuers reaching him.

“He was spotted in the water in trouble, and somebody grabbed him and began CPR,” Cumberland fire chief Mike Williamson said Monday night. “He was having trouble breathing. They transported him by our rescue boat to the shore and then into the ambulance and straight to St. Joe’s.”

The man was transported to hospital in Comox, where was pronounced deceased.

Foul play is not suspected and the incident is being investigated by the BC Coroners office.

The name of the man is not being released pending notification of his next of kin.

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