



Secondary Suites Grant Program Launched

Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2009

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC – A new City of Victoria program intended to increase the stock of rental housing in the city has officially launched.

The Secondary Suite Grant Program launched March 30, timed with relaxations to zoning and regulatory changes for installing a secondary suite. With these changes, it is now even easier for City of Victoria homeowners to install a secondary suite.

Homeowners can now apply for the Secondary Suite Grant Program, offering a grant equal to 25% of construction costs of new secondary suites, up to a maximum grant of \$5,000. Those bringing existing suites up to code will not be eligible for the grant, which is for new suite construction only.

Homeowners have an opportunity to learn more about the grant program, how to install a suite, and zoning and regulatory relaxations at a public information session at City Hall on April 16.

What: Secondary Suites Public Information Session

When: Thursday, April 16 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Where: City Hall Antechamber

No RSVP is required.

A secondary suite is a legal suite, located within a single family home and cannot be strata-titled. Secondary suites increase safe, affordable housing supply, provide a 'mortgage-helper' in uncertain economic times, and benefit local trades as construction of new suites will keep trades people working.

The grant program and zoning changes are only applicable to homeowners within the City of Victoria, not the Greater Victoria region. For more information about grant program, including a full list of questions and answers, and steps in the application process, visit www.victoria.ca and click on 'Secondary Suites'.

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For More Information:

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