

Terms of Reference

Economic Development and Downtown Prosperity Task Force

1. Purpose

To provide recommendations to Victoria City Council on the City's Economic Development Function* including, but not limited to how the City can best use its available resources and act as a partner to:

- a.) fill downtown retail and commercial vacancies
- b.) support start-ups, 'scale-ups', and business relocations to Victoria
- c.) foster entrepreneurship
- d.) support job creation in particular for college and university grads who want to stay and work in Victoria
- e.) support social enterprises and community economic development initiatives

2. Composition

The task force will be comprised of:

- the Mayor, serving as Chair;
- one additional member of Council;
- one member of staff;
- one youth representative;
- community members from the following sectors: tech, tourism, labour, community economic development, green business, downtown business, development, commercial real estate, regional economic development.

Additional staff in the Legislative Services departments will act as a resource to support the work of the task force.

3. Timeline

The task force will meet at the call of the chair, engage the public and stakeholder groups as appropriate to develop recommendations, and provide recommendations to Victoria City Council by June 30, 2015.

*\$250,000 per year is allocated for the City's Economic Development function.