



Share Your Vision for Victoria's Urban Forest

Date: Monday, January 19, 2009

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC – Victoria's urban forest includes all of the trees, shrubs, groundcover and the soils in which they grow, in parks, natural areas, boulevards, and residential gardens. The City of Victoria manages over 40,000 trees in its parks and boulevards. Many of these trees are nearing the end of their expected life cycle. The City is developing an Urban Forest Master Plan to ensure the urban forest is healthy, safe and abundant in the future.

The public and media are invited to learn more about Victoria's urban forest and share their vision for its future at two workshops offered this week at City Hall. Registration is not required.

What: WORKSHOP: What's Your Vision for Victoria's Urban Forest?
When: Tuesday, January 20, 2009, from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. (presentation at 7 p.m.)
or Saturday, January 24, 2009, from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. (presentation at 11 a.m.)
Where: Victoria City Hall, Council Chambers

The workshops will include presentations on:

- Victoria's Urban Forest – Dan Marzocco, Supervisor of Arboriculture at the City of Victoria, will present the opportunities and challenges facing Victoria's urban forest.
- Developing an Urban Forest Master Plan – Jeremy Gye, an arbourist and urban forester, will explain the purpose and benefits of an Urban Forest Master Plan, the types of issues it will address, and how it will be used. This City has contracted Gye and Associates Urban Forestry Consultants to develop an Urban Forest Master Plan for Victoria.
- Ryan Street Greenway Project – Victoria resident, Ludo Bertsch, will talk about how he and his neighbours are working with the municipality to help restore the Garry oak ecosystem on Ryan Street. (Tuesday workshop only)
- Maddison Lane Greenway – Victoria resident, Sylvia von Schuckmann, will explain what her neighbourhood has done to protect and restore a patch of Garry oak habitat on their street, and how they are working with the City of Victoria to develop a management plan for the area. (Saturday workshop only)

Public input from the workshops and an online survey will help inform the development of a draft Plan, which will be presented to the community at an open house in the spring for feedback.

For more information, visit: www.victoria.ca/urbanforest

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For More Information:

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