



## Planting of *First Steps Garden* at City Hall

Date: Thursday, May 21, 2009

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC — Media is invited to attend a community planting of the *First Steps Garden* tomorrow at City Hall. This edible, perennial demonstration garden will be home to close to 30 Mediterranean and Portuguese plants. The *First Steps Garden* will demonstrate how easy it is to grow food in our own backyards and raise awareness about the benefits of sustainable urban gardening.

What: Planting of edible demonstration garden  
When: Friday, May 22, 2009, from 3:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.  
Where: Victoria City Hall, Pandora Entrance

The plants featured in City Hall's organic garden will require little maintenance and water. Plants will include figs, blueberries and a variety of herbs.

Urban gardening provides communities with a direct link to food production, empowers residents to produce fresh, organic local fruits and vegetables for their families and friends, promotes nutrition, and helps decrease our carbon footprint by reducing the fossil fuels used in the transportation of goods.

The City of Victoria supports the concept of urban agriculture as a valuable community resource and is working with the community to encourage urban agriculture where possible. Urban agriculture is a broad term that encompasses a wide range of activities involving the production, processing, marketing and distribution of food in urban areas.

— 30 —

### For More Information:

Katie Josephson  
Director of Corporate Communications  
Office: 250.361.0210  
Cellular: 250.217.8343