



YMCA - YWCA Leaving Victoria West Facility

Date: Wednesday, December 2, 2009

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC —The YMCA-YWCA has given notice that it will not renew its lease at 521 Craigflower Road, effective June 30, 2010.

Over the next three months the Vic West Community Association will work with the City and the YMCA-YWCA to investigate whether they would like to lease the space and provide programming in the Vic West neighbourhood. The YMCA-YWCA is intending to continue to provide the Out of School program in Vic West, and will re-locate the Daycare to the Downtown Y.

"The YMCA-YWCA has been a long standing member of the Vic West community and we are thankful for their many years of community programming in this neighbourhood," noted John Luton, Councillor liaison to Victoria West. "Easy access to leisure and learning programs is important to community well-being. The three agencies will work closely in the coming months to determine how best to ensure programming continues in this growing neighbourhood."

The City and Vic West Community Association will make a decision about how to proceed by March 1, 2010, allowing a few months transition before the YMCA-YWCA moves out in June.

"The Y has enjoyed providing services to the Vic West Community. However we recognize that both the needs of the community and the community itself have changed significantly since the three party agreement was first struck," added Jennie Edgecombe, Chief Executive Officer of the YMCA-YWCA. "We feel the community will be better served by a model similar to the other Community Centres."

The Y has leased the 8,000 square foot space at 521 Craigflower Road for approximately 30 years offering daycare, out of school care, leisure and learning programs for adults and children.

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For More Information:

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