



Respectful Reburial Ceremony for First Nations Remains

Date: Monday, December 07, 2009

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC — A service will be held to re-bury the remains of a young First Nations woman, “SLENI”, originally buried over 300 years ago.

Her remains were discovered on August 27, 2009 during the excavation of a sewer trench in James Bay. The project’s archaeologist and a First Nations community representative were both on site at the time. As established as part of the City of Victoria’s protocol, once evidence of an ancient burial site was found work was stopped immediately. Following consultation with First Nations Elders, a determination was reached to hold a reburial service close to the site of the discovery.

What: Ceremony to honour and rebury the remains of First Nations young woman
When: Tuesday, December 8, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.
Where: Across the street from 152 Dallas Road, close to the intersection of Dallas and Montreal Streets.

Elder Mary Anne Thomas of the Esquimalt First Nation, and Elder Elmer George, Songhees First Nation will provide the service. A traditional burning ceremony will take place December 22, 2009.

Please note: Out of respect for the First Nations at this time of grieving and mourning, we ask that there be no photography, or recording of any sort, audio or video.

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For More Information:

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