



Beacon Hill Park Wins “Favourite Park” Award

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For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC — It's official - Beacon Hill Park is Greater Victoria's "favourite park." Beacon Hill Park has been honoured with a *2010 Early Years Award* in the *Favourite Park* category for making a difference in the lives of families and young children. The awards are hosted by Success By 6 and PLAY Victoria, two local organizations that work to enhance early childhood development in the community. Mayor Fortin presented the award at last week's Governance and Priorities Committee at City Hall.

"I would like to congratulate our Parks staff for their commitment to children and families," said Mayor Fortin. "Beacon Hill Park is the crown jewel in our parks system, providing families with an affordable range of activities and beautiful park space to enjoy."

Over the last six weeks, awards organizers have been collecting nominations online, encouraging parents to vote for their "favourites" in a variety of categories – Favourite Park being one of them. Eleven awards were presented, including such categories as favourite free service, retail store, restaurant, and café.

The park's amenities include two playgrounds, a water play park, petting zoo, putting green, cricket patch, and lawn bowling area. It's the perfect spot for a family picnic, and from May to September each year, families can enjoy a variety of free outdoor concerts at the Cameron Bandshell.

Beacon Hill Park's natural areas and trails, Victorian era landscaping, and breathtaking views of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, make it a destination for residents and visitors to the Capital City.

Success By 6 is an Early Childhood Development initiative that began in Minneapolis in 1988 under the leadership of their local United Way. In the early 1990's, Edmonton's United Way started the first Success By 6 in Canada and the United Way of the Lower Mainland started the first BC initiative in 1998. Success By 6 can now be found in over 350 communities in Canada and the United States. For more information, visit www.successby6victoria.ca

PLAY Victoria is a one stop resource for information and support for early childhood development initiatives in our community. For more information, visit: www.playvictoria.org

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For More Information:

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