



## Victoria Takes Part in *Park(ing) Day*

Date: Tuesday, September 14, 2010

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC — For the first time, the City of Victoria will participate in a worldwide movement called *Park(ing) Day* on Friday, September 17, 2010.

The idea of *Park(ing) Day* is to encourage citizens to create temporary parks and open spaces out of downtown parking spots and to challenge people to rethink the way space is used in the urban core. The movement is referred to as “user-generated urbanism” and is a reminder that cities are for people, not just transportation.

The annual event began in 2005 in San Francisco, when Rebar, a San Francisco-based art and design studio, converted a single metered parking space into a temporary park.

A typical parking space is only six metres in length, by two and a half metres in width, but the possibilities are vast. Innovative uses of parking spaces in other cities over the years have included installing temporary turf and flowers, holding picnics, yoga classes, *Shakespeare in the Park (ing) Spot*, random acts of kindness, as well as Scrabble, croquet, and chess tournaments.

The City will issue a limited number of permits for *Park(ing) Day* spaces for this Friday, and certain guidelines and safety precautions must be followed.

To apply for a permit, contact Allison Ashcroft at 250.361.0366 or [aashcroft@victoria.ca](mailto:aashcroft@victoria.ca) by 4 p.m. on Wednesday, September 15. For more information about the worldwide *Park(ing) Day* movement, visit <http://parkingday.org/>. A local web page has been established where photos, videos, and blogs will be posted of Victoria’s *Park(ing) Day* at <http://my.parkingday.org/group/parkingdayvictoria>.

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### For More Information:

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