



## City of Victoria Urinal Wins International Downtown Award

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For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC — During its annual conference held this past weekend, the International Downtown Association recognized the City of Victoria with a *Downtown Pinnacle Award* for its work in designing an innovative solution to a common urban issue. The custom designed urinal at the corner of Pandora Avenue and Government Street, was introduced in September 2009 to reduce urination in public spaces, especially after late night bar closings on the weekends.

“The City of Victoria, like many urban cities across North America, has wrestled with this problem for years,” says Councillor Charlayne Thornton-Joe. “The urinal has had a very favourable reception in the City, and we’re delighted to have been recognized with a prestigious Pinnacle Award from the International Downtown Association.”

The sweeping curved green urinal is a model for additional facilities planned for the downtown core in the coming months. The urinal incorporates a number of “green” features, including utilizing low flow technology, and low voltage interior LED lighting. The lights in the steel frame are controlled by a photo cell and only come on after dark. The urinal was designed to take a variety of needs into consideration. The height was set in between the standard heights for an adult and children’s urinal, which is expected to accommodate all adults and most children. This new urinal will also provide increased washroom access 24 hours a day, meeting a variety of needs including daytime washroom options for downtown visitors. The washroom design adds visual interest to the streetscape and is resistant to vandalism and undesirable use.

The Washington, DC based International Downtown Association champions vital and livable urban centres. Of 75 entries received, and 10 awards presented, Victoria’s downtown urinal was singled out to be the first award to be handed out at the ceremony in Fort Worth, Texas.

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**For More Information:**

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