Victoria Celebrates National Poetry Month in April

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VICTORIA, BC — To celebrate National Poetry Month in April, City of Victoria Poet Laureate Linda Rogers has an inspiring line-up of activities planned to showcase poetry in the Capital City.

Launch of National Poetry Month – To launch National Poetry Month, students from South Park Elementary will be joined by the Mayor to make poems in the form of chalk art in Centennial Square on April 1, 2011 at 11 a.m. Young students will make chalk drawings at the Watering Can.

Storefront Poetry Displays – Starting April 1, local poets will write poems about downtown businesses, which in return, will create window displays showcasing the poems. Downtown businesses will also be encouraged to use the poems in their advertising. The best dressed windows and poems will win “On the Town” awards on Saturday, April 23 at 7 p.m. at The Well at 821 Fort Street. The event is sponsored by the Downtown Victoria Business Association.

A Book of Wedding Poems – Poetry written by Victoria school children celebrating the marriage of Prince William and Kate Middleton, will be sent to the Prince and future Princess in time for their April wedding. The original poems will be on display at the Greater Victoria Public Library on Saturday, April 23 and Sunday, April 24.

Inaugural Celebration of Victoria Poetry Day – Local poets will be conducting poetry readings and making chalk sidewalk poems to celebrate Poetry Day on Friday, April 22 at 7:30 p.m. at the Mocha House, located at 1633 Hillside Avenue. The event will include an open microphone.

Victoria Poetry Day at the Greater Victoria Public Library – This family friendly celebration will include performances by the VIVA Children’s Choir and children’s poetry readings. Poems will be on display in the shape of kites in the library courtyard on Saturday, April 23, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

National Poetry Month is a celebration of poetry, introduced in 1996 by the Academy of American Poets as a way to increase awareness and appreciation of poetry in the United States. It has been celebrated in Canada every April since 1999.

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Please consider this announcement for your community calendar or events listings.

For More Information:
Katie Josephson Linda Rogers
Director of Corporate Communications City of Victoria Poet Laureate
Office: 250.361.0210 Cellular: 250.217.8343 250.386.8066