Renewal of Cridge Park Celebration

Date: Thursday, April 7, 2011

VICTORIA, BC — Tomorrow morning, Mayor Dean Fortin will be joined by Audrey Cridge Finch, the oldest living descendant of philanthropist Bishop Edward Cridge, and her great grandson Logan O’Brien, to celebrate the renewal of Cridge Park and its historical significance in Victoria.

Cridge Park provides a half hectare of valuable green space in downtown Victoria consisting of a lawn bowling green and treed area. Located at the corner of Belleville and Blanshard Streets, the park was named after Victoria philanthropist Bishop Edward Cridge for his work in the community during the mid to late 1800s.

Last year, the City of Victoria improved Cridge Park to better meet the needs of the community. The City preserved the existing large trees; installed new lighting and a paved path through the park; created a new plaza area with bench seating; planted native ferns and created a natural play area; and installed a wrought iron picket style fence around the perimeter of the park.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY:
The media and the community are invited to attend the gathering which will include the unveiling of four, historical, interpretive plaques and the planting of a ceremonial tree. A reception featuring a celebratory cake-cutting will follow at the Church of Our Lord.

What: Cridge Park Renewal Celebration
When: Friday, April 8, 2011, from 11:15 a.m. - noon
Where: Cridge Park, 720 Belleville Street

Parking is available on-street and at the pay parking lot off Belleville Street. The event will occur rain or shine. Children from the Church of Our Lord daycare will also be in attendance.

The interpretive plaques will commemorate the park’s history and Bishop Cridge’s contribution to Victoria. The plaques have been developed in partnership between the City of Victoria, the Canadian Pacific Lawn Bowling Club, the Church of Our Lord, and the Cridge Park Rescue Group.

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