Jane’s Walk – Exploring Neighbourhoods, Meeting Neighbours

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VICTORIA, BC — During the first weekend of May, people around the world will take to the streets to mark the 5th Annual Jane’s Walk – free walking tours led by locals to inspire citizens to explore their neighbourhoods, meet their neighbours, and talk about what matters to them where they live and work.

Join us for four inaugural Jane’s Walks in Victoria. The walks are free, open to all ages, and will take place rain or shine. Registration is not required.

**Whosaykum to Ogden Point: James Bay Secrets**  
**Saturday, May 7, 2011, from 10 a.m. – noon**  
**James Bay**  
Join Valentin Shaefer, a local biologist, to discover the incredible history, marine/wildlife and community of James Bay. On this two-hour stroll, watch for seals at Fisherman’s Wharf, discover Victoria’s Inner Harbour, learn about First Nations’ management of the Whosaykum area, pay homage to Emily Carr’s birthplace, and explore marine life visible from the Ogden Point breakwater. Participants are to meet at the Fisherman's Wharf sign at St. Lawrence and Michigan Streets. For more information, call: 250.472.4387.

**Beacon Hill Park: Then, Now, and the Future**  
**Saturday, May 7, 2011, from 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.**  
**Beacon Hill Park**  
Join City Parks employee Fred Hook and Victoria resident Cornelia Lange for a one-hour stroll through Beacon Hill Park to learn how this jewel in Victoria’s parks system was used in the past by First Nations and early settlers. Discuss how it is presently used by residents and visitors – and the way its use may evolve in the future. Participants are to meet at the Beacon Hill Park Petting Zoo notice board. For more information, call: 250.361.0705.

**Jane’s Walk: Bench by Bench**  
**Sunday, May 8, 2011, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**  
**Downtown Victoria**  
Join Rebecca Kennel, author of the Victoria guidebook Victoria - Bench by Bench, for a stroll to discuss how public spaces can be designed to encourage interaction with others and help build a sense of community. This walk looks at specific places from downtown Victoria out to Fisherman’s Wharf or Ogden Point, depending on the weather and the group’s preference. Participants are to meet at the courtyard on the south side of the Victoria Conference Centre at 720 Douglas Street, next to the bus depot. For more information, call: 250.508.2554.
“Eyes on the Street” in Quadra Village
Sunday, May 8, 2011, from 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Quadra Village
Join Jon Munn, a local planner and member of the Planning Institute of BC, for a Sunday afternoon stroll through Quadra Village. Jane Jacobs was all about “eyes on the street.” Participants are invited to share their favourite places and neighbourhood ideas. Check out the Quadra Village revival, its multi-ethnic restaurants, and discuss the future of Victoria’s last neighbourhood movie theatre. Participants are to meet in front of Caffe Fantastico at 965 Kings Road. For more information, call: 250.889.7927.

Since its inception in Toronto in 2007, Jane’s Walk has expanded rapidly. In 2011, Jane’s Walks will stroll through more than 30 cities across Canada and more than 70 cities worldwide in celebration of Jane Jacobs’s birthday (May 4). In total, more than 12,000 walkers will take part in over 500 tours led by passionate and friendly locals who want to share their inside tips on great places to walk, hang out, shop, eat and explore in their own neighbourhoods. For more information, visit: www.janeswalk.net

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

For More Information:
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