VICTORIA, BC — PARK(ing) Day is an annual, global initiative that encourages citizens to create temporary parks and open spaces out of downtown parking spots — challenging us to rethink how we use space in the urban core. For the second consecutive year, the City of Victoria is participating in the worldwide initiative and invites you to Shape Your Space for PARK(ing) Day on Friday, September 16, 2011.

Individuals and community groups can apply for one of the 20 permits available to create a temporary park or public space at a designated, on-street parking spot downtown. Previous innovative uses of parking spaces have included installing temporary turf and flowers, holding picnics, yoga classes, lawn bowling, Shakespeare in the PARK(ing) Lot, random acts of kindness, as well as Scrabble, croquet, and chess tournaments.

PARK(ing) Day is intended to promote creativity, civic engagement, critical thinking, social interactions, generosity and play. This non-commercial event also provides an opportunity to raise awareness on what individuals can do to lower their carbon footprint.

PARK(ing) Day 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. For more information about the worldwide PARK(ing) Day movement, visit www.ParkingDay.org

To apply for a PARK(ing) Day permit, call 250.361.0257 or email parkingservices@victoria.ca by 4 p.m. on August 26, 2011. For more information, visit: www.victoria.ca and click on What’s New?

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

For More Information:

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