Downtown Gets a New Loo

VICTORIA, BC – Today, City crews began the installation of a new public washroom on Langley Street near Bastion Square. The new “Langley Street Loo” is expected to be in operation and open to the public by this afternoon.

The new, permanent structure will be open 24 hours per day and replaces the temporary urinal that previously existed on weekend nights at the same location. While the City’s portable urinals have been found effective in reducing the level of public urination downtown, the permanent facility is expected to be more cost effective over the long term and provide greater accessibility to all users 24 hours per day.

The ready-made stainless steel facility was purchased from the City of Portland for $90,000. It features solar powered lighting, a unisex toilet, exterior hand washing station and graffiti proof coating. Portland has installed four of these washrooms in their downtown over the past two years. The success of the washrooms has been attributed to their unique and open design.

The Langley Street Loo will be cleaned four times a day and as needed. If the new loo proves to be successful, the City could consider adding more washrooms downtown at different locations in the years ahead.

The City’s permanent, freestanding urinal located at Government Street and Pandora Avenue has proven to be successful in terms of safety and cleanliness since it was install in 2009. Last year the City was recognized by the International Downtown Association with a Downtown Pinnacle Award for its work in designing an innovative solution to a common urban issue.

For More Information:
Katie Josephson
Director, Corporate Communications
Tel: 250.361.0210
Cell: 250.217.8343