Media Release

10 Electric Vehicle Charging Stations to Spark Change This Spring

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VICTORIA, BC — This spring 10 new electric vehicle charging stations will be popping up around town, with support from the Province’s Community Charging Infrastructure Fund (CCIF).

The “Level 2” charging stations will be able to fully recharge an electric car battery within three to eight hours. Seven charging stations will be available for public use and three will be for charging the City of Victoria’s fleet.

“This is really all about making sustainable transportation options easier for residents, businesses and visitors to Victoria,” said Mayor Dean Fortin. “We’re excited to be partnering with the Province to create the infrastructure needed to make electric cars more viable in our capital city.”

The seven public charging stations will be located in City of Victoria parkades. The Centennial Square, Johnson Street, and Bastion Square parkades will each be home to one charging station and the View Street and Broughton Street parkades will have two each. To use a charging station, visitors to the parkade will drive their vehicle in and plug in. The cost to park and charge your vehicle in the parkade will be the same as the normal hourly parking rate.

The three charging stations for the City fleet will be located at the Parks Maintenance Office and Yard, the Public Works Yard and at City Hall within the Centennial Square parkade. The City of Victoria currently has electric ‘gators’ for hauling and digging within the Parks division. This year the City is tendering for two electric work trucks for Parks, and next year other electric vehicles are planned to replace passenger vehicles that are at the end of their life. In addition, small electric trucks will replace or supplement other small vehicles.

This funding is part of the Province’s $2.74 million Community Charging Infrastructure Fund (CCIF) that will lead to 570 public charging stations across BC by March 31, 2013. This fund is being managed by the non-profit Fraser Basin Council. The incentives cover up to 75% of the capital and installation costs up to a maximum of $4,000 per charging point and are focused at level 2 AC chargers.

In an effort to reduce emissions from the City fleet, the City is also replacing some larger diesel vehicles with natural gas vehicles, beginning with the new garbage packers and the water mains flushing truck. Switching to natural gas fuelled larger vehicles is a good fit as they are more fuel efficient, produce fewer greenhouse gases, and have a significantly longer engine life.

For more information visit: www.victoria.ca/climateaction

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