



Victoria Wins Bid to Host Tree Canada's *2014 Canadian Urban Forest Conference*

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For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC — The City of Gardens will soon be known as a “City of Trees”. The City of Victoria has won the bid to host Tree Canada’s 11th *Canadian Urban Forest Conference (CUFC11)* in 2014. City Parks staff submitted a proposal to host a regional conference in collaboration with the District of Saanich, the District of Oak Bay, the Capital Regional District, the University of Victoria, and a number of private sector arboriculture and urban forestry professionals.

“We are excited to have the opportunity to work with our Capital Region partners to host the *2014 Canadian Urban Forest Conference*,” said Victoria Mayor Dean Fortin. “The event is expected to draw delegates from across Canada and the Pacific Northwest, and is a great opportunity to showcase the Region’s leading urban forest practices and our wonderful community.”

The City of Victoria’s bid named the Victoria Conference Centre as the venue and highlighted the Capital Region’s leadership in the emerging field of urban forestry, which includes tree protection bylaws, urban forest master plans, street tree plantings, and tree inventories and mapping. Greater Victoria’s unique climate supports an equally unique forest – dry and warm in the summer months and moderate and wet in the winter – which will also be of interest to delegates.

A number of the Region’s parks and gardens will be showcased, such as historic Beacon Hill Park, Uplands Park, Mount Doug Park, and Butchart Gardens.

Held every two years, the *Canadian Urban Forest Conference* draws dynamic speakers from across North America, presenting a diverse range of urban forest topics of interest to urban forest professionals as well as community based experts. 2014 conference topics may include best practices of tree protection and urban development, heritage tree protection, street tree care, and urban tree mapping.

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