



Victoria Marks Small Business Week October 17 to 21

Date: Monday October 17, 2016

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC – Small Business Week starts today and the City of Victoria is marking the occasion by sponsoring two events this fall aimed at growing and retaining small business in the city.

The City of Victoria recognizes that small business is a major driver of the economy and comprises over 75% of the city's local economy.

The City opened the Business Hub in December 2015, designed to assist individuals with launching or expanding businesses by streamlining processes at City Hall, advising on how to reduce unnecessary red tape and connecting entrepreneurs with helpful resources. The Business Hub has already assisted a number of small businesses to open in the City of Victoria and was recently recognized by the Province's Small Business Roundtable and was awarded the *Open for Business Award, Coastal Region*, from the Ministry of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction. Of over 175 businesses helped at City Hall the majority of the inquiries are from business owners in the food services and home based sectors.

The Business Hub also offers information and support through events and outreach in order to educate the business community about available resources. Upcoming events include:

- “Inspiring Entrepreneurship” Forum, October 28 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. in partnership with The Young Entrepreneurs Society being held at the Victoria Marriott (728 Humboldt Street)
- “Futurpreneur” business planning workshop, November 8 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at CityStudio located (742 Johnson Street)

The Business Hub works with a number of business partners including the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce, the Downtown Victoria Business Association, and the Province through Small Business BC to address issues and improve processes for small business. The Business Hub is open daily from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at City Hall. For more information visit www.victoria.ca/business.

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For More Information:

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