



# Winners Announced for Pop-Up @ the Square Design Competition

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For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC — Grab your binoculars! A pod of life-sized orca replicas will be popping-up in Centennial Square this summer.

Earlier this year urban designers, industrial designers, architects, landscape architects, contemporary artists and other creative types were invited to submit concepts for a pop-up play feature in Centennial Square.

Selected from 33 submissions, ranging from design concepts from a local secondary school to as far afield as Indonesia, Mexico and Poland, the jury selected 'Follow the Pod' as the overall winner of the Pop Up @ the Square Design Competition.

The 'Follow the Pod' play structure aims to raise awareness of the threatened Southern Resident Killer Whale population by allowing visitors to play and interact with the life-sized sculptures.

The winning design was submitted by a Vancouver Island-based team led by WildVision Edutainment Inc. and Envision Designs and Development. "We're excited to have the City of Victoria embrace our design submission for the Pop-Up @ the Square Competition," said Chris Porter of the 'Follow the Pod' team. "Our all Vancouver Island team of creators, designers, fabricators and installers look forward to honouring the Southern Resident Killer Whales in their whale-sized beauty to be enjoyed by all."

The winning team will receive a \$5,000 award, and up to \$50,000 for the design, construction and installation. 'Follow the Pod' will be installed in Centennial Square in early July.

Complete list of winners:

Overall Winner: 'Follow the Pod' (WildVision Edutainment and Envision Designs and Development)

People's Choice Award Winner (\$1,000 cash prize): 'Game Plan' (Waymark Architecture)

Honourable Mention: 'Under the table and dreaming' (Cascadia Architects Inc.)

Honourable Mention: 'Spindle Whorl Playscape' (Yiwen Ruan and Bo Lu)

Recognizing there are currently few play opportunities for families with children living in the downtown core, the City is excited to team up with the Downtown Victoria Business Association in seeking innovative and creative solutions to integrate opportunities for play into the everyday fabric of the downtown public realm.

For more information: [victoria.ca/popupsquare](http://victoria.ca/popupsquare)

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