



Learn More About New Library to Open in James Bay at November 4 Open House

Date: Thursday, November 2, 2017

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC — Want to know more about the new library that's set to open in James Bay early next year? The public is invited to drop by an Open House on Saturday, November 4 from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Central Library's Community Room at 735 Broughton Street to learn more, view displays, and speak with Library and City staff. Refreshments will be provided.

MEDIA OPPORTUNITY:

Mayor Lisa Helps and Greater Victoria Public Library CEO Maureen Sawa will be available for interviews from 11 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

WHAT: Open House: New Library to Open in James Bay
WHEN: Saturday, November 4 from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
WHERE: Greater Victoria Public Library, Central Branch, Community Room, 735 Broughton Street

Located on the corner of Menzies and Superior Streets, the new neighbourhood branch is a partnership of the City of Victoria and the Greater Victoria Public Library system. The City is providing \$1.5 million in capital funding for the new branch, which is situated in the first phase of the new Capital Park residential and commercial development.

In late 2015, the Greater Victoria Public Library surveyed the public about the features and location of a library in James Bay. The Open House will be an opportunity to thank the community for their input and showcase what's in store for the new neighbourhood branch.

Modern in design with abundant natural light and views of the iconic Legislature building, the 7,150 square-foot branch will feature:

- Wi-Fi enabled outdoor reading space within the Capital Park courtyard and greenspace
- Community living room space and public computers
- Family-friendly children's area
- Teen area and two bookable study rooms
- Separate, bookable community meeting room with seating for up to 60 people, available after hours
- Laptop bar and mobile charging station
- Varied seating options including lounge reading chairs, bistro seating, high tables and chairs
- Flexible mobile shelving to adapt to community needs
- Automated Materials Handling (AMH) technology for immediate check-in of library returns 24/7

The new branch fulfills the Library Board's mission to build community and support lifelong learning by providing free access to information, space, tools and expertise. The new facility will provide the public access to all resources in the Greater Victoria Public Library system, including Lynda.com video tutorials and Hoopla digital movies, music, audiobooks and TV shows.

The new branch in James Bay will be the second in Victoria and the 12th in the Greater Victoria Public Library system. Learn more at gvpl.ca.

Help Name That Library! Campaign

The City of Victoria invites Greater Victoria citizens of all ages to help name the new library. By way of an online survey or email, the public can support the geographical name "James Bay Branch" or submit their own suggestion for a suitable name along with a short rationale. Names could be based on a local person or historical figure, a landmark, or an idea inspired by the James Bay neighbourhood or Victoria. The deadline to participate is **midnight on Sunday, November 19, 2017**. This is **not a vote or contest**. Suggested names and rationales will be submitted to City Council for consideration. The name of the new library will be announced in December. For more information visit: victoria.ca/NameThatLibrary.

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