



22 Community Activity and Placemaking Projects Receive My Great Neighbourhood Grants

Date: Friday, January 18, 2019

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC — Twenty-two community placemaking projects or activities will come to life this year thanks to \$63,700 in matching funding from the fall intake of the City of Victoria’s My Great Neighbourhood Grants. All ideas have been designed to bring neighbours together and to create inviting, vibrant places for people to connect. The City has now distributed over 100 My Great Neighbourhood Grants.

Examples of placemaking projects receiving funding include: an outdoor living room, pocket plaza, food forest enhancements, a solar power system, pollinator garden and community tool shed. Neighbourhood activities include: a Chinese New Year Street Festival, Sofa Surprise event, Bicycle Music Festival, Christmas Carols and Light-up and Good Neighbour Festival.

“It’s incredibly exciting to have a fully-subscribed My Great Neighbourhood Grant program and to have now funded over 100 neighbourhood projects,” said Victoria Mayor Lisa Helps. “These grants are all about empowering residents to create unique, often playful places in their community and to host events that bring neighbours together. There is great value in the social capital that comes from these investments in our community.”

My Great Neighbourhood Grants were developed to support strong, connected neighbourhoods through funding for projects and activities that would empower residents to shape their local area. The City provides up to \$5,000 for placemaking projects and up to \$1,000 for activities, matching equivalent contributions (including volunteer time and in-kind donations) from applicants.

2018 was the first year that this grant program has been fully subscribed, with a total of \$120,000 in grants being distributed, with 21 projects approved for \$56,300 this spring. Since 2016, \$329,681 in *My Great Neighbourhood Grant* funding has been distributed to 101 community-based projects.

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

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For More Information:

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Backgrounder

Here is a list of the 2018 Fall My Great Neighbourhood Grant Recipients:

Placemaking Grants

| Name of Project | Applicant/Sponsor | Grant |
|--|--|--------------|
| Cecelia Ravine Community Garden | Burnside Gorge Community Association | \$ 1,800 |
| Urban Learning Garden Outdoor Livingroom | FED Restaurant Society | \$ 5,000 |
| The MAKE/SPACE mural project | Open Space Gallery | \$ 3,718 |
| Humboldt Pocket Plaza | Greater Victoria Placemaking Network | \$ 5,000 |
| Yates St Garden Phase 3 | Downtown Residents Association | \$ 3,594 |
| Fairfield Unity Panels | Fairfield United Church | \$ 5,000 |
| Creating Community on Cornwall Street | Fairfield Gonzales Community Association | \$ 3,500 |
| Fairfield Food Forest Enhancements | Fairfield Gonzales Community Association | \$ 5,000 |
| Olive St Common | Fairfield Gonzales Community Association | \$ 5,000 |
| Grant Street gardens | Fernwood Neighbourhood Resource Group | \$ 1,133 |
| Solar Power at Compost Education Centre | Compost Education Centre | \$ 2,000 |
| Quadra Village Pollinator Garden | Pollinator Partnership Canada | \$ 4,975 |
| Pilot St Community Tool Shed | BC Healthy Communities | \$ 5,000 |
| Selfhood | Greater Victoria Art Gallery | \$ 5,000 |

Activity Grants

| Name of Project | Applicant/Sponsor | Grant |
|---|--|--------------|
| Creating Connections Gorge Rd | Burnside Gorge Community Association | \$1,000 |
| Chinese New Year Street Festival | Chinese Community Services | \$1,000 |
| Sofa Surprise | Greater Victoria Placemaking Network | \$1,000 |
| Fairfield Bicycle Music Festival | Fairfield Gonzales Community Association | \$1,000 |
| Christmas Carols and Lightup in Fernwood Square | Fernwood Community Association | \$980 |
| James Bay Good Neighbour Festival | James Bay Neighbourhood Association and James Bay New Horizons | \$1,000 |
| Emerson St Community Building | Silver Threads | \$1,000 |
| VW Logo Redesign Community Project | Vic West Community Association | \$1,000 |