



## Victoria Launches New Civic Leadership Course

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For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC – The City of Victoria is supporting residents that want to foster vibrant and engaged neighbourhoods with the launch of its *Local Champions* program. The *Local Champions* program will support residents to become diverse, active civic leaders in our community.

Starting in February 2020, the City's Neighbourhoods Team, in partnership with Building Resilient Neighbourhoods, will launch this community-based leadership development program. The program is aimed at people who want to emerge as civic leaders in their own neighbourhoods and beyond.

*Local Champions* will offer residents the skill set to become self-starters, giving them the ability and confidence to act as project leaders for a variety of community-based initiatives.

By developing their leadership capacity through a series of interactive workshops, *Local Champions* will gain the foundational skills necessary to become "connectors" who foster social capital and opportunities in their neighbourhoods, and engage more fully in community civic life through volunteering or participation in local initiatives or associations.

The program consists of six sessions starting February 1, 2020. The program fee is \$150, and a limited number of full scholarships from supporting community-based agencies are available, including childcare and transportation subsidies.

Upon completion, students will be recognized as "Local Champions" by the City of Victoria and have a strong knowledge of local governance and community development.

Residents of Victoria can apply online and the deadline for applications is December 13. Space is limited.

For more information visit: [victoria.ca/neighbourhoods](https://victoria.ca/neighbourhoods).

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