



## Community Virtuals: An Invitation to Help Build Community

**Date:** Thursday, November 12, 2020

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC — During a challenging time when many residents are feeling isolated, the City of Victoria's My Great Neighbourhood team is inviting people to connect online in a newly created *Community Virtuals* series of Lunch and Learns.

Topics will focus on building strong, resilient neighbourhoods, including personal connections within communities. The series will kick off with a community panel on the importance of trees to our physical and emotional health and how to expand our urban forest. In December, a time when loneliness can be extra challenging, the Neighbourhood Team will host a screening and discussion of "*The Great Disconnect*", a documentary about the importance of neighbourhood connections.

The series will continue next year with a session on Engaging your Neighbours, and others on Placemaking, Food in the City and the Power of Community Art.

"We're excited about hosting community online dialogues to connect people with their neighbours and to provide them with ideas and funding to bring creative, often playful projects to life at a time when they are very much needed," said Kerri Moore, Head of Business and Community Relations.

### **Online Event Details:**

#### **Trees in the City Panel - Wednesday, November 18, noon - 1 p.m.**

This community panel will explore how residents and communities can get involved with the Trees in Cities Challenge, explore City guides to choose the best tree for your property, learn about community food tree initiatives and harvesting opportunities in the community.

#### **"The Great Disconnect" Documentary and Discussion - Wednesday, December 9, noon - 1:30 p.m.**

Learn about the health and social impacts of loneliness and the value of neighbourhood connections. Followed by a Q&A with the director, Ottawa's Tamer Soliman and Victoria's Dr. Trevor Hancock who is featured in the film.

**Register for free tickets:** [victoria.ca/neighbourhoods](https://victoria.ca/neighbourhoods)

**For more information:** [neighbourhoods@victoria.ca](mailto:neighbourhoods@victoria.ca)

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