

Tuesday, June 28, 2022 | For Immediate Release

## What You Need to Know for Victoria's Multicultural Canada Day

VICTORIA, BC — Presented by Central Walk, Victoria's Canada Day will showcase an impressive, free, day-long lineup of local and award-winning Indigenous and multicultural performances along with family-friendly activities. The celebrations for Canada's 157th birthday will take place at Ship Point on Friday, July 1 and will culminate with a fireworks finale.

This year's Canada Day festivities include a Multicultural Street Market filled with artisans, a Kid's Zone and the Flavours of the World Food Court featuring the best of Victoria's food truck scene. For the complete schedule of events: [canadadayvictoria.ca](https://canadadayvictoria.ca).

"This is the first time since the pandemic that residents and visitors will come together for Canada Day in our capital city," said Mayor Lisa Helps. "We are working hard to create an event that honours the Lekwungen people and their lands and culture and to offer a fun, family-friendly and inclusive event that reflects the diversity of our community and our country. We look forward to seeing everyone at Ship Point."

### **The Location – Ship Point**

Victoria's Canada Day 2022 takes place entirely at Ship Point on the Inner Harbour. This open-air venue is located on Wharf Street between Broughton and Humboldt Streets and can be accessed from the Inner Harbour walkway or from Wharf Street.

### **Victoria Real Estate Board Main Stage**

The Victoria Real Estate Board (VREB) is sponsoring this year's Main Stage, headlined by local favourite, blues musician Jesse Roper. Known for his energetic and animated performance style, Roper will entertain the crowd just before the fireworks begin over the Inner Harbour.

The day begins with an Indigenous traditional canoe protocol with the canoes crossing the harbour to arrive at approximately 11:30 a.m. at Protocol Corner, located on the Inner Harbour lower causeway at Belleville and Government Streets. Activities at the VREB Main Stage at Ship Point begin at noon with a Welcome Ceremony and a performance by the Lekwungen Traditional Dancers.

An eclectic mix of Canadian and local acts forms the VREB Main Stage showcase, featuring Indigenous blues artist Garret T. Willie, award-winning finger-style guitarist Don Alder, Capital City Syncopators, Claire Coupland, Pablo Cardenas & the West Coast Cuban All-Stars, Vox Rea and Marafani World Beat. La Société Francophone de Victoria has sponsored the performance of award-winning, Montréal-based singer-songwriter Joyce N'sana, known as the voice of Afrobluehop.

Other highlights include the Victoria Children's Choir and the Wong Sheung Kung Fu Club Chinese Lion Dancers. In support and recognition of Ukraine, the day also features performances by the Veselka Ukrainian Dancers and the Kalyna Ukrainian Choir.

## **Kid's Zone**

Kid's Zone Family festivities run from noon until dusk in the Kid's Zone and include a bouncy castle, obstacle course, face painting and glitter tattoos. From 1:30-2 p.m., Tickles and Yowza the clowns will perform. Kids can explore a collection of preserved bugs from the Victoria Bug Zoo and learn about the importance of arthropods with fun bug games and prizes. Kids can also create nature-inspired art with the Bateman Foundation.

## **Multicultural Street Market**

The Multicultural Street Market features over 20 local artisans selling unique, handmade products, including a henna station and a community group fundraising for projects in Africa.

## **Flavours of the World Food Court**

For the best of the Victoria food truck scene visit the Flavours of the World Food Court. Travel your way around the continents with Mama Rosie's authentic Filipino cuisine, Greek on the Street, Taco Revolution with Mexican street tacos, Yummy Food Truck with Mediterranean and East African cuisine, Bombay Bites with East Indian cuisine, Sunset Island Hawaiian shaved ice, Hungry Bubba's Indigenous food truck and much more.

## **Fireworks presented by Reliance Properties at 10:20 p.m.**

Victoria's Canada Day celebration ends with a spectacular fireworks display over Victoria's Inner Harbour. Music featuring Indigenous recording artists will be mixed by The Zone at 91.3's DJ Boitano to accompany the fireworks.

## **Additional Activations**

Presenting Sponsor Central Walk is giving away \$25,000 in gift cards to those who stop by their Canada Day booth. The gift cards are redeemable at a special event they are hosting at Mayfair Mall on July 2. They are also hosting a 360-degree video booth where event attendees can capture the moment and share it with family and friends online.

## **A Zero Waste Celebration**

All food and beverages at Canada Day are served in biodegradable and recyclable containers and there are zero waste stations. A volunteer Green Team, led by the Downtown Victoria Business Association, supports recycling efforts. Attendees are encouraged to bring reusable water bottles that can be filled at a water station on site.

## **An Event for Everyone**

Accessibility features at Ship Point:

- An accessible drop-off zone located on the west side of Wharf Street between Broughton and Courtenay Streets. Drop-offs can also be made by using the Harbour Air entrance ramp located off Wharf at Broughton.
- Priority accessible parking spaces are available in the 500 block of Broughton Street. Accessible parking spaces will be signed.
- There is wheelchair access to all areas within the Canada Day site.
- A designated accessible priority seating area is located near the VREB Main Stage.
- American Sign Language interpretation is available for the canoe protocol and the Welcome Ceremony.
- Accessible washrooms are available at the Lower Causeway side of the Destination Greater Victoria Visitor Centre (812 Wharf Street) adjacent to Milestones. Additional accessible portable washrooms are located close to food trucks and the main stage area.
- Volunteers are available to offer assistance as needed. Assistance can be requested at the Information Booth located at the bottom of the south ramp or from roaming volunteers.

View the site map attachment for more details.

## **How to Get There**

With large crowds expected, people are encouraged to walk, cycle or take public transit to the event. To encourage people to bike to the event, Capital Bike is hosting free valet parking available at Customs House (888 Government Street, across from the Destination Greater Victoria Visitor Centre.) For those who choose to drive, parking will be free at the City's five parkades and at on-street meters on Friday, July 1.

Transit will run on a Sunday schedule on July 1. Additional buses will be available to assist customers departing from downtown after the fireworks. Some buses will run later with the last buses leaving downtown Victoria between 1:15-1:30 a.m. For service details, visit [bctransit.com/Victoria](http://bctransit.com/Victoria).

Transit customers are reminded they can ride all day by purchasing a \$5 DayPASS, which is only available on buses, and children 12 and under ride free.

As in previous years, alcohol will not be permitted on board BC Transit buses in the Capital Region, including alcohol in closed containers. The Victoria Police Department will be supporting BC Transit to ensure public safety.

"BC Transit is ready to welcome riders on board and ensure everyone can get to the Canada Day festivities safely," said Erinn Pinkerton, BC Transit President and Chief Executive Officer. "We're proud to support the local communities and police forces and thank customers in advance for behaving responsibly while on board."

## **A Safe, Family-Friendly Event**

VicPD officers and volunteer Reserve Constables will be greeting the public and ensuring Canada's 157th celebration is a family-friendly event.

"We're looking forward to a safe, fun, family-friendly Canada Day event at Ship Point this year," said Chief Constable Del Manak. "VicPD officers and volunteer Reserve Constables will be out early wearing their high-visibility vests to meet and greet people coming down to celebrate."

VicPD has deployed temporary, monitored CCTV cameras in support of operations to ensure public safety during Victoria's Canada Day. The cameras will be taken down following the event.

## **Road Closures**

Road closures will be in effect and traffic will be impacted throughout the area during the day. The public is encouraged to head downtown early as road closures around the Inner Harbour will begin at 4 p.m.

Ship Point will be closed to most vehicle traffic during the day, with facilitated access for those with accessibility needs and float plane terminal passengers. Vehicle traffic to the float plane terminal will be permitted until the final flight of the day. As needed, Wharf Street will be closed later in the day between Fort and Humboldt Streets. Depending on the crowd size, Belleville and Government Streets may also be closed. Additional road closures will occur as needed to ensure public safety. VicPD will share the most up-to-date road closures on their [@VicPDCanada](https://twitter.com/VicPDCanada) Twitter account using the [#yyjtraffic](https://twitter.com/yyjtraffic) hashtag.

Victoria's Canada Day celebrations are made possible through the generous support of corporate sponsors, government and community funding partners and our dedicated volunteers.

For the complete schedule of events, venue maps and performer bios please visit [canadadayvictoria.ca](http://canadadayvictoria.ca).

**ATTACHED:** [Schedule of Events](#) and [Site Map](#)

For regular updates during Canada Day, follow [@CanadaDayVic](#) on Twitter.

**For More Information:**

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