

Tuesday, July 5, 2022 | For Immediate Release

## Upcoming Dialogue to Explore Victoria's Heritage in the Context of Reconciliation

VICTORIA, BC — The upcoming *Victoria Reconciliation Dialogue #6: Rethinking Heritage in the Context of Reconciliation* invites the community to explore together how to recognize, honour and make Lekwungen culture and land practices visible once again, and at the same time, retain and celebrate the city's colonial-built heritage.

The City of Victoria has an award-winning heritage conservation program that has retained many of the early settler buildings. As these buildings were built, however, Lekwungen heritage was systematically dismantled and erased.

This Dialogue will be guided by members of the Songhees Nation and City staff who have worked together on the Government Street Refresh project's draft concept design to enhance and refresh the streetscape between Humboldt Street and Pandora Avenue, aligned with future infrastructure upgrades.

Informed by Indigenous, community stakeholder and public input, a component of the draft concept design proposes a Lekwungen plaza and public art landmark near Humboldt Street. Presenters will share how this project can help further reconciliation by providing opportunities to tell a more complete history of this land through Lekwungen arts and culture, economic development and making the street more culturally safe and welcoming.

Victoria Reconciliation Dialogue #6 takes place on Monday, July 11 from 6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at the Victoria Conference Centre, 720 Douglas Street. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. The event is free to attend and all are welcome. The event may include storytelling, discussion and other forms of learning, and will include a Lekwungen welcome, performances by the Lekwungen Traditional Dancers and a witness ceremony at the end.

For more information and to register through Eventbrite, visit: [victoria.ca/ReconciliationDialogues](https://victoria.ca/ReconciliationDialogues).

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### For More Information:

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