

Monday, August 8, 2022 | For Immediate Release

## Topaz Skate and Bike Parks to Open with Community Celebration

VICTORIA, BC — The City of Victoria will host a community celebration to mark the opening of the new skate and bike parks in Topaz Park. The public is invited to attend the grand opening event on Saturday, August 20, featuring prizes, games and demonstrations by some of Canada's top professional riders.

"There is a lot of excitement and anticipation about this amazing new infrastructure," said Mayor Lisa Helps. "Recreational activities are critical for the health of our community and skate, scooter and bike features like these will help residents of all ages stay active. I invite everyone to join us to celebrate these new additions to Topaz Park together as a community."

The event will include tours with New Line Skateparks to introduce the various park features to the community, as well as food trucks, community booths and a live DJ.

The schedule for the day:

- 9–11 a.m. All-wheels beginner session (mentors on site)
- 11 a.m. Mayor's welcome and ribbon cutting
- Noon–1 p.m. Bike park tour and pro demos
- 1–2 p.m. Skate park tour and pro demos
- 2–4 p.m. Open jam

The new park area includes a 6,000 square metre bike park with an asphalt pump track and a 3,000 square metre all-wheels skate park with street and flow zones, and the largest skate bowl in Greater Victoria. The bike and skate parks have beginner and advanced areas for all skill levels.

The new park areas also include artwork by artist Germaine Koh in the form of interactive sculptures inspired by native plants that celebrate energy flows around the site from human movement, natural forces and urban systems.

The landscaping includes new and retained trees in the park with shared pathways, social spaces and a sustainable approach to stormwater management.

The skate and bike parks, along with the ongoing replacement and expansion of the turf sports field, are part of an initial \$10 million investment in improvements guided by the Topaz Park Improvement Plan.

Design work for the next phase of improvements to Topaz Park is planned for 2023 and will include new pickleball courts, ball diamond upgrades and an improved leash-optional dog area.

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### For More Information:

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