

Thursday, September 8, 2022 | For Immediate Release

Upcoming Dialogue Presents a Reconciliation Plan for the Future

VICTORIA, BC — At the final Victoria Reconciliation Dialogue of this term – *Nétsamaát: Going Forward Together*, members of the City Family and special guests will present actions for the City of Victoria and the community to carry on the work of reconciliation for decades to come. Participants will be asked to make a reconciliation commitment of their own.

The six key themes are:

1. Acknowledging the Lands and Waters
2. Lekwungen Language
3. Indigenization and Decolonization
4. Relationship and Leadership Agreements
5. Lekwungen Teachings
6. City Council Practices

In 2017, working with the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations, City Council established the City Family to take a Lekwungen-led approach to reconciliation. The City Family is comprised of appointees from the Nations, City Council members, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous community appointees and two City staff members.

“I want to thank the members of the City Family for hosting these community conversations and the hundreds of people who have attended each Dialogue over the years,” said Mayor Lisa Helps. “The Victoria Reconciliation Dialogues series began on September 30, 2019, and since then has provided an important learning journey for the community.”

This is the final Dialogue in the seven-part series of conversations that has created space for the community to participate in reconciliation on Lekwungen territory. Guided by members of the City Family and special guests, the conversations have provided opportunities for Indigenous and non-Indigenous people to come together to share their ideas and stories and explore how we as a community can make the culture, history and modern reality of local Indigenous Peoples become present and apparent throughout the city and understood and valued in people’s everyday lives.

Victoria Reconciliation Dialogue #7 – Nétsamaát: Going Forward Together takes place on Monday, September 12 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. Complimentary refreshments will be available as well as up to two hours of childminding. The event will include storytelling, discussion and other forms of learning, a Lekwungen welcome, performances by the Lekwungen Traditional Dancers and a witness ceremony at the end. The event will also be live streamed.

To register through Eventbrite or watch the live webcast, visit: victoria.ca/ReconciliationDialogues.

For More Information:

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