This November, Victoria will be holding a Municipal Election. General Voting Day will be held on Saturday, November 15, 2014 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. All municipalities in BC will be holding municipal elections on the same day.

This issue of Connect is dedicated to information you need about the upcoming election, including where and when to vote, what to bring, and how you can encourage your own “future voters”.

Your local government is perhaps the most accessible level of government, making decisions that affect your everyday life. From the provision of clean water, garbage collection, and emergency services to recreation classes, social planning and land development, decisions regarding City services impact nearly every part of your community.

On November 15, exercise your democratic right to vote. Your vote is your voice, so speak up!
**Where Can I Vote?**

Eligible voters can vote at any of the following locations on General Voting Day, November 15:

1. Victoria West School, 750 Front Street
2. Burnside Campus, 3330 Jutland Road
3. Quadra School, 3031 Quadra Street
4. Oaklands School, 2827 Belmont Avenue
5. Central Baptist Church, 634 Pandora Avenue
6. Victoria High School, 1260 Grant Street
7. St. Barnabas Church, 1535 Begbie Street
8. James Bay Community School, 140 Oswego Street
9. James Bay New Horizons Centre, 234 McKenzie Street
10. Cook Street Village Activity Centre, 380 Cook Street
11. Sir James Douglas School, 401 Moss Street
12. Margaret Jenkins School, 1824 Fairfield Road

**Future Voters**

Do you have a future voter in your life? Bring them with you when you vote this year! Bringing your children with you when you vote provides a great opportunity to talk about – and model – the importance of voting. Everyone under the age of 18 that brings their parents to vote on General Voting Day or any of the voting opportunities will receive a “Future Voter!” sticker to wear proudly, much like their parents will receive an “I Voted!” sticker.

All children under the age of 12 will also receive a “Future Voter!” sticker.

Make sure you bring your future voters this November, and turn them into life-long voters.

**Remember Your Voter Card**

Voter Cards will be mailed to registered voters at the end of October. Make sure you hang on to your Voter Card, as it will speed up the voting process. The voter card does not replace the requirement to provide identification.

**Election Quick Facts:**

- General Voting Day is on Saturday, November 15 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- The Province of BC has recently passed legislation that changes the length of the term elected officials serve from three years to four, beginning in 2014.
- Voters in Victoria will vote to elect:
  - 1 Mayor
  - 8 Councillors
  - 9 School Trustees (School District 61)
- Voters in Victoria will also have the opportunity to answer non-binding questions:
  - Nominate three Council candidates from the City of Victoria to the Capital Regional District Board
  - A question regarding municipal amalgamation, worded as follows: Are you in favour of reducing the number of municipalities in Greater Victoria through amalgamation?
  - If you own property in Victoria but live elsewhere in BC, you might be eligible to vote in the City of Victoria general election as a non-resident property elector. Check the website for more details.

**General Voting Day**

November 15, 2014
For More Information:
For more information on the 2014 Municipal Election visit victoria.ca/election or call Legislative Services at 250.361.0571.
For information about the School District 61 trustee election, please contact the School District office at 250.475.3212.

What do I need to bring with me to vote?
Voter Cards will be mailed to registered voters at the end of October. Make sure you hang on to your Voter Card, and bring it with you to vote as it will speed up the voting process. The voter card does not replace the requirement to provide identification.

If you are registering to vote at the Voting Place, the following are valid documents for proving voter identity. At least one document presented to prove identity must include the applicant’s signature. Please be prepared to present two of the documents noted below. Election officials may also accept other documents proving identification and residency:

- BC Driver’s Licence
- BC Identification Card
- Student card
- Photo BC services card
- Non-photo BC services card
- Owner’s Certificate of Insurance and Vehicle Licence issued by ICBC
- BC CareCard or BC Gold CareCard
- Ministry of Social Development and Economic Security Request for Continued Assistance Form SDES58
- Social Insurance Card
- Citizenship Card
- Property tax notice
- Credit card or debit card or statement
- Utility bill

For more information on providing acceptable identification visit the website at victoria.ca/election or call Legislative Services at 250.361.0571.

Counting the Ballots
City of Victoria voters mark a paper ballot that is processed through an electronic vote tabulator that counts the votes cast for each candidate in each race. Election results are generated by the electronic vote tabulators and the paper ballots are retained in the event that a recount is required.

Who can vote?
In order to be eligible to vote as a resident elector on Voting Day all of the following must apply:

- age 18 or older
- Canadian citizen
- resident of British Columbia for at least 6 months immediately before the day of registration
- resident of the City of Victoria for at least 30 days immediately before the day of registration
- not disqualified by any enactment from voting in an election or otherwise disqualified by law.

Advance Voting Opportunities
Advance voting opportunities are open to all voters. Two required advance voting opportunities will be held at Victoria City Hall, 1 Centennial Square:

- Wednesday, November 5, 2014, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Monday, November 10, 2014, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Two additional advance voting opportunities will also be held:

- Thursday, November 6, 2014, from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m., at the University of Victoria, Student Union Building (Michele Pujol Room)
- Wednesday, November 12, 2014, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., at Our Place Society, 919 Pandora Avenue.

Voting by Mail
You can request a mail ballot if you are unable to vote in person on account of:

- A physical disability, illness or injury that affects their ability to vote at another voting opportunity
- Absence from the municipality on general voting day and at the times of all advance voting opportunities

Eligible voters must apply to receive a mail ballot in advance of voting. The deadline to make application for mail ballot voting is 4 p.m. on November 13, 2014. All mail ballots must be returned to the Chief Election Officer at Victoria City Hall no later than 8 p.m. on November 15, 2014 to be counted.

Connect
The City of Victoria Connect newsletter is produced and delivered to Victoria households three times a year to inform you of the many programs and services provided by the City.
To reach us: connect@victoria.ca
City of Victoria
1 Centennial Square
Victoria, BC V8W 1P6
victoria.ca

Join us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn

Our Commitment to the Environment
Using 1.1 tonnes of Envirographic 100% PCW paper instead of virgin fibres paper reduced our ecological footprint of:

- Tree(s): 10
- Water: 3,694.5 L
- Air emissions: 731 Kg