

Connect



Hanging Baskets

Iconic baskets return to the City of Gardens

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New Library Branch

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James Bay Branch
now open

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Mark Your Calendar

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New Designs for Crystal Pool Shaped by Community Input

New all ages and abilities aquatic and wellness centre

Over the past several months, significant effort has been focused on engaging citizens, stakeholder groups, technical experts, and other partners to refine the designs for the new Crystal Pool and Wellness Centre Replacement Project. We are pleased that this process has resulted in a plan that aligns well with the needs of the community and has been completed in accordance with the project schedule. You can view the designs at: victoria.ca/poolfuture.

In February 2017, the City approved the project and since that time progress has been made on both the design and funding for the new all ages and abilities community centre. This year, the Rick Hansen Foundation joined the project team, adding valuable expertise relating to accessibility and inclusivity.

The City is also pursuing the Foundation's new Accessibility Certification for the facility, which will be the first such designation for a recreation centre in Canada.

The project team has also continued to pursue funding partnerships towards the \$69.4 million budget. In February 2018, the Union of B.C. Municipalities announced the award of \$6 million from the Federal Gas Tax Fund, and applications have been submitted for two other large grant programs. City representatives have remained in contact with representatives of both the Federal and Provincial governments, in preparation for the opening of applications for the *Investing in Canada* major infrastructure funding program, expected later this year.

Finally, staff are preparing to launch a related project in 2019 – planning the renewal of Central Park. Many residents have strong connections with the existing park amenities, and staff will work with the community to investigate options for locating new and existing elements in the park, to be installed following construction of the new facility. A temporary relocation plan is also underway for the basketball courts donated by the Steve Nash Foundation, during construction.

Victoria's new all ages and abilities community recreation centre is expected to begin the two-year construction phase in 2019.



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L TO R: IMAGE COURTESY CITY OF VICTORIA ARCHIVES
MO M00666, M07140

L to R: Emily Carr and John Vanderpant in her studio at 646 Simcoe Street, 1934, by H.U. Knight;
Empire Day celebrations at Beacon Hill Park, 1923

Victoria's History Comes Alive with Archives Online Search

Dig into the stories that form the collective history of our city through the new [City of Victoria Archives Online](#), a searchable database containing more than 10,000 digitized archival photos and records.

These stories are now easier to find and access, and include:

- A collection of photos from H.U. Knight including candid photos of Emily Carr in her studio in 1934
- A large collection from local photographer W.E. John, known for his quirky and candid shots of people living their lives throughout the city, particularly in the 1960s. His collection notably includes photographs from a "love-in" held in Beacon Hill Park in 1967.
- Evocative photos of soldiers marching off to war, a haying on Dallas Road, and soldiers digging trenches in Beacon Hill Park as part of a training exercise prior to deployment in World War I

More records will be added to the site over the coming months, including descriptions of documents such as City reports, maps, plans and news clippings currently held in the Archives Reading Room.

To access Archives Online Search and for more information on the City's archives, go to victoria.ca/archives



River and Raven, Dylan Thomas

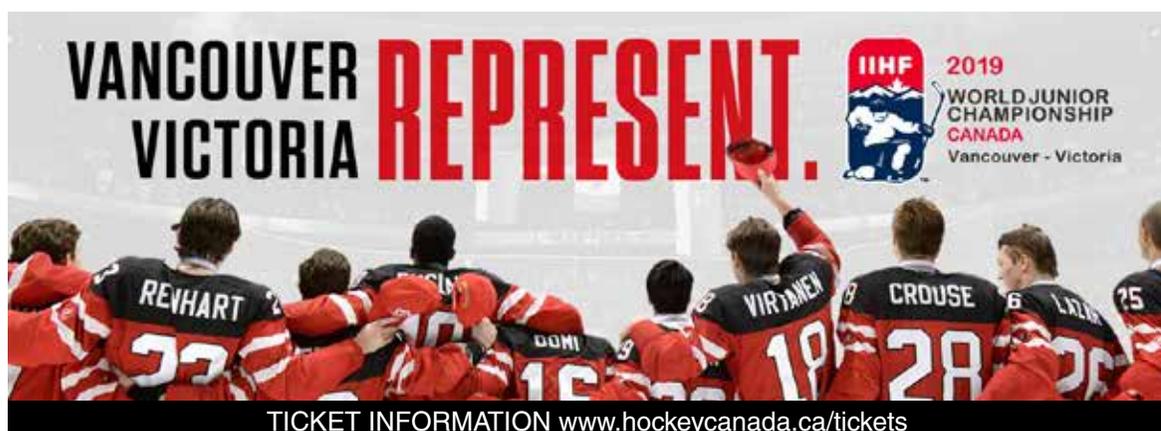
Sacred: Indigenous Art Display

Next time you're visiting City Hall, take a moment to view *Sacred*, an Indigenous art display. Curated by Rose Spahan, *Sacred* showcases a range of traditional and contemporary art forms created by eight emerging and established Indigenous artists. The installation is part of the City's ongoing work towards Reconciliation. victoria.ca/sacred



Hanging Baskets in the City of Gardens

City Parks staff have worked their magic once again to prepare the iconic hanging baskets for their annual summer display. Victoria's hanging flower baskets are a trademark recognized around the world. They were introduced in 1937 to celebrate the City of Victoria's 75th year of incorporation. To learn how to make your own Victoria hanging basket, visit victoria.ca/hangingbaskets.



TICKET INFORMATION www.hockeycanada.ca/tickets



Summer Camp Registration

We have a great summer of camps in store for every interest, schedule and budget! Go mad for science, pan for gold, learn to swim, sail, kayak or ride a horse, and take your bike and skater skills to the next level. Create your own computer games and animation at byte and coding camps! Explore the outdoors on one of our many camping trips – you'll even get to try some surfing. Check it all out at victoria.ca/recreation. Click on the "Programs and Registration" button and search for key words, camps, specific weeks, ages, etc. Register and save your spot in one of these terrific camps!

New Hearing Loop in Council Chambers



We are working to make City Hall even more accessible for people with hearing difficulties. A hearing loop has been installed in Council Chambers to assist those with hearing aids who have the telecom feature enabled. You can now hear Council meetings better by cutting out unwanted background noise, with the sound going directly into your hearing aid.

New Rules for Short-Term Rentals

Do you own or operate a short-term rental property? Under new regulations, you now require a Short-Term Rental Business Licence. Short-term rentals are property rentals defined as less than 30 days, often on platforms such as AirBnB or VRBO.

You are eligible for a licence if:

- It is your principal residence and you rent the whole home on occasion (for example, when you are on vacation)
- It is your principal residence and you rent up to two bedrooms in your home with shared kitchen and living spaces
- You live in a rental suite and you rent it out on occasion with the landlord's permission
- You have been operating a short-term rental where transient accommodation was previously a permitted use, otherwise known as a "grandfathered" property. City staff can confirm if this legally non-conforming status applies to your property once you have applied for a Business Licence.

For more information, visit victoria.ca/str or email str@victoria.ca.

Property tax deadline is Tuesday, July 3.

victoria.ca/propertytax

TAXES DUE:



BYO Bag Victoria!

Grab your backpack, reusable shopping bag or basket!

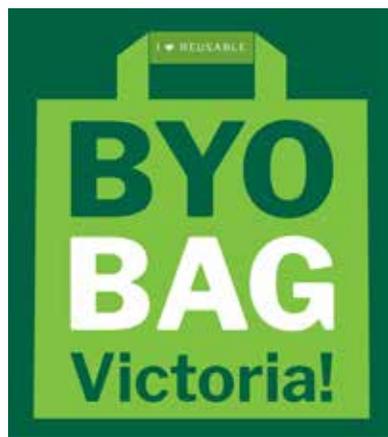
Whether you're running errands, buying groceries, or just heading out the door, remember to bring along your reusable bag.

Here are a few tips to help remember your bag:

- Pop a few reusable bags in the glove box, trunk or backseat of your car
- Keep your reusable bags by your front door, on your coat rack or by your keys
- Find a favourite reusable bag that you can carry in your backpack or purse

Let's work together to reduce plastic waste in our community!

Learn more: victoria.ca/reusablebags



Party on the Block this Summer!

Hosting a neighbourhood block party is a great way to get to know your neighbours or celebrate a special occasion.

In Victoria, an outdoor block party can take place on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

How To's:

- To use a City street, sidewalk or other public space, a permit is required. In addition, the majority of residents on the block must be in favour of the event.
- There is no permit fee unless the event involves amplified sound such as a DJ or live band. The fee for a Noise Bylaw Exemption permit is \$50.
- Insurance is required and can be obtained through the City of Victoria when applying (approximately \$15 – \$35 depending on the number of participants)

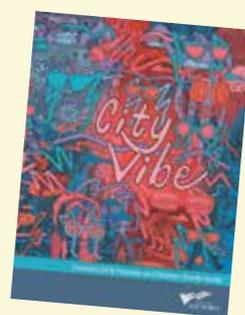
When planning your block party, please allow up to four weeks for permit processing and approval.

Remember to be respectful, and keep it safe and fun for all. Alcohol is not permitted on public property.

For the Block Party guidelines, permit application, and sign-off form: victoria.ca/eventpermits.

Get Your CityVibe!

Looking to celebrate summer in Victoria with family and friends? Grab a *CityVibe*, your free go-to guide for festivals and outdoor events in the Capital City.



Check out the spectacular line-up of summer festivals, arts and cultural activities, and free City-sponsored concerts and community programming at the Cameron Bandshell in Beacon Hill Park, and Summer in the Square programming in Centennial Square, next to Victoria City Hall.

Whether you're taking in an outdoor concert, shopping for homemade and homegrown at local public markets, or celebrating our community's culture and diversity, make *CityVibe* your guide to summer fun in Victoria.

The guide's cover artwork is by City of Victoria Artist in Residence Luke Ramsey.

Look for *CityVibe* around town and at City Hall, or view it online at victoria.ca/CityVibe.

Fort Street Bike Lanes

The new Fort Street protected bike lanes are now open! The Fort Street Rollout was held in partnership with the Downtown Victoria Business Association, Fabulous Fort and PARC Retirement Living. The event saw nearly 1,000 people come out to the launch which included six celebration stations and activities for all ages to enjoy.

The new lanes and enhanced mid-block crossings improve safety for people on bikes and on foot. New sidewalks, seating, landscaping and audible pedestrian signals were also installed as a part of the project. Underground infrastructure replacement in the 700 block is almost complete and additional accessibility features will be added in summer 2018. Free one-hour cycling safety courses are available for riders. For dates and times visit victoria.ca/cycling.

The next corridors planned for construction are Wharf and Humboldt Streets, connecting the Johnson Street Bridge and the east/west protected bike lanes on Pandora and Fort. Construction is scheduled to start later this fall.

Cruising With Courtesy

With the warmer weather upon us there will be more people out enjoying the many trails and bike lanes in and around Victoria. Making sure you're aware of the rules of the road can help make cycling safer in the Capital City. Everyone has a role to play in sharing the road responsibly. Refresh your cycle cruising savvy before pedalling:

- Pedestrians and those with mobility needs have priority – be alert when approaching crosswalks and trailheads and yield to pedestrians
- Be prepared to encounter wheelchairs, skateboards, rollerbladers, strollers, small children and even pets on the new multi-use pathway on the Johnson Street bridge
- Take the time to learn about and try new cycling infrastructure in the downtown core
- Don't forget your helmet, light and lock!

Enjoy a safer ride and cruise with courtesy this season.



Welcome to the sx^wenx^wəŋ tənəx^w James Bay Branch

The sx^wenx^wəŋ tənəx^w James Bay Branch is ready for you and your family to explore. Located on the corner of Menzies and Superior Streets, the 12th branch in the Greater Victoria Public Library system opened its doors to the community on April 9 and celebrated its grand opening on May 26.

Situated in the Capital Park development, the new branch features a community living room space with lounge and bistro seating, laptop bars and mobile charging stations, and a teen and a family-friendly children's area. There is a bookable community and study room, as well as movable shelves to meet programming needs. Modern design and décor, an abundance of natural light, access to green space in the courtyard – along with friendly, knowledgeable staff – make it a welcoming space for all.

The new library's 12,000-item collection includes the latest fiction and non-fiction books for adults, youth, and new readers, as well as audiobooks and music on CD, feature films and TV series on DVD and Blu-ray, video games and magazines. Branch users have access to the entire GVPL collection to place and pick up holds. Unique to this branch is a collection of plein air easels available for loan system-wide to support creativity and self-expression in the community.

Victoria City Council selected sx^wenx^wəŋ tənəx^w James Bay Branch as the name for the new library in consultation with the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations. Pronounced *s-hweng hw-ung tongue-oo-hw*, it is the name of the First Nations territory now known as James Bay.

City Council also named the library's two meeting rooms the Dr. Elmer Seniemten George M.S.M. Community Room and the Mifflin Wistar Gibbs Study Room after two influential residents from our region's past and present. To learn more and to hear Dr. George pronounce the library's name, visit: gvpl.ca.



Photo: Courtesy of Greater Victoria Public Library



Mark your calendar

Online Event Feedback

Let us know what you liked about an event you've experienced in Victoria or would like to see improved by completing our online Event Feedback Form at victoria.ca/eventfeedback.

Emergency Preparedness Workshops

Make emergency preparedness a priority for you and your family! Learn about the hazards that can affect Victoria, what to include in your home and vehicle emergency kits, what you can do to protect your home from an earthquake, and how to reunite with your loved ones after a disaster by attending a FREE Emergency Preparedness Workshop. Workshop dates at VictoriaReady.ca.

Teen Drop-In (11–16 yrs)

Fridays 8:30 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Crystal Pool & Fitness Centre

Come and hang out on Friday nights! Play games, go on out-trips, and get ready to jump in the pool. Each Friday will be an adventure you don't want to miss, planned by our awesome youth leaders. Pick up a schedule at the front desk for a monthly list of activities.

WIBIT Weekends

Summer: Every Wednesday from 1:15 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Crystal Pool & Fitness Centre

Join us for some fun on the water! Run, climb and slide on our GIANT WIBIT Inflatable.

Canada Day Victoria

Sunday, July 1

Victoria's Inner Harbour

Join us downtown for an impressive line-up of local performers, family-friendly activities, and multicultural programming, culminating in spectacular fireworks over Victoria's Inner Harbour. canadadayvictoria.ca

Victoria Pride Week

July 1 – 8

Various downtown locations

For a full list of events around the city visit victoriapridesociety.org

Cook Street BBQ

Saturday, July 7, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Lunch \$5 Entertainment FREE

Come for hours of fabulous food, fun and live music. There will be games and face painting for kids. Everyone welcome.

Building Welcoming & Inclusive Communities for Refugees

Monday, July 9, Noon – 1 p.m.

City Hall

Join us for a Lunch Time Lecture featuring Nour-Eddine Maghnaoui on the topic of refugees' perceptions of their hosting countries, the rise of the anti-refugee sentiments in the west, as well as emphasis on the sociopolitical backlashes of demonization and stigmatization of refugees.

The lunch time lecture series explores city-making in the 21st century. victoria.ca/lunchtimelectures

Free-B Film Festival

Fridays and Saturdays in August at 9 p.m.

Various downtown locations

For full list of Free-B films visit freefilmfest.com.

Symphony Splash

Sunday, August 5, 1 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Visit the Inner Harbour for the 29th annual Victoria Symphony Splash. From a floating stage in the Inner Harbour, the VS orchestra and special guests will perform, ending with a grand finale performance of Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture – with fireworks of course!

Summer in the City Parks

City of Victoria Parks are full of fun, adventure, learning and relaxation for you to enjoy all summer long. Here are a few of the things you can find in your City's parks this summer:

- Check out the Victoria West Skateboard Park. In July and August our Skate Park Hosts will be at the park to help everyone feel comfortable and provide minor first-aid support! Look for the blue shirts and white helmets! To find out when the Park Hosts are on-site please visit victoria.ca/recreation.
- Enjoy the Play Box in Central Park. To help families enjoy our parks and stay active, the City has installed a Play Box in Central Park beside the outdoor fitness equipment. This box is filled with all sorts of play equipment including soccer balls, basketballs, badminton racquets, skipping ropes, chalk, tennis racquets and more! Simply ask at the Crystal Pool front desk for the Play Box code, and play catch, soccer, and other sports in the park with your kids.
- Cool off at Beacon Hill Park's spray area near the playground, or watch your kids zip through the Watering Can, located near the park entrance off Douglas Street
- Practice your golf technique at the Beacon Hill putting green located kitty-corner to the petting zoo entrance
- Take your pup for a stroll in one of 13 leash-optional areas in our City parks. If you haven't already, be sure to check out our latest fully-fenced dog park at Victoria West Park.
- Head to Beacon Hill Park for free children's programming on Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to noon in July and August:
 - July 11: Little Red Riding Hood by Canada's Maple Leaf Ballet Society
 - July 18: Magic and More with Paul and Shayne
 - July 25: Come Draw with Artist in Residence Luke Ramsey
 - August 1: Over the Moon Puppets
 - August 8: A Visit from the Royal BC Museum
 - August 15: Anne Glover's String Stories
 - August 22: The Purple Pirate
- Enjoy a free concert at the Cameron Bandshell in Beacon Hill Park, Friday through Monday from 1:30 p.m. – 3:20 p.m. Check out victoria.ca/concertsinthepark for concert info.



Connect With Us

Is there a topic or issue you really want to connect with the City on, but you don't know how? We would love to hear from you – just use one of the many ways below to get in touch.

Share your feedback on any topic with Mayor and Council at mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca.



Attend a Council meeting in person or watch the webcast online at victoria.ca/webcast.



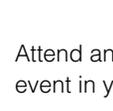
Download the **ConnectVictoria** app and search for latest news, media releases, jobs, and report an issue like a pothole or street light outage right from your phone. Available for both iOS and Android.



Attend a Mayor's Community Drop-In, a chance for members of the public to meet with Mayor Lisa Helps, meet others, engage in conversation, share thoughts, ideas and concerns. Check out the full schedule of upcoming Drop-In events at victoria.ca/dropin.



Sign up to receive bi-weekly Council Highlights, a summary of decisions made at Council meetings. Email engage@victoria.ca to be added to our distribution list.



Attend an open house, workshop or City event in your neighbourhood.



Connect with us on social media. You can find us on Facebook as **City of Victoria – Local Government**, Twitter as **@CityofVictoria** and Instagram as **City of Victoria**. Let's get social!



Keep your eyes on victoria.ca/haveyoursay for your opportunity to provide input on upcoming projects and initiatives.



Stay up-to-date on all the latest news at victoria.ca. Read through our latest Annual Report and Strategic Plan to find out what we're planning, and what we were up to in the last year.



Subscribe to our e-newsletter at victoria.ca/subscribe and stay up-to-date on all the latest news from the City including what's happening at City Hall, new programs, important dates and deadlines to remember, handy tips for your home or business, news about current projects and other useful information about what's happening in your community.

Connect

The City of Victoria *Connect* newsletter is produced and delivered to Victoria households to inform you of the many programs and services provided by the City.

To reach us: engage@victoria.ca

City of Victoria
1 Centennial Square
Victoria, BC V8W 1P6
victoria.ca

Connect with us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram



Our Commitment to the Environment

By using paper made with 100% post-consumer recycled content, the following resources have been saved.

- Tree(s): 20
- Water: 34,777 L
- Energy: 9 million BTU
- Solid waste: 280 Kg
- Greenhouse gases: 770 Kg

