



## City Parkades Home to Eight Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2013

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC – The City of Victoria parkades are now home to eight new electric vehicle charging stations. Charging stations are popping up around British Columbia this spring, allowing residents and visitors to electrify their trip whether they are heading downtown for business or pleasure or touring around the Province.

In Victoria, the Centennial Square, Johnson Street, and Bastion Square parkades are now home to one charging station each. Two stations have also been installed at the View Street parkade and three are available at the Broughton Street parkade. Normal parking charges apply, but there is no additional fee to use the charging stations. When shopping downtown, ask for your 'First Hour Free' coupon. This will now get you an hour of free parking and an hour to charge your vehicle. The City's parkades also offer charging stations for electric bikes and free covered parking for regular bikes.

### Media Opportunity

**What:** Mayor Dean Fortin, speaking about the new stations and charging an electric Smart Car

**When:** Tuesday, March 26, 12:15-12:30 p.m.

**Where:** Centennial Square Parkade, 645 Fisgard Street, first level

To use a charging station, visitors to the parkade will get an activation card from the parkade attendant, drive their vehicle to the designated parking spot and plug in. The charging stations will be able to fully recharge an electric car battery within three to eight hours. Two additional charging stations have been installed at the Public Works Yard, for use by City vehicles.

The infrastructure incentives that are supporting these 10 charging stations are part of the Province's \$2.74 million Community Charging Infrastructure Fund that will support up to 570 public charging stations across BC this spring. The incentives cover up to 75% of the capital and installation costs, up to a maximum of \$4,000 per charging point.

Greening the City of Victoria's fleet is one of four areas of the 'Cut the Carbon' program to reduce energy use and emissions within City operations. The City currently has electric 'gators' for hauling and digging work within its parks and this year the City is tendering for two electric work trucks. Greening the fleet also includes switching some larger vehicles from diesel to natural gas. The new garbage packers, water main flushing truck and the asphalt hot box truck all run on this cleaner fuel. They are more fuel efficient, produce fewer greenhouse gases, and have a significantly longer engine life. Over 90 per cent of the City's drivers also recently received training from Natural Resources Canada to help increase fuel efficiency and road safety.

To learn more visit: [www.victoria.ca](http://www.victoria.ca). To view the locations of other charging stations visit: [www.plugshare.com](http://www.plugshare.com)

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