

In Your Neighbourhood

Public Hearing: Mount Edwards Rezoning Application

After a public hearing on October 12, 2017, Council approved the application to rezone Mount Edwards Court at 1002 Vancouver Street to permit 78 supportive housing units and 15 affordable rental housing units.



Leaf Pick-Up

It's time to clean up those leaves and get them out on your boulevard. They can be loosely piled, in mesh bins or tied in clear 100% compostable bags. You can buy the bags at the Public Service Centre at City Hall and at the Crystal Pool and Fitness Centre. A package of 10 bags is available for \$12.50, plus tax. Clearing out the storm drains of leaves will also help prevent flooding so make sure to clear the drains in front of your house as well.

The remaining leaf pick up date for Fairfield and Gonzales is **December 12**. If you miss this, you can drop your leaves off for free at the City of Victoria Public Works Yards at 417 Garbally Road on Saturdays from 7 a.m. – 2 p.m. Proof of residency is required, in the form of a valid BC driver's licence or a City of Victoria utility bill. For the Leaf pick-up schedule visit the City's website [here](#).

Johnson Street Bridge Update

The quarterly report on progress with the Johnson Street Bridge was presented to Council on [October 19](#). Work is currently underway determining the public realm plans. Commissioning and testing of the new bridge is planned to run from February through March, 2018.

Parks Regulation Bylaw Changes

At their [September 21 meeting](#), Council approved changes to the Parks Regulation Bylaw. The intent is to better regulate the use and operation of parks. The directives include:

1. Ability to temporarily close a park or part of a park;
2. Prohibition on interference with City workers engaged in clean-up, maintenance or other work in a park;
3. Authority to impound property unlawfully left in a park and waive the fee to return impounded property;
4. Ability to apply for permits to carry out protests and other expressive activities in a park;
5. To develop an effective lobbying approach to the province on the issue of tenting in parks and housing and homelessness;



Staff have been directed to report back in a year to see if other amendments need to be considered.

Interested in building community in your neighbourhood?

Residents of the City of Victoria are invited to attend a workshop on Building Community through Neighbourhood Pocket Places.

You're invited to:

**Building Community Through Neighbourhood
POCKET PLACES**

Cultivate character and connection on your block with little free libraries, gathering spaces, community info boards, gardens and more! Learn how you can start a small project with your neighbours through small and easy enhancements.

Sun Nov 5
7-9 pm

Fairfield Gonzales Community Assoc.
Garry Oak Room | 1335 Thurlow Rd.



Book exchange boxes, benches, community info boards - many easy and small enhancements can help create community in your neighbourhood. Learn how you can start a small project with your neighbours. Whether you're into building things by hand or repurposing existing materials, you can create a little node for book sharing, conversation and informal gathering of neighbours.

Led by members of [Greater Victoria Placemaking Network](#), and co-hosted by

[Building Resilient Neighbourhoods Resilient Streets program](#), this workshop will include inspiring examples of pocket places, funding sources; finding and reusing materials; tools; communication and social media; creating a launch party; getting Little Free Libraries mapped; and more. Learn more and register [here](#)

Performance as Medicine: Indigenous Performance Art Symposium

The community is invited to attend the *Performance as Medicine: Indigenous Performance Art Symposium* on **Saturday, November 25** hosted at the **Royal BC Museum**. Developed by the City of Victoria Indigenous Artist in Residence Lindsay Delaronde, the one-day, interdisciplinary and inter-generational event will present and explore Indigenous philosophies and contemporary expressive art forms. The Symposium will include workshops from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., followed by a free public performance and panel discussion from 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Registration is required for the workshops. Tickets are \$40 and are available on the [museum website](#).

Vic-Alert

Want to be in the know? Especially about a major emergency? Sign up for Vic-Alert, the City of Victoria's emergency notification service. Receive important information and updates on emergencies in Victoria that may impact you. Signing up for Vic-Alert is easy and can be done from your mobile phone, tablet or computer. And it's free! Learn more at www.VictoriaReady.ca





Stormy Weather – What You Need to Know

Residents and businesses can prepare for high winds by securing materials that could become airborne such as garbage cans, patio furniture, retractable canopies, banners and awnings. Residents are also encouraged to trim dead or damaged tree branches to reduce the danger of these falling onto homes and vehicles during a storm.

Everyone has an important role to play in keeping the community and properties safe and dry during heavy rain storms. In preparation for a storm, City crews will be out clearing streets of leaves.

Here's what residents and businesses can do to also help prevent flooding:

- Please help keep sidewalks, gutters, drains, and storm drain grates clear of leaves to prevent storm drains from clogging and flooding.
- Do not rake leaves onto streets and do not push leaves into drains.
- Determine where the storm drain grate is on your street and help us keep it clear. Please rake leaves and tree needles away from grates and onto the boulevard, to allow rain water to enter freely.
- Placing leaves in clear, 100% compostable bags also helps prevent flooding. Residential leaf pick-up begins soon. Learn more [here](#).

If you see water pooling in your street during heavy rain, **please call 250.361.0400** for assistance from City crews **at any time**.

New Library Branch to open in early 2018

Community members are invited to attend an open house to learn about the new library branch currently being built in James Bay. Located on the corner of Menzies and Superior Streets, the new library is a partnership of the City of Victoria and the Greater Victoria Public Library system. Modern in design with abundant natural light and views of the iconic Legislature building, the 7,500 square-foot branch will feature:



- Wi-Fi enabled outdoor reading space within the Capital Park courtyard and greenspace
- Community living room space and public computers
- Family-friendly children's area
- Teen area and two bookable study rooms
- Separate, bookable community meeting room with seating for up to 60 people, available after hours
- Laptop bar and mobile charging station
- Varied seating options including lounge reading chairs, bistro seating, high tables and chairs
- Flexible mobile shelving to adapt to community needs

- Automated Materials Handling (AMH) technology for immediate check-in of library returns 24/7

The open house will be held on **Saturday, November 4 from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.** at the Central Branch at 735 Broughton Street in the Community Room. For more information on the new library and open house, visit gvpl.ca.

Greater Victoria citizens of all ages are being invited to help name the new library branch. By way of an online survey or email, you can support the geographical name “James Bay Branch” or submit your own suggestion for a suitable name along with a short rationale. The deadline to participate is **midnight on Sunday, November 19, 2017**. For more information: victoria.ca/NameThatLibrary.

ParkVictoria App

Have you tried our free ParkVictoria app? It enables you to pay for on-street parking from the comfort of your vehicle. (A definite plus on these rainy, windy days!) You also receive alerts when your parking time is running out and can refund unused time. Give it a try at www.victoria.ca/ParkVictoria



Council Meetings

Committee of the Whole meets November 2, 9, 16 and 23 at 9 a.m. Council meets November 9 and 23, beginning at 6:30. Residents can attend both meetings or view them [here](#)

Comments on Neighbourhood Updates?

Is there something you would like to see in the neighbourhood updates that is currently missing? Do you have any comments on presentation or content? Please let me know at kstratford@victoria.ca. Thanks!