



## In Your Neighbourhood (Usually Called Section B)

### **City of Victoria Council Highlights – April 27, 2017**

*Council Highlights* provide a snapshot of the progress made on City programs, initiatives and on Council decision-making. For more information on each initiative, please visit the accompanying link where noted. We welcome anyone who would like to receive *Council Highlights* to email us at [engage@victoria.ca](mailto:engage@victoria.ca).

#### **Victoria Housing Strategy Implementation – Secondary Suites**

The City has made it easier for homeowners to build secondary suites by removing restrictions in zoning that limited the amount of exterior changes that could be made to a building containing a secondary suite. These zoning changes will increase the number of properties eligible for secondary suites while still maintaining livability, safety and affordability. Read the staff report [here](#).

#### **Not Passed - Proposed Motion on a 15% Tax on Non-Resident Speculative Home Buyers**

Council has declined to request the Government of British Columbia apply the 15% Additional Property Transfer Tax to purchases of residential real-estate by non-resident foreign entities within the Capital Region or the City of Victoria.

#### **Downtown Parking Stands**

The City of Victoria has a number of parking stands in the downtown core, specifically around the Inner Harbour, that are currently allocated to motor vehicle sightseeing vehicles. Council has agreed to amend the *Vehicles for Hire Bylaw* to allow human-powered sightseeing vehicles that are not pedicabs or rickshaws use these stands. In addition, Parking Stand 3 has been allocated for the use of The Rolling Barrel and Little Urban Vehicles, subject to proof of licensing.

#### **Adoption of Visual Victoria Wayfinding Strategy**

The City has adopted the Visual Victoria wayfinding strategy which aims to contribute to a memorable and positive image of Victoria based on its rich history and vision for the future, while enhancing its unique identity and supporting walkability, accessibility and usability. The strategy includes a three-year implementation plan that lays out the type and number of signs by general location based on an approved budget of \$152,000 for 2017, and a forecasted budget of \$100,000 for 2018. Staff will also work with the Songhees Nation and Esquimalt Nation to explore opportunities to incorporate Lekwungen place-naming as part of the implementation of the wayfinding strategy.

## City of Victoria Council Highlights – May 11, 2017

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### **Development Permit Application for 848, 852-856 Yates and 845/849 Johnson**

Following an opportunity for public comment, Council voted in favour of a development permit with variances that will allow the construction of two 21-storey towers, with commercial and townhouses at grade, with residential above.

[Learn more](#)

### **Rezoning and Development Permit with Variances Application for 722 Pine Street and 968 Walker Street**

Following a public hearing, Council voted in favour of a rezoning and development permit with variances to subdivide the two existing properties, creating three small lots. One additional single family dwelling is now permitted with the two single family dwellings remaining.

[Learn more](#)

### **Rezoning and Development Permit Application for 701 Belleville Street**

Following a public hearing, Council passed third reading of the bylaw approving a rezoning and development application that will allow the construction of a 15 storey mixed use building, including seniors residential on the upper floors and commercial uses on the ground floor. Final vote for the adoption of this bylaw will take place at a future Council meeting.

[Learn more](#)

### **Protecting Dallas Road Bluffs**

Council has requested that the Capital Regional District's Core Area Wastewater Treatment Project Board ensure mitigation measures will be put in to place to protect the Dallas Road Bluffs during construction of facilities related the wastewater treatment plant. These measures include assembling an interdisciplinary team to study and address the protection of the bluffs, and a plan for preservation.

### **Parks and Open Spaces Master Plan**

Council has approved the Parks and Open Spaces Master Plan as presented by staff. Council has also directed staff to provide active support for food systems in implementing the plan including: policies and programs to support pollinators;

expansion of community gardens into each neighbourhood; and increased selection of native, edible and medicinal plant species within the municipal park system.

### **David Foster Harbour Pathway**

Construction of the Raymur and Heron Cove bridges and Heron Cove Special Place has been deferred until more favourable industry conditions, due to the single over budget bid received. Construction of a Reeson Park pathway and Johnson Street Bridge underpass pathway will continue. Further work will continue to look at funding required to support Ship Point structural/geotechnical remediation and repairs, and funding required for an assessment and risk analysis of Laurel Point soil contamination.

### **Street Vending Review**

Council has approved a seasonal pilot for 2017 to allow bicycle food vending on streets in the City and parks as well as another pilot for storefront displays as part of a Government Street event, and have asked staff to report back in 2018 with street vending policy and regulatory recommendations for Council's consideration.

### **Application for a Liquor Primary – The Beagle Pub**

Council, after conducting a review with respect to noise and community impacts, supports the application for a structural change to the existing Liquor Primary Licence at The Beagle Pub at 301 Cook Street. This support will be provided to the Liquor Licensing Agency, the final arbiter of liquor licensing decisions. If approved, the licence will allow for a new outdoor patio for the pub.

## **City of Victoria Council Highlights – May 25, 2017**

*Council Highlights* provide a snapshot of the progress made on City programs, initiatives and on Council decision-making. For more information on each initiative, please visit the accompanying link where noted. We welcome anyone who would like to receive *Council Highlights* to email us at [engage@victoria.ca](mailto:engage@victoria.ca).

### **Rezoning Application for 695 Alpha Street**

Following the public hearing, Council approved the application and related bylaws to rezone 695 Alpha Street to allow for the storefront retail sale of cannabis. Learn more by viewing the [City's Development Tracker](#).

### **Application for Liquor Licence - Zambri**

After conducting a review with respect to the location of the establishment, noise and community impacts, and the person capacity and hours of liquor service, City Council supported Zambri's liquor licence application for an entertainment endorsement to be added to their primary food-liquor licence at 820 Yates Street. This support will be provided in writing to the Liquor Licensing Agency, the final arbiter of liquor licensing decisions. [Learn more.](#)

### **Application for Liquor Licence – Terroir Tea Merchant**

Based on the review with respect to the location of the establishment, noise and community impacts, and the person capacity and hours of liquor service, City Council supported the Terroir Tea Merchant in its application to permit liquor service from noon until 11 p.m. seven days a week for no more than 24 people at 832 Fort Street. This support will be provided in writing to the Liquor Licensing Agency. [Learn more.](#)

### **Development Summit**

The City will continue to implement short and mid-term actions identified within the 2016 Development Summit Application Plan and hold a Development Workshop in 2017. A Development Summit will be held in 2018. [Learn more.](#)

### **Land Use Procedures Bylaw Amendments – Temporary Use Permits**

The City will proceed with amending the Land Use Procedures Bylaw that will clarify terminology and the application process for temporary use permits, as well as updated application fees. [Learn more.](#)

### **Gas Tax Strategic Priorities Fund Application Intake**

City staff will submit three grant applications under the Gas Tax Strategic Priorities Fund: two capital infrastructure applications -- Crystal Pool replacement (\$6 million) and cycling network implementation (\$6 million); and one capacity-building application for an Asset Management Practices, Procedures and Training Plan (\$150,000). The fund supports the capital costs of government infrastructure projects that are large in scale, regional in impact, or innovative and support the national objectives of productivity and economic growth, a clean environment and strong cities and communities. [Learn more.](#)

### **B4Stage4Declaration Endorsement**

Council endorsed the Canadian Mental Health Association's (CMHA's) "B4Stage4" campaign which focuses on early intervention and prevention with regard to mental health and wellness. The CMHA is asking local governments to sign their declaration. [Learn more.](#)

### **Tax Incentive Program Application – 506 Fort Street**

The City's Solicitor will prepare a Tax Exemption Bylaw for 506 Fort Street for four

years, with a covenant identifying the tax exemption be registered on the title to the property and any possible future strata title, and final costs of the building's seismic upgrading be verified by Victoria Civic Heritage Trust. Council reaffirmed that the City's Tax Incentive Program (TIP) Policy states City Council must approve a 10-year tax exemption *prior* to commencement of any work on a project. Due to the fact that much of the refurbishment was underway when the application was filed, City staff will work with the applicant to achieve voluntary agreement that the units remain rentals in perpetuity and not be used as short-term vacation rentals. [Learn more.](#)

### **Liquor Policy Review**

In response to recent provincial changes to the Liquor Control and Licensing Act to reduce red tape, the City seeks to change its Liquor Licensing Policy to streamline the City's involvement in approval processes and provide a simplified fee structure, align operational hours for Food Primary and Liquor Primary establishments, as well as consider extended hours of service under special circumstances. Corresponding Bylaws will be updated by July 30, 2017 for Council's consideration. Staff will report back on the implications and opportunities of creating Good Neighbourhood Agreements with all Food Primaries open after midnight, directly adjacent to residential properties. [Learn more.](#)

### **Municipal Finance Authority (MFA) Survey Regarding Socially Responsible Investing**

Council directed staff to respond favourably to the MFA survey regarding Socially Responsible Investing. The Municipal Finance Authority of BC is seeking feedback through a survey on a potentially new socially responsible investment fund. [Learn more.](#)

### **Dogs Off-Leash Pilot**

Council made a motion to refer a pilot project for three new dogs off-leash parks for consideration in a staff report on June 8, 2017, which will identify the implications of undertaking this work in 2017. [Learn more.](#)

### **Bylaws for Rezoning Application Development Permit for 701 Belleville Street**

Council approved the application and related bylaws for the rezoning and development permit for 701 Belleville Street to permit seniors housing for independent and assisted living uses, and to increase building height, setbacks and density. For details, view the [City's Development Tracker.](#)

## In Your Neighbourhood (Usually Called Section C - Miscellaneous)

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### **CityVibe is Your Guide to Victoria's Festivals and Events This Summer**

Looking to celebrate summer with friends and family? Let *CityVibe* be your guide to festivals and outdoor events in Victoria. *CityVibe* showcases over 70 festivals and outdoor events offered downtown this summer and close to 100 free outdoor music concerts at Centennial Square and Cameron Bandshell in Beacon Hill Park. You'll also find listings for public markets, museums and art galleries, and festivals at Royal Athletic Park. Many of the festivals and events featured in *CityVibe* are recipients of the City's annual Festival Investment Grant.

Watch for *CityVibe* in today's Victoria News and around town at your local library, recreation, community or seniors centre, and at City Hall. You can also access the guide online at [www.victoria.ca/cityvibe](http://www.victoria.ca/cityvibe)

Make *CityVibe* your guide to summer fun in Victoria!

### **Sign Up for Vic-Alert – Victoria's New Emergency Notification Service**

The community is invited to sign up for *Vic-Alert*, the City of Victoria's new emergency notification service. *Vic-Alert* informs residents, businesses, those who work or play downtown, and visitors of major emergencies or disasters that may impact them.

*Vic-Alert* will be used to deliver important emergency information, such as imminent threats (e.g. severe weather, power outages, tsunamis), AMBER alerts, and local incidents that affect specific areas of Victoria. The service enables emergency notices to be disseminated City-wide or to targeted areas, which can be helpful for neighbourhood-specific emergencies such as a gas leak/evacuation.

With *Vic-Alert*, subscribers will receive emergency updates and helpful instructions where they are, when they need them. The service provides the option to receive notifications by text, email or voice call. Because emergencies can happen at any time,



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it's a good idea to include the voice call notification. A phone call in the middle of the night may wake a person, while a text may not.

Signing up for *Vic-Alert* is quick and easy and can be done from a mobile phone, tablet or computer. The service enables individuals to sign up family members as well. To sign up to receive *Vic-Alert*, visit [VictoriaReady.ca](http://VictoriaReady.ca).

Due to BC privacy laws, notifications can only be sent to a private phone or email when a citizen grants permission, which is why *Vic-Alert* is subscriber-based. All personal contact information provided will remain confidential and will not be used for any other purpose.

*Vic-Alert* is a web-based service; it is not an app. The cost of the service is \$5,000 per year and is provided by Connect Rocket, a Vancouver-based company with its servers located in Canada. The company aims to provide the fastest and most reliable incident tasking and operational communications tools for emergency services teams. The City already uses the service for call-outs to its Emergency Management volunteers and Emergency Operations Centre staff.

## **Spirit of 150 Victoria –11 Days of Canada 150 Events at Victoria's Inner Harbour**

To commemorate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup>, *Spirit of 150 Victoria* presented by Coast Capital Savings is pleased to present 11 days of 100+ free performances on two stages from June 21 to July 1, 2017 at Victoria's Inner Harbour. Downtown Victoria will be the place to be to enjoy family-friendly activities, multicultural performances and local food vendors leading up to Canada's 150<sup>th</sup>, culminating with spectacular fireworks.

The City of Victoria in partnership with the Greater Victoria Spirit Committee is pleased to announce to have received \$400,000 from Canadian Heritage's [Canada 150 Fund](#) to host official Canada 150 events on Saturday, July 1. Combined with \$224,000 in funding provided for the *Spirit of 150 Victoria First Night* event on January 1, Canadian Heritage has contributed a total of \$624,000 to Victoria to mark Canada's sesquicentennial.

"In this momentous Canada 150 year, Canada Day celebrations will highlight what makes our country so unique, diverse and vibrant," said the Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Canadian Heritage. "I invite all people of Victoria to participate in the



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activities taking place in their community on July 1. Take advantage of this unique opportunity to celebrate this important milestone with your family, friends and neighbours.”

With 2017 being a ‘Year of Reconciliation’ for the City of Victoria, its commitment to reconciliation is guiding its work to restore a balanced relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people. *Spirit of 150 Victoria’s* 11 days of programming will kick off with *National Aboriginal Day* on Wednesday, June 21 at Ship Point, and First Nations culture will be showcased on June 30 with the Esquimalt Singers and on July 1 with a First Nations blessing and performances by the Lekwungen Dancers on the Main Stage.

“What better way to mark this important milestone in Canada’s history and acknowledge that Victoria is located on traditional Lekwungen territory, than leading with *National Aboriginal Day* celebrations at Victoria’s Inner Harbour,” said Mayor Lisa Helps.

Harbour Stage at Ship Point will play host to 11 days of dynamic, multicultural events and activities leading up to Canada Day. The all-ages venue will also feature local food vendors and craft beer and cider service, which switches to a craft soda station on July 1.

*La Celebration de la Francophonie* will follow on Saturday, June 24 and *Canadian Multiculturalism Day* on Tuesday, June 27, with a range of cultural and musical-themed days in between and leading up to the long weekend. French programming is made possible due to the support of the Canada-British Columbia Official Languages Agreement on French-Language Services.

Headlining this year’s Main Stage on the Legislature Lawn will be Tegan and Sara on Friday, June 30 and the Arkells on Saturday, July 1. Additional performers will include The Funk Hunters, Delhi 2 Dublin, En Karma, Carmanah, De Temps Antan, Dirty Mountain, Stella Swanson and the Rosie Joyfuls, Valdy & The Salt Spring Children’s Choir, and more!

The two-day Main Stage performances will take place from 5:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. (Friday) and 3 p.m. - 10:15 p.m. (Saturday), culminating on Canada Day in a magnificent display of light and sound with fireworks above Victoria’s Inner Harbour at 10:20 p.m. accompanied by music compiled by DJ Boitano.

This year, CIBC is the national presenting sponsor for activities on July 1. Canada Day programming highlights will include a fun Family Zone with an array of activities for children of all ages – with one or two treats for parents too. Returning to Belleville Street will be the Flavour of Canada international food village and sponsor activity tents.





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The ever-popular Coast Capital Savings Living Flag will take place on the Legislature Lawn at 2 p.m. with 4,000 free red and white T-shirts available. This year, organizations are invited to pre-register their groups of 12 or more online to reserve free T-shirts for ease of pick up. Individuals will also be able to line-up for a free T-shirt. The goal is to attract a record-setting number of 5,000 Living Flag participants, making this year's photo one for the history books.

"We would like to thank Canadian Heritage, Coast Capital Savings, CIBC, and all of our sponsors for making *Spirit of 150 Victoria* possible," said Alan Lowe, Chair of the Greater Victoria Spirit Committee. "We invite Greater Victoria to join us for 11 days of free, family-friendly, multicultural outdoor programming and events at our beautiful Inner Harbour to make Canada's 150<sup>th</sup>."

The public can learn more about what's planned by visiting the event's interactive website, the one-stop resource for all Canada 150 events taking place in the Capital Region. In addition to event listings, the website features engaging content, including "Spotlighted Stories from Canadians." Visitors to the site are invited to share their story on what Canada means to them by way of an audio recording, video or text submission.

The website also features a full social media dashboard including Twitter, Facebook and Instagram feeds at a glance. For event updates, follow **@Spirit150Victoria** (Facebook, Instagram) and **@Spirit150Vic** (Twitter).

The City of Victoria is one of 19 municipalities across Canada to receive support from the Canada 150 Fund, designed to create opportunities for Canadians to participate in local, regional and national celebrations that contribute to building a sense of pride and attachment to Canada. *Spirit of 150 Victoria* would not be possible without the generous support of its local and national sponsors.

A detailed event schedule will be shared with the community in early June. For more information, visit [Spirit150Victoria.ca](http://Spirit150Victoria.ca).

## **Summer Banners - A Creative Collaboration Between City's Artist in Residence and Ecole Shoreline Students**

The City of Victoria's Artist in Residence Luke Ramsey in collaboration with 18 Ecole Shoreline Community Middle School students, has created a set of four banners that will adorn lampposts downtown and in Beacon Hill Park for the next two summers.

"The banner design provided an amazing opportunity for both our Artist in Residence and the youth involved to explore and create together," said Mayor Lisa Helps. "What better way to come together in understanding than by collaborating to create art."

With the support of the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations, Grade 6 – 8 Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth participated in two drawing workshops led by Ramsey in January. The project provided an opportunity for the youth to explore their self-esteem and confidence through collaborative art making and contribute to the design of the banners.

"For me personally, it's rewarding to see unknowns explored in collaborative creativity, and to be a part of a collective working towards a unified goal," said Artist in Residence Luke Ramsey. "I was facilitating the direction in this activity, however the work truly shows a group effort. Predominately in the art world, the individual is at the centre of a piece. This exercise explored the potential of artists from different backgrounds contributing to an equal playing field together."

Both workshops were hosted by Education Liaison, Songhees Elder and Master Carver, Butch Dick afterschool at the Songhees Wellness Centre. The students were provided an original poster of their drawings designed by Ramsey as well as honorariums for their artistic contributions.

In the first workshop, the youth used a natural object such as a rock, piece of wood or flower to find inspiration. Drawings were shared among the students as part of the collaborative process. In the second workshop, Ramsey displayed the students' drawings and led them in a group discussion about shape, composition and collaboration, which resulted in one overall art piece.

For the final design, Ramsey used aspects of the students' artwork in combination with his own drawings to create an abstract collection of imagery which captures the whimsy and personality of the students. The banner artwork features smiley faces, unicorns, skateboarders, cats and many other motifs, making the overall design colourful, dynamic and playful.



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In describing the process, the youth expressed it was a positive experience. Some feedback included: "I loved meeting new people and friends", "I like being able to work together and come together to make something new," "I like art because it evokes emotions and it lets you achieve anything you want," "I wish we could do this more," and "What I liked most was being included."

"We are grateful for the opportunity to participate in the Artist in Residence Program, and grow the partnership between our Shoreline students and the Songhees Wellness Centre," said Michelle Troughton, Vice Principal of Ecole Shoreline Community Middle School. "The students were thrilled to have an opportunity to work with Luke Ramsey and to commemorate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> through the celebration of art and culture. We embrace opportunities for our students to engage in hands-on opportunities with our community."

The banners will complement downtown streetscapes over the summer season. Installation of the banners begins tomorrow and will continue the week of May 29.

The City of Victoria's biennial summer banner program showcases local artists and reflects the vibrancy and creativity of Victoria. This year's banners are aligned with the City's programming to mark Canada's 150th.

**For More Information:**

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