

LATEST NEWS



Holiday Events Around the City

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas. Holiday festivities began with the Santa's Light Parade on November 27 and will end with the Lights of Wonder, organized by the Downtown Victoria Business Association. Bring the family and enjoy some of these great holiday events.

IEOA Truck Light Convoy and Food Drive

Saturday, December 4, 2021, 6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

The convoy starts at Breakwater District (at Ogden Point) and finishes at Westshore Motor Sports Park. This annual light parade features commercial trucks decked out in Christmas lights and ornamentation driving from downtown Victoria all the way to Langford. The convoy is a food drive for local food banks and spectators can bring cash or food donations to the parade or donate on the IEOA website. ieoa.ca/trucklightconvoyinfo.html



Lights of Wonder

December 16 – 31, 2021

Centennial Square will be transformed once again into a holiday wonderland. This event is free and for all ages and offers live entertainment, food vendors and magical light displays. Volunteers are welcome. lightsofwonder.ca



Crystal Pool and Fitness Centre Maintenance Closure Starts Nov. 29
Crystal Pool and Fitness Centre will close temporarily for scheduled annual maintenance from November 29 to December 19, 2021. Annual maintenance keeps the centre operating at its best. Fall programs will wrap up prior to the temporary closure. Staff look forward to welcoming the community back on December 20. Pool and fitness schedules are available at victoria.ca/crystalpool.



Neighbourhood Staff Contact:

Kimberley Stratford kstratford@victoria.ca



Applications Open for City's Festival Investment Grant

The City of Victoria has started accepting applications for the annual Festival Investment Grant program that provides funding for festivals happening in 2022. A proposed budget of \$320,000 will be made available to fund up to 25 per cent of the overall operating costs of a festival or celebration. The Festival Investment Grant is intended to nurture outdoor festivals and celebrations held within the city, facilitate their growth and ensure their continued success. The financial support helps organizations with the development of new festivals and celebrations or to improve or expand existing events.



For more information and to apply for the grant, visit <u>victoria.ca/festivalgrant</u>. The application deadline is Friday, December 31, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.



Annual Youth U-PASS Now Available Online for 2022

Youth living in the municipality of Victoria can now apply for a free annual Youth U-PASS valid from January 1 to December 31, 2022. The Youth U-PASS program allows youth 13 to 18 years of age to travel for free on the Victoria Regional Transit System, with children 12 and under already riding for free thanks to the provincial government. Youth can apply online for their U-PASS and the annual pass card with picture identification will be mailed to their home. The pass is valid for all the Victoria Regional Transit System. Documentation to confirm eligibility is required. Youth that cannot apply online can apply in-person at the City's Public Service Centre.

Questions about the program can be directed to the City's Public Service Team by email at upass@victoria.ca or by calling 250.385.5711. To apply for the youth U-PASS online, visit: upass.victoria.ca. A list of approved documents and more information can be found at victoria.ca/transit

Amping Up Victoria's Music Scene

The City of Victoria is updating its 2022/2023 rosters of pre-qualified local musicians and community programmers to play in public spaces from June to September. This includes participating in other City-programmed events throughout the year. People on the roster will have the opportunity to participate in concerts and activities at outdoor spaces such as City parks, the Cameron Bandshell, downtown



pedestrian zones and other public spaces. To apply to be on any one of the 2022/2023 rosters, an application form must be submitted by Thursday, January 6, 2022. Preference will be given to those based in the Capital Region. Successful applicants will be contacted in early March 2022. Roster applications are accepted on an ongoing basis; however, the selection process takes place biannually. Late applications will be considered for 2023. Interested applicants will have an opportunity to meet with City staff to review the application requirements and ask questions at an online information session on Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at 6 p.m. For full submission guidelines, application form and information session sign up, visit victoria.ca/musicrosters.





WHAT'S UP AT COUNCIL?

	Committee of the Whole (COTW) 9:00 a.m.	(Closed) Council Meeting After COTW meetings as required	Council Meeting 6:30 p.m.
December	2nd & 9th	2nd & 9th	9th

Decisions made at Council can be found on our <u>Council Highlights</u> page. If you are interested in knowing how the councillors voted on anything, you can now see and track Council voting records with the <u>City Council Meeting Dashboard</u>.

At this time due to the COVID-19 pandemic, public access to City Hall is not permitted. Meetings may be view on the City's <u>live stream webcast page</u>.

