



## LATEST NEWS

## Neighbour Day

Sunday, May 7 

Strong neighbourhoods are important to the health and well-being of our whole city. When neighbourhoods thrive, the people who live there thrive too. Neighbour Day in Victoria started in May 2017 to celebrate our strong and caring communities. The pandemic created a situation where knowing and helping your neighbours was a necessary part of keeping our community strong and working together. On Neighbour Day, we invite you to meet and greet the people with whom you share your fences and walls. Do whatever feels right for you. Knock on a door for the first time, wave, lend a helping hand, share something, visit, throw a party—anything goes, as long as it involves you and the people in your building or on your street.

## Contributing to Reconciliation

On March 24, Council approved a motion to establish an opportunity for property taxpayers to pay a voluntary additional amount with their tax payment to be directed to the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations (e.g., 5%, 10%) as a reconciliation contribution. Council previously approved a \$200,000 annual reconciliation grant from the City to the two First Nations on a trial basis for five years commencing in 2022. Voluntary contributions from taxpayers will be sent with the City's reconciliation grant each year. Learn more [here](#).



## 2022 Get Growing, Victoria!

Get Growing, Victoria! supports communities in need. Through partnerships with non-profit organizations, we are distributing seedlings to residents who are facing barriers to growing their own food. Many partner organizations support communities directly through their programs, like horticultural therapy for mental health support groups, and gardening and food access programs for community kitchens that support people with disabilities. The pandemic has exacerbated the need for more support and resources to help communities foster social and emotional well-being in safe ways. Spring distribution dates for summer crops will occur **May 16 to June 5**. Later summer distribution dates for fall/winter crops will occur **July 25 to August 14**. Visit [Growing in the City](#) to find out when it's taking place in your neighbourhood.

## Neighbourhood Staff Contact:

Kimberley Stratford [kstratford@victoria.ca](mailto:kstratford@victoria.ca)



## Residents Invited to Get Involved in City of Victoria's Governance Review

The City has engaged MNP (a consulting firm) to conduct a governance review for the City. Governance involves the structures and processes for decision making, focusing on openness and accountability. It's about the City's leadership and responsibility to residents. It includes understanding residents' needs and making decisions in the best interests of the city. The goal of the review is to provide Council with recommendations for changes to any key bylaws, policies and guidelines and to support best practices for

efficient, effective and inclusive governance. The public is invited to get involved by completing a 10-minute online survey or attending a public event. MNP will also be meeting with representatives of groups with an interest in business, planning and development and community well-being. Written submissions on behalf of organizations can be submitted to [participate@mnp.ca](mailto:participate@mnp.ca). You can participate in person and/or online. Feedback is being accepted until **Friday, May 13, 2022**. Take the survey, register for the online event and learn how the City's current governance model compares to other Canadian cities at: [engage.victoria.ca/governance-review](https://engage.victoria.ca/governance-review).

## My Great Neighbourhood Grants now open

Have a great idea for a project or activity that would bring neighbours together and help create an inviting, vibrant place for people to connect? Applications for the [My Great Neighbourhood Grant Program](#) are now being accepted. Contact your neighbourhood liaison to discuss your ideas.



## CityVibe - Victoria's Guide to Summer Festivals and Outdoor Events!

Get ready for a summer filled with music, culture and fun! **CityVibe** is your free guide to the many spectacular summer festivals and outdoor events happening downtown during summer, including those that receive the City's annual Festival Investment Grant. You'll also find listings for Victoria's public markets, museums and galleries, free concerts and events at the Cameron Bandsheal in Beacon Hill Park, and free lunchtime concerts. This year **CityVibe** will be in an online, interactive PDF that you can search by theme or month. It will also be printer friendly. Watch for the **2022 CityVibe** on display at venues downtown and at Victoria City Hall. [This link](#) will be live on the May long weekend.

## Summer Camp Registration now open

Registration for summer camps is open! Choose from nature adventure, playground fun, ultimate frisbee, junior lifeguard camps and more. Spots fill quickly so register early. View our summer camps guide and register: [victoria.ca/recreation](https://victoria.ca/recreation)



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The City of Victoria is located on the homelands of the Songhees and Esquimalt people



## CRD Community Grant



Have an idea for a project that reduces waste in your community? Check out the new grant available from the [Capital Regional District](https://www.crd.bc.ca/rethinkwaste)! The grant funds community projects that reduce the amount of waste sent to Hartland Landfill. Up to \$3,000 per project is available now and projects will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis. Applicants can be individuals, community groups, non-profit organizations, post-secondary clubs, K-12 schools, and parent councils. Applications are processed on a first come, first serve basis throughout the year. Funds are limited so get your application in early! For more details and how to apply, please visit [www.crd.bc.ca/rethinkwaste](https://www.crd.bc.ca/rethinkwaste).

## WHAT'S UP AT COUNCIL?

	<b>Committee of the Whole (COTW) 9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>(Closed) Council Meeting After COTW meetings as required</b>	<b>Council Meeting 6:30 p.m.</b>
May	5 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> , & 26 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> , & 26 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup>

Decisions made at Council can be found on our [Council Highlights](#) page. If you are interested in knowing how the councillors voted on anything, you can now see and track Council voting records with the City [Council Meeting Dashboard](#). The public is once again welcome to attend these meetings in person. Meetings can also be viewed on the City's [live stream webcast page](#).