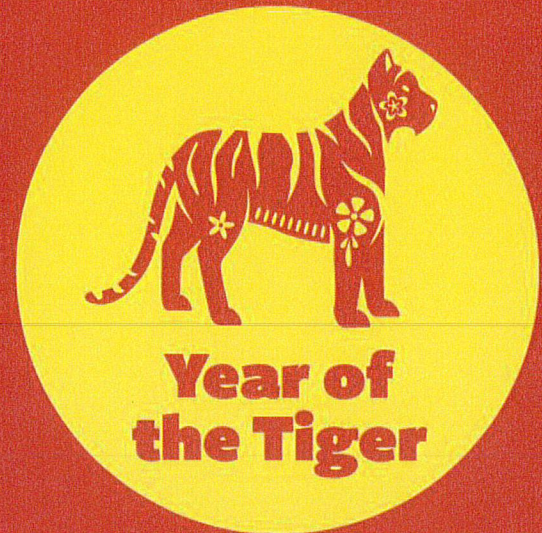




LATEST NEWS

HAPPY NEW YEAR

新年快樂



It's the year of the Tiger! Tigers are a symbol of strength, authority, courage, and ambition. The year of the Tiger will be about making big changes, taking risks, adventure and gaining back some strength and energy after a tiring 2021. While the annual Lunar New Year parade isn't happening this year due to COVID-19, you're invited to celebrate by decorating your windows and doorways, wearing red and visiting local shops in Canada's oldest Chinatown.

Community Virtuals



Meet us online for the upcoming *Community Virtuals* Lunch & Learn series. All sessions are on Wednesdays from noon to 1:30pm and recorded for viewing on the City's YouTube channel. Registration is free at victoria.ca/communityvirtuals

- February – Neighbourhood-Led Action Plan – a guide for making improvements to your neighbourhood (February 16)
- March - My Great Neighbourhood Grants – learn more about the grant program as we launch the 2022 program April 1 (March 16)
- April - Neighbourhood Traffic Calming – find out how the City considers traffic calming and opportunities for community involvement (April 20)



Neighbourhood Staff Contact:

Kimberley Stratford kstratford@victoria.ca

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

MY GREAT Neighbourhood

Meet Victoria's 2022 Poet Laureate



Eli Mushumanski is Victoria's tenth Youth Poet Laureate! Serving as Victoria's champion for youth and the literary arts, Eli will seek to inspire and engage local youth to share their stories through written and spoken word. Eli completed a double major in Writing and English with Honours at the University of Victoria in 2021. They grew up in Northern British Columbia on the traditional territory of the Saik'uz First Nation. At UVic, Eli acted as fiction editor for literary journal, *This Side of West*, as well as senior editor for *Her Campus at UVic*. Eli has poetry published in *The Warren* and participated in the City of Victoria's 2021 Resilient Muse reading series. Read more [here](#)

Residential Branch Chipping Begins in February

The City provides a branch chipping service to help residents remove tree branches from their yard. Place branches on the grass boulevard by Monday, February 28 at 7 a.m. Each household can have one branch pile no bigger than 1 x 1 x 2.5 metres or 4 x 4 x 6 feet, which is about the amount a half-ton pickup truck can hold. Loosely stack branches between 2.5 cm/1" to 25 cm/10" in diameter only, with cut ends together. Trucks will make one pass down each street. Learn more at victoria.ca/branch.



Welcome Back to Fitness

Fitness facilities at Crystal Pool and Fitness Centre are open for individual activities and group classes. Maximum capacity limits are posted in the facility. Due to capacity limits required under current COVID restrictions, group fitness classes must be booked in advance. The pool and other facility amenities

continue to be open and do not require advance booking. Check the website for schedules, programs, and registration information. Learn more at victoria.ca/recreation.

February Public Skating



Enjoy public skating this winter at the Save-On-Foods Memorial Centre. All ages and abilities are welcome and skate rentals are available. Skate where the Victoria Royals play! View the February public skating schedule online. Proof of vaccination is required. Learn more at victoria.ca/arena.

MY GREAT Neighbourhood

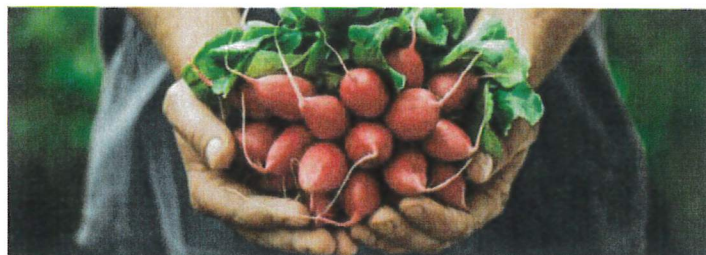
Youth Council Restart



Want to meet new people, use your voice, gain new skills, and have something meaningful for your resume? Youth who live, work, or attend school in the City of Victoria are invited to join the Youth Advisory Council and have fun while making a difference. Youth Council is a youth-driven, grassroots program funded by the City of Victoria and hosted by Volunteer Victoria. Youth Council offers opportunities for young people to get involved and be leaders in their community. They are a passionate group who take action and raise awareness about important issues in the community and share youth perspectives and experiences. If you live, work, or attend school in the City of Victoria, you are between 15 and 25 years, and you want to join the City of Victoria Youth Advisory Council in 2022 please submit [this short application form](#). Our Youth Coordinator Julia Harrison will be in touch to answer any of your questions and to share more information. Click [here](#) for more info.

Get Ready for Spring with NEW Gardening Workshops

Registration is open for new Growing in the City workshops. The Grow Your Own Food webinar on March 2 is a crash course in veggie growing for beginners who want to start growing their own fresh produce, and experienced gardeners who want tips and tricks for success. The Seedling Starting webinar on March 17 will teach you which seeds need to be started indoors, how to start your seeds, how to care for your baby plants, how and when to harden them off and transplant for maximum harvest. Fruit Tree Pruning 101 on March 26 is an introduction fruit tree pruning in late winter and early spring. Learn more and register at victoria.ca/recreation.



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.
February	3 rd , 10 th , 17 th , & 24 th	3 rd , 10 th , 17 th , & 24 th	10 th & 24 th

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](#). 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 [live stream webcast page](#).

