



City Asks Citizens to Help Shape Victoria's Future

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For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC — Aiming to become a more sustainable community as it grows and changes, the City of Victoria is looking for input as they update the Official Community Plan (OCP) to take Victoria to 2040.

"This plan will be the touchstone for many of Council's decisions today, and for the future, ensuring that our decisions are sustainable and grounded in the values of the community," noted Mayor Dean Fortin. "We want to capture the community's vision of what Victoria will be like in 2040."

Last week, Council approved the OCP project, including an ambitious target of hearing from 4,000 residents through the year-long process.

Opportunities for the public to shape Victoria's future include a community survey, public forums and online tools. The first public forum will be held March 26-28 at the Victoria Conference Centre's Crystal Garden.

Over the coming months, the City will release background reports on topics including population, housing and employment forecasts, climate change, food systems, heritage, and economic development, setting the stage for the public forum in March. A website dedicated to the Official Community Plan will launch in the coming weeks.

An OCP sets out a vision for the City and about how the City should change over the next 30 years. Council, staff and citizens will refer to the community plan to help make decisions on things like where to locate affordable housing, how the city will respond to climate change, community's transportation priorities, and how the City will provide recreational services. The current plan was developed in 1995.

Led by the City of Victoria Planning and Development Department, with support from HB Lanarc and a citizen advisory committee, the Official Community Plan will be updated over the next 12 months. A leader in sustainability planning and community consultation, HB Lanarc has successfully led several recent OCP and other planning projects in communities throughout BC, including the District of North Vancouver OCP and the Prince George sustainability plan and OCP.

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For More Information:

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