



September 2018 Update

North Park

In Your Neighbourhood

Crystal Pool Closed

Crystal Pool and Fitness Centre will close for annual maintenance Saturday, September 1 - Sunday, September 23 inclusive, re-opening at 5:30 a.m. on Monday, September 24. During the pool closure, your Crystal Pool and Fitness Centre passes, and your Regional Recreation Pass are honoured at other facilities in the Greater Victoria area. Note that the front desk will remain open from Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 a.m. over this period for program registration, etcetera.

Great Neighbourhood Grant Program Open Now!

It's time to put your ideas for a Great Neighbourhood Grant together. It's a matching grant so we will match your contribution with up to \$5,000 for a project with a tangible outcome or \$1,000 if you want to do an activity. A project can be small scale, so if you only have the capacity for a neighbourhood birdhouse, it can be a very easy application process! The intake period is open now until October 15. Take a look at our [website](#) for more information and give me a call to discuss your ideas.

Bringing Vibrancy to Centennial Square

You are invited to participate in helping create a City Square that reflects your ideas! Preliminary ideas and concept sketches have been prepared by the design team and working group, based on input from over 1,400 people this summer. The input and ideas you provide now will inform further improvements and updates to the draft concepts. For more information or to comment online, visit the [project webpage](#) or email engage@victoria.ca

“Centennial Square Ideas Jam” Open House

Wednesday, September 12 from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Victoria City Hall, Antechamber

Please RSVP to engage@victoria.ca to let us know if you plan to attend the event.

Crystal Pool Parking

At their September 6 meeting, Council will receive a [report](#) advising them of the outcome of an initial analysis of parking options to reduce potential impacts to park space, with recommendations to consult on a street parking option and to investigate underground or covered parking options in Central Park.

Love Food, Hate Waste

The City of Victoria is a founding partner in a national program to reduce food waste in Canada. The [Love Food Hate Waste](#) campaign aims to change Canadians' behaviour around food and dramatically reduce the amount of food wasted across the country every day.

Did you know?

- Canadians are among the worst of the developed nations when it comes to food waste, with about 47 percent of food waste occurring in the home.

CITY OF VICTORIA | NORTH PARK

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- 63% of household food waste in Canada is avoidable.
- An average household throws away \$1,100 of edible food per year.

The campaign offers practical and easy tips for keeping and storing fresh food, using up existing ingredients and better planning to avoid over-purchasing food. The campaign is based on a successful model in the United Kingdom, where avoidable household food waste was cut by 21 percent in its first five years, saving UK consumers £13 billion.

Creating a Culture of Participation

The City invites you to join Dave Meslin, professional rabble-rouser, to discuss creative ways to get people involved in local issues! Dave embraces ideas and projects that cut across traditional boundaries between grassroots politics, electoral politics and the arts community. In his work in Toronto and globally, he attempts to weave elements of these communities together. Over his twenty years as a social and political entrepreneur, Dave has come to be regarded as one of Canada's most influential citizen engagement change-makers.

The event will be held at the Atrium from 7-9pm on September 5. Find out more and register [here](#).

Strengthening Community Participation - Workshop

Together with Volunteer Victoria, the City is hosting a workshop on Saturday, October 13 from 10am – 3pm at City Hall. At this workshop, participants will explore some best practices for engaging the community to support the goals and activities of your neighbourhood association, and begin on the path for building a stronger approach for connecting with residents. To facilitate discussion of specific ideas for your organization, each neighbourhood will be requested to provide 3 participants. Lunch will be provided. More information on the workshop will be provided in coming weeks.

2018 Progress Report

At their September 6 meeting, Council will receive an [update](#) providing them the City of Victoria's [activities and accomplishments](#) over the first half of the year on major projects, initiatives, and programs contained in the 2015-2018 Strategic Plan and the 2018 Financial Plan.

Council Meetings

Committee of the Whole meets September [6](#), 20 and 27 at 9am. Council meets on September [6](#) and 20 beginning at 6:30pm. Residents can attend both meetings or watch them [here](#).