

In Your Neighbourhood

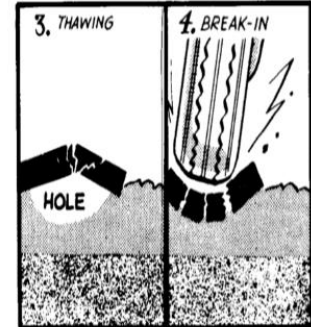
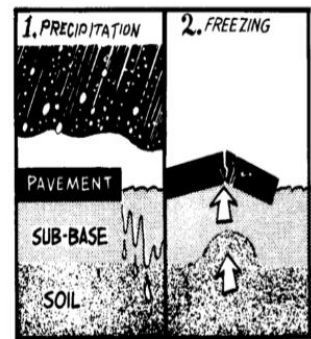
Crystal Pool

On January 9th, Council considered a [staff report](#) and opted to pursue the facility design already developed for the pool at either the current site or at 940 Caledonia (Royal Athletic Park parking lot). Staff were asked to consolidate descriptions of all sites contemplated to date for Council's consideration and this was presented to Council in a [report](#) at their February 6 meeting. Due to new site information, Council deferred their consideration of the matter until further information is prepared.

A community meeting is to be held once the sites have been evaluated and one has been selected. The results will then be reported to Council in order to confirm next steps to secure funding for the project

Potholes

This time of year, pot is more commonly used to refer to holes in the road than recreational/medicinal substances. The proliferation of potholes comes from winter weather, which can quickly turn small irregularities in the asphalt to gaping holes. Please report any potholes through the [City website](#) or call Public Works at 250.385.5711. You can also download the [ConnectVictoria App](#) to conveniently report any issues you may have in your neighbourhood.

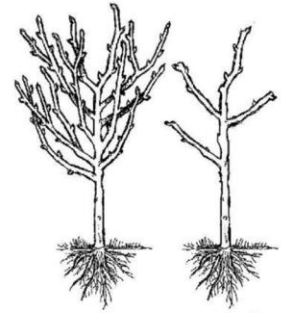


Water Main Flushing

Water Main Flushing is intended to clean water distribution pipes of sediments that build up over time and improve water quality. This work will begin Monday, February 3 during regular business hours (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.) and occasional evenings to avoid impacting businesses and traffic flow. As a result of the flushing process, you may temporarily experience low water pressure and discoloured water during or after flushing. If you experience discoloured water, please run the cold water tap in your bathtub or laundry tub to avoid clogging screens in faucets.

Youth Poet Laureate

Neko Smart was formally appointed to her one-year term as [Youth Poet Laureate](#) on January 9, 2020 by Council. Neko is a graduate of Victoria High School and the founder and co-coach of the Victoria High Slam Poetry Team. She is Victoria's eighth Youth Poet Laureate.



Parks and Open Spaces Plan Achievements

At the January 30 meeting, Council received a staff report outlining progress on work relating to the Parks and Open Spaces Master Plan. The report requests and exemption from the directive for naturalization of plantings for several sites including the northwest gateway corner of Topaz Park and planters along Government Street.

Harm Reduction Service

On February 13, Council approved a [recommendation](#) from Councillors Potts, Alto and Loveday that the City endorse a project application to take advantage of a Provincial funding opportunity (Community Action Initiative Grant) to bring stakeholders together to envision a multi-partner, effective, comprehensive, wrap-around harm reduction service for Victoria. Its envisioned that the City would partner with AVI and SOLID to define specific elements of contract for a project manager who would lead the project. The initiative not expected to involve City funding contributions.

Neighbourhood Traffic

Staff have now been hired to lead the traffic calming program with the first year of the program (2020) focused on local streets around schools and parks. Compilation and review of historic traffic calming concerns, along with data collection, is also underway at the program's onset. Staff will be reaching out to each Neighbourhood Association to introduce the program, provide project updates and get feedback on neighbourhood streets.

Accessibility Framework

The City of Victoria is striving to make our community as inclusive as possible and is collecting important feedback from residents about accessibility in Victoria. The Accessibility Framework will outline a city-wide program to prevent and remove barriers for people with disabilities. You can watch a video-recorded presentation and look at documents [here](#). Engagement closed on February 9, but if you have comments you like to submit, please sent them in to us at engage@victoria.ca as soon as possible

Mural Roster and Toolkit

Murals in well-considered locations can often bring a community together and improve neighbourhood spaces. The [Mural Toolkit](#) is a helpful step-by-step guide for artists and business owners who are interested in the mural-making process. The City of Victoria has established a roster of pre-qualified, local artists who are available for mural and community art opportunities in 2020. If you are considering a mural or community-based art project, check out our [Mural webpage](#) and/or contact us at culture@victoria.ca.



Municipal By-Election is Saturday, April 4

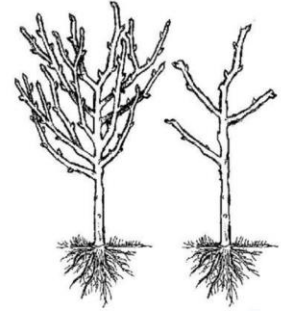
In April 2020 voters in the municipal by-election in Victoria will elect one Councillor. The nomination period is open from Tuesday February 18 – Friday February 28, 2020. Qualifications for office are available [here](#). More information for voters can be found on our [website](#).

CITY OF VICTORIA | NORTH PARK

Neighbourhood Councillor: Marianne Alto malto@victoria.ca

Neighbourhood Councillor: Sharmarke Dubow sdubow@victoria.ca

Neighbourhood Staff Contact: Michael Hill mhill@victoria.ca



Seniors Action Plan

In the fall of 2019, Victoria City Council formed a Seniors Task Force comprised of community-minded individuals ages 65 and over. The purpose of the Task Force is to inform the development of the City's Seniors Action Plan. The committee is focusing on the question: "How can the City of Victoria promote healthy seniors and positive aging?" They are guided by eight topic areas identified by the [World Health Organization](#).

- Outdoor Spaces and Buildings
- Transportation
- Housing
- Respect and Social Inclusion
- Social Participation
- Communication and Information
- Civic Participation and Employment
- Community Support and Health Services

You can watch the recent Town Hall meeting and draft recommendations on the City website. A report will be going to Council in coming months.

Equity Lens

Council was presented with a staff report outlining options for advancing an equity lens for the City at its January 16 committee meeting. The report provided options for resourcing the development of an equity framework based on Council feedback provided at their October workshop on the topic and community input. In order to make progress relatively quickly, Council Committee of the Whole supported staff recommendations to allot \$75K in contracted services and to establish positions for:

- Equity and Inclusion Coordinator - 1 FTE – \$107,900 (ongoing)
- Accessibility and Inclusion Recreation Role - 1 FTE – \$52,000 (ongoing)
- Accessibility Coordinator – 1 FTE – \$107,900 (ongoing)
- Social Planner – 1 FTE - \$125,111 (ongoing)
- That Council add another FTE to focus on Equity and Inclusion \$108,000

**Branch Chipping
Residential pickup
starts February 18th!**

[More information.](#)

The recommendations are to be ratified at an upcoming Council meeting.

Trees in Cities Challenge

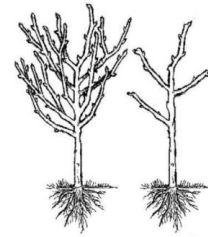
Victoria is the first city in Canada to join the [Trees in Cities Challenge](#). As part of this global campaign, the City of Victoria will work with the community to plant 5,000 trees on public and private land by the end of 2020. Residents and groups can join in the *Trees in Cities Challenge* in four easy steps: pledge to plant, learn about tree health, plant and record your trees and become a tree champion. You could plant a tree in your yard, volunteer at a neighbourhood tree planting day and/or attending free, monthly tree-care workshop offered by the City.

You can [register here](#) for *Tree Care and Fruit Tree Pruning Workshop in Fernwood Orchard* Saturday, February 22 from 10am -1pm.





February 2020 Update North Park



City Council Meetings

Committee of the Whole meets on February [6](#), [13](#), [20](#) and 27th at 9:00am. Council meets on February [13](#) and 27 beginning at 6:30pm.

You can also find out more about Council meetings by:

- Watching recordings of the meetings [here](#)
- Tuning into [bi-weekly videos](#) for what's coming up for discussion at City Council
- Reviewing the decisions made at Council on our [Council Highlights](#) page
- Finding out how Councillors voted on the City [Council Meeting Dashboard](#)

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