

In Your Neighbourhood

Street Patio Policy

On July 8, Council considered a [Councillor resolution](#) on patio licensing and resolved to:

- Support a letter from businesses advocating for retention of the Gladstone street patios near Fernwood Road
- Direct staff to also identify processes for facilitating permanent closures of ... roadways to facilitate increased public (and ...) commercial use, beginning with 1300 Block on Gladstone from Fernwood Street to Stanley Avenue as pilot program
- Direct staff to report back to update and extend the current Business Recovery from Pandemic Bylaw (#20-072) prior to October 31, 2021
- Include "Extend and optimize the 'Build Back Victoria' patio program" as a 2021 Strategic Plan action item and "Make the Build Back Victoria patio program permanent" as a 2022 Strategic Plan action item.

Free Community Programs at Royal Athletic Park

The City is offering a variety of free programs at Royal Athletic Park throughout the month of July and August. You can join a beginners' lesson in line dancing and ballroom dancing, create a tin can succulent planter, up-cycle colourful cast-off materials into fun and useful projects and/or create a mandala from wooden clothes hangers. Space is limited so register [here](#). A list of the programs can be found [here](#)



RAP Fees for Community Use

Council has asked City staff to report back on the implications of amending Recreation Fee Bylaw to allow community groups to book Royal Athletic Park at low or no cost, and/or of re-envisioning ways that RAP can be opened for public use following findings of the 1996 Local Area Plan and the experience from community-based recreation programs held by city staff and the North Park Neighbourhood Association in 2020 and 2021.

Accessible Parking

If you have an accessible parking permit or drive someone who does, we want to hear about your experience using accessible parking stalls in Victoria. The City of Victoria is taking steps to develop accessible parking requirements for new developments and expand the supply of high quality public accessible parking stalls on our streets and in parkades. To help guide these changes, the City is working closely with service providers and stakeholders to inform new suggested rates and design criteria for accessible and van-accessible stalls. Learn more [here](#)

Get Growing Victoria!

Neighbourhood distribution days are coming up for the Get Growing, Victoria program. Fall winter veggie seedings and gardening materials will be distributed in the North Park neighbourhood on Monday August 23 from 10am to 3pm at the Franklin Green Park. Residents facing barriers to growing their own food can collect



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free food seedlings and get advice on how to care for them. Please view the [Summer 2021 Neighbourhood Distribution Days Schedule](#) for more information.

Village and Corridors Plan

On July 15, Council received a report on the Village and Corridors Plan. Council directed staff to:

- Work with the Downtown Blanshard Advisory Committee, the Fernwood Community Association, and the North Park Community Association to address concerns raised by those associations.
- Prepare draft neighbourhood plans and design guidelines and begin the final stage of engagement
- Refer draft neighbourhood plans and design guidelines to the Advisory Design Panel and the Heritage Advisory Panel for comments.
- Receive the community associations for information.

You can find the report and supporting documents in the meeting agenda:

<https://pub-victoria.escribemeetings.com/Meeting.aspx?Id=35f0b651-dbe7-4858-b228-0b0380991853&Agenda=Agenda&lang=English&Item=14&Tab=attachments>

No-one Likes You If You Have Gas...

Tell us about your switch from gas home heating to a heat pump in the Make the Switch study and earn \$100! City Green Solutions, BC Hydro, and municipal partners are undertaking a study to better understand the costs and benefits of heat pump installations across British Columbia and want to know more about the operating costs of heating with natural gas versus a heat pump and what homeowner motivations are for making the switch. Participants must have switched from natural gas to heating with an electric heat pump in the last three years to participate. Check out www.citygreen.ca/make-the-switch for details and to sign-up to take the survey.

Placemaking Toolkit

Help us refine the City of Victoria's Draft Placemaking Toolkit. It gives an overview of the placemaking process, examples of placemaking in Victoria and strategies for successfully completing projects of all shapes and sizes. It also includes a catalogue of pre-approved furniture, paint and lighting to make it quicker and easier for you to take your project from idea to reality. Please let us know if the Toolkit is easy to use and if it inspires you to start a placemaking project of your own. [Complete the survey](#) and share your ideas before August 15.



Participatory Budgeting

13 submissions have been received and are now going through a review and revision process before presentation to the community for voting in September. The community-based Participatory Budgeting Steering Committee sought proposals for projects of several cost thresholds to enhance and enrich neighbourhood spaces throughout Victoria with a total fund of \$50,000 available. Participatory Budgeting gives the entire community the opportunity to vote on how to invest a portion of the City budget in projects that matter to the people who



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live here. You can learn about Participatory Budgeting at www.victoria.ca/EN/main/residents/city-grants/participatory-budgeting.html.

Council Meetings

Committee of the Whole met on August 5th. There are no further meetings until September 2nd.