

In Your Neighbourhood

Great Neighbourhood Block Party



To help kick off the next round of the Great Neighbourhoods Grant program, the Neighbourhood Team is hosting a Great Neighbourhood Block Party at the Da Vinci Centre **on March 14, 1-5pm**. Please come and hear [Paul Born](#), published author and champion for community development, talk about how to deepen community. There will also be a showcase of past projects and some ideas for the

future. Attendees will participate in a short workshop to begin mapping your neighbourhood cultural assets. All of this will be accompanied by treats, live music and fun activities. Mark your calendar and plan to attend this free event.

The next intake of the Great Neighbourhood Grants program runs from March 1 – April 15, 2018. Please see our [website](#) for details.

Cherry Blossom Map

Well this is kind of neat: City staff have produced a "blossom map" so you can see where and when those beautiful cherry blossoms are blooming. Check out [VicMap](#) for the details.



Storm Water Utility and Rainwater Rewards Update

On February 8, Council was presented with a report providing information and recommendations regarding an update on the Storm Water Utility and Rain Water Rewards credit and rebate program. Council approved that the Rainwaters Rewards rebate pilot program be extended and that the Sanitary Sewer and Storm Water Utilities Bylaw be amended to reflect the practices for imposing fees and charges with respect to strata lot premises. Council also asked staff to report back on the implications of removing the street cleaning fee from the utility. [Learn more about this report.](#)

Archives Digitization Project

Council received a report on February 8 regarding the new Archives Online Search database which provides online, searchable access to the City's archival collections. More than 10,000 digitized archival photos and records are now accessible online. Go [here](#) to check out the new online archives.

Did You Know?



Sunday May 6th, 2018 has been proclaimed [Neighbour Day](#) by the Mayor of Victoria. This is an opportunity to celebrate the people who are closest to you, literally! It is a chance to deepen your community connection with the people who live in your neighbourhood in a variety of ways. Take the time to wave, lend a helping hand, share a cup of coffee or even host an event. Neighbour Day is a great opportunity to make a connection with the people who share your street and strengthen your neighbourhood! Watch this space next month for some ideas on how to you might want to take part.

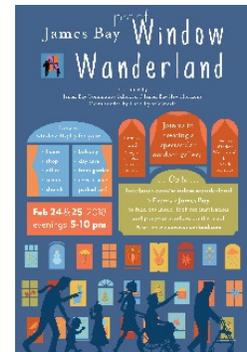
Neighbourhood Cleaning Cart

Have you ever thought your neighbourhood would benefit from a little more TLC? A rolling cart to support a Neighbourhood Clean Team might be the answer. Carts are outfitted with basic equipment for picking up litter, painting out graffiti and disposing of syringes. Purchase of these carts can be arranged through your Neighbourhood Team and potentially funded through a Great Neighbourhood Grant. A fully outfitted cart would cost approximately \$800. A grant may cover additional supplies and support a neighbourhood clean-up event. This could be a great way to engage retired residents, involve youth from neighbourhood schools or mobilize other residents who you have met through your neighbourhood planning process. More details on this are available from your Neighbourhood Team. Now is a good time to start thinking about it, so please let us know if you would like to explore this idea!



Window Wanderland 2018

Speaking of great ideas for a neighbourhood project, come to James Bay on the weekend of February 24-25, and view the first [Window Wanderland](#) event in North America. James Bay residents are creating illuminated displays in their windows at their homes, shops, offices, schools and even their cars. Join residents in this family-friendly evening event to wander the streets and see the amazing outdoor gallery they are creating.



Rainwater Rewards Update

Council has extended the [Rainwater Rewards](#) rebate program through 2018. Property owners can save 10-50% on their stormwater bill by installing rainfall detention features such as rain barrels and permeable paving. Staff are also to report to Council in June regarding the implications of removing the street cleaning fee from stormwater utility billing, removing the inequity for owners and occupiers on corner lots and directions for the rainwater rewards program in the future.



February 2018 Update

Burnside Gorge

Short Term Vacation Rental Licensing

On February 22, Council approved a staff [report](#) on proposed short term rental business regulations. Recommendations included:

1. Approve of the proposed short term rental annual business licence fee of \$150 for principal residence and \$1,500 for all other short-term rentals;
2. Direct staff to bring forward the Short Term Rental Regulation Bylaw at the February 22, 2018 Council meeting for introductory readings;
3. Approve holding an opportunity for receiving public comments on the proposed Bylaw in conjunction with the Public Hearing for Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Short Term Rental Home Occupations) Bylaw No. 18-035; and,
4. Direct staff to report back to Council in Quarter 4 of 2018 with an update on the short term rental program, including budget implications passed.

Council Meetings

Committee of the Whole meets March 8, 15 and 22 at 9am. Council meets March 8 and 22, beginning at 6:30pm. Residents can attend both meetings or watch them [here](#).