

In Your Neighbourhood



Window Wanderland 2018

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 cars. Join residents in this family-friendly event in the evening to wander around and see the amazing outdoor gallery that got created. Visit the [website](#) for more details.

Participatory Budgeting Winners Announced

Winners from the first Participatory Budgeting process were announced on January 31. The top three projects include an employment preparedness training program for Victoria's most vulnerable citizens, a "pop-up native bee apiary", and an educational learning garden. \$52,500 in funding will be distributed to these community-based projects that all have the common goal of improving life in Victoria. The winning projects will be implemented in the coming year. You can learn more about the Participatory Budgeting process [here](#).

Strategic Plan Amendments

On January 18, Council approved amendments to the actions and outcomes of the Strategic Plan. These included:

- Accessibility Framework implemented
- Citizen-led Heritage Conservation Area registration promoted and supported by staff
- Housing Strategy amended and implementation accelerated
- Inclusionary Housing Policy developed and adopted
- Sustainable Mobility Strategy developed with BC Transit
- Local government procurement plan developed and hub established
- Sustainable Waste Management strategy developed
- Climate Leadership Plan implemented
- Discussion of amalgamation advanced

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!

Sign Up for Vic-Alert



This week's tsunami warning is a reminder that emergencies can happen at any time. Coastal areas of Vic West are particularly vulnerable (see map). [Sign up](#) for Vic-Alert, the City of Victoria's free emergency notification service to receive helpful information and updates by phone, text or email on emergencies that may impact you. For more information, visit: www.VictoriaReady.ca.

Great Neighbourhood Grant – Spring Intake opens March 1

It's hard to believe but the next application intake for the My Great Neighbourhood Grant program is opening March 1, 2018. Start thinking about ways to bring people together for a fun community building activity. Maybe look at ways to revitalize areas of your 'hood that are looking a little weary, or need a new reason to bring people together. You know your neighbourhood best – talk to your Neighbourhood Liaison about your thoughts and ideas, and let us help you flesh out a plan. Criteria and details on the grant program can be found [here](#)



New Library Name Announced

Victoria City Council has selected **sxʷeŋ'xʷəŋ taŋ'exw James Bay Branch** as the name for the new Greater Victoria Public Library that will open in early spring. Pronounced *s-hweng hw-ung tongue-oo-hw*, **sxʷeŋ'xʷəŋ taŋ'exw** is the Lekwungen name for James Bay. There was strong support from the community during the *Name That Library* campaign to name the new branch a local First Nations name and to consult the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations on a suitable name. In consultation with the two local Nations, the name **sxʷeŋ'xʷəŋ taŋ'exw James Bay Branch** was selected. City Council has also named the library's two meeting rooms the **Dr. Elmer Seniemten George M.S.M. Community Room** (pronounced *Sen-eem-ten*), and the **Mifflin Wistar Gibbs Study Room** (pronounced *Wis-ter*).

For more information and to hear the library name pronounced by Elder Dr. Elmer Seniemten George, visit: www.gvpl.ca and click on the illustration of the new library.

Training Opportunities

Volunteer Victoria is offering the following [courses](#) that may be of interest to neighbourhood organizations. Costs vary depending on whether you are a member of Volunteer Victoria.

- **Social Media 101**

This four part series will help you conquer social media overwhelm by breaking your social media marketing into manageable bite size pieces. You will walk away with a marketing plan and content calendar for the year. 4 weeks **beginning February 22nd 2018**

- **BC Societies Act Basics**

This workshop focuses on supporting you to not only meet the November 28th transition deadline but to also address aspects related to compliance with the Act. **February 28th 2018 | 9:00 am - 12:00 pm**

- **Leadership Practice**

This course has been designed for emerging and established leaders who want to deepen their understanding of their personal leadership style and expand their leadership capacity and impact in the sector. Beginning with a one-day face-to-face launch the course proceeds with six weeks of on-line learning. **Beginning February 5th 2018**



February 2018 Update

South Jubilee

- **Foundations in Volunteer Management**

This course will ground you in recognized best practices, expose you to trends in the field and offer you effective management approaches. This is a 6 week online course that you do at your own pace, beginning with a mandatory **1 day session on March 7th**, from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm.

Council Meetings

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