



## GREAT IDEAS FOR GREAT NEIGHBOURHOODS

Curious to learn what's happening in your neighbourhood and other neighbourhoods in Victoria? Looking for some local and global inspiration for community building and placemaking ideas? Here are some ideas, resources and updates to help you create a vibrant neighbourhood.

### Ideas from Around the City

#### New Neighbour Hub



Inspired by a beehive, the newest Neighbour Hub in front of Wark Street Park in Hillside Quadra is buzzing with opportunities to connect. Combining placemaking, storage for emergency supplies and community information, Neighbour Hubs are public gathering places built to increase community preparedness and resilience. With the goal of one in every neighbourhood, hubs can also be found on Harbour Road in Victoria West and Leonard Street in Fairfield. Finishing touches to the Kings Road Neighbour Hub are coming- learn more at [victoria.ca/preparedneighbours](https://victoria.ca/preparedneighbours).

#### Gorge Rd Pro Patria Mural

A stunning new mural has come to town! Painted on aluminum panels and placed on the side of the Pro Patria Legion on Gorge Rd. E, the mural addressed the problem of a frequently vandalized wall. The local artist, Kelly Everill, partnered with the Coast Salish Community to develop a mural which represents not only the indigenous community but the involvement of this community in the Canadian Military. The local volunteer Graffiti Fighters will maintain the mural. The mural cost \$30,000 to complete, with part of the project funded by grants from the B.C. Government's "Strengthening Communities" program and a City of Victoria *My Great Neighbourhood* grant. The massive mural was completed on Oct. 24 and took four days to complete. The paint applied to the surface of the wall has been treated to make it more resistant to graffiti.



# MY GREAT Neighbourhood

## Ideas from Further Abroad

### Creative Art Surfaces

Stroll through neighbourhoods across Vancouver and you will pass by several new pop-up plazas - community spaces that the City built during the pandemic for safe and inclusive socializing. These areas are composed of picnic benches and other seating, umbrellas for shade, and plenty of friendly people space for hanging out and catching up. Residents were invited to personalize the generic spaces, making them look more like their local community. Like Victoria, there were lots of little free libraries and wall murals added, but a favourite easy addition was painting art on picnic tables. What a fabulous idea to add some life and colour to an otherwise generic meeting spot.



*Carrall St picnic tables;  
Artist: Geentajali Joshi*



*West 13th and Granville –  
Painting of benches done  
by Dusica, Koca, and  
Stepa Erakovic Photo  
Credit: Dusica Erakovic*

### Art Installation in Sooke



*The final dress (left) at the Sooke Municipal Hall and a pin made by Lil' Red Dress project with the same design. (Contributed)*

Phillip's metal form red dress was installed outside Sooke's municipal hall. The first version of the dress is on display at Edward Milne Community School, and another copy was given to the Lil' Red Dress Project to thank them for allowing Phillips to use the design.

A Métis artist in Sooke now has two art installations to her name, before she has even graduated high school. Pyper Phillips is a student at Edward Milne Community School where she, among her regular curriculum, studies metal fabrication. Her most recent piece is now installed in front of the Sooke Municipal Hall. It's a bright red dress with Northwest Coast form line cutouts, designed by artist Karver

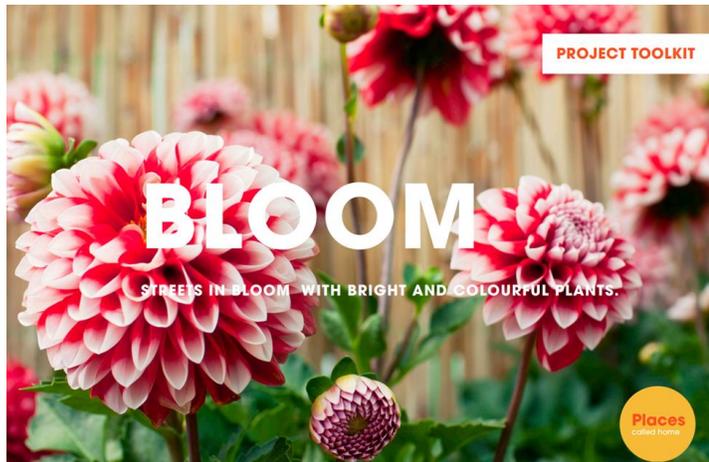
Everson. After consulting with T'Sou-ke First Nation leaders on an appropriate location,



## Making it Happen

Home and community are on our minds as we readjust to life following a pandemic. As we head into the winter season, this is the perfect time to be reflective about the places we call home and think about ways we can improve life for our families, friends and perhaps host some community conversations.

### Places Called Home Project Toolkits – Free Guides



What gives a place the feeling of home? Imagine spaces where communities can come together and feel at ease, a space where anyone can share skills and get to know each other, and a neighbourhood that feels like home for everyone who lives there. These **Places Called Home** toolkits will help your community build that space, together. Places Called Home embodies the Swedish concept of *Lagom*: a philosophy for everyday life that means “*just the right amount*”. The 12 Project Toolkits detail everything you need to launch impactful neighbourhood projects step-by-step, guiding

you through setting up initiatives in your local area. The toolkits are grouped around Three Imagine Themes: **Kitchen**, **Outdoors** and **Makerspace** and were developed to help your community connect through easy-to-start activities and projects that can take place in your neighbourhood. Read more and download these free toolkits here [Places Called Home Project Toolkits — Participatory City](#)

### Festival Investment Grants

Here is an opportunity for funding your neighbourhood celebrations. \$400,000 is available for up to 25% of your operating costs with \$25k dedicated to Canada Day neighbourhood events. The application deadline is Friday, December 30 at 4 p.m. More information can be found [here](#).

**Looking for more ways to stay in touch?** Sign up for our [City e-newsletter](#) for monthly updates on City programs and initiatives.

**Looking to stay engaged?** Register with our [Have Your Say Engagement Portal](#). You'll get a monthly update about current engagement opportunities to participate in surveys and other online engagement opportunities.



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The City of Victoria is located on the homelands of the Songhees and Esquimalt people.