

## In Your Neighbourhood

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### Crystal Pool Update

The [Crystal Pool website page](#) has been updated with new information on key outcomes new facility conceptual designs and features and a project. This fall, we are meeting with senior government to seek funding opportunities. The City will know more about potential funding in early 2018. If you would like to receive direct email updates on the Crystal Pool and Wellness Centre Replacement Project, please send your email to [crystalpool@victoria.ca](mailto:crystalpool@victoria.ca) requesting to be added to the email list.

### Neighbourhood Grants

The Great Neighbourhood grant fall intake has closed and nineteen applications were received. Three applications were received from the Fernwood neighbourhood. One application was received for the installation of “pollinator patches” in parks and gardens, which was sponsored by the Fernwood Community Association. Another was submitted by the Fernwood Neighbourhood Resource Group for a Coast Salish mural in the community center, and a final application was for a ball hockey tournament at Stevenson Park. Applications are now being reviewed by staff and recommendations for funding will be prepared for Council meeting. The next intake will be in the spring, so start thinking about projects you would like to do next summer.



### Johnson Street Bridge Update

A progress report for the Johnson Street Bridge was presented to Council on [October 19](#). Work is currently underway to determine the public realm plans. Commissioning and testing of the new bridge is planned to run from February through March, 2018.



### Stormy Weather

In preparation for winter storms, City crews will be out clearing streets of leaves. Please help keep sidewalks, gutters and drains clear of leaves to prevent storm drains from clogging and flooding. If you have an obstructed storm drain in front of your property, please clear it of any leaves. If you see water pooling in your street during heavy rain and cannot unblock the drain, please call **250.361.0400** for assistance from City crews **at any time**.

### Off-Street Parking Regulations

Council welcomes comments from neighbourhood associations on the proposed changes to off-street parking regulations, which will be incorporated in to the Zoning Regulation Bylaw (see [October 5 staff report](#) to Council). The purpose of the changes is to modernize parking requirements by reducing car requirements and considering needs for bicycle and electric

vehicles. You can learn more about the regulations at an Open House on Monday, November 20, 2017 from 4 to 7 pm at City Hall.

### Workshops

Volunteer Victoria has several workshops coming up in the next two months. These cost from \$30-60. You can find more information and register [here](#).



- **Strategic Planning for Not For Profits**  
Tuesday, November 7th | 9 am - 12 pm
- **Board Evaluation: The Key to Improving Governance**  
Thursday, November 9th | 3 pm - 5 pm
- **Engaging Skilled Volunteers**  
Wednesday, November 15th | 9 am - 12 pm
- **Speed Networking - Emerging Leaders**  
Thursday, November 23rd | 4:30 - 6 pm

### Emergency Updates

Want to be in the know? Especially about a major emergency? Sign up for Vic-Alert, the City of Victoria's emergency notification service. Receive important information and updates on emergencies in Victoria that may impact you. Signing up for Vic-Alert is easy and can be done from your mobile phone, tablet or computer. And it's free! Learn more at [www.VictoriaReady.ca](http://www.VictoriaReady.ca)



### City Budget

Council is now in the process of finalizing the [City's 2018 budget](#). The draft budget can be viewed on the City website. There will be an ETown Hall on November 30 when you can participate either at City Hall or on your computer at home.

### Single-use Shopping Bags

On October 26, Victoria City Council approved a motion to consider a new single-use checkout bag bylaw, prohibiting businesses from selling and distributing plastic bags to customers. The draft bylaw proposes that businesses may provide a checkout bag to customers only if:

- The customer is first asked whether they need a bag
- The business provides a paper or reusable bag
- A fee no less than 12 cents per paper bag; and minimum two dollars per reusable bag is charged

You can find the [Council Report](#) and read the [draft bylaw](#) online. Please email feedback to [engage@victoria.ca](mailto:engage@victoria.ca) by November 30.

### Parks Regulation Bylaw Changes

At their [September 21 meeting](#), Council approved changes to the Parks Regulation Bylaw. The intent is to better regulate the use and operation of parks. The draft bylaw amendments will go to Council on October 26 and can be viewed in Section J.4a of the [meeting agenda](#).

### Council Meetings

Committee of the Whole meets on November [2](#), [9](#), [16](#) and [23](#) at 9 am. Council meets November [9](#) and [23](#), beginning at 6:30 pm. Residents can attend meetings or view live and recorded videos [here](#). Council will also hold Special meetings on November [2](#) and [7](#) to review the 2018 budget submissions by City Departments.