



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

Upcoming Events around Victoria



Fall Fairfield

September 24 | 12-5 p.m.
 Robert J. Porter Park and Fairfield Community Place
 Fall Fairfield, presented by the Fairfield Gonzales Community Association, is an annual music, arts, crafts and food festival set in the heart of Fairfield. The festival is a free, all-ages, community event celebrating local businesses and non-profits,

artists, performers and people across Victoria in recognition of Fairfield’s dynamic culture and the harvest season!

Vic West Corn Roast

September 17 | 12-4 p.m.
 Raynor Street and Craigflower Road
 Come celebrate Vic West and Spiral Cafe’s 22 anniversary with local music, food and fun! Munch on delicious roasted and boiled corn, sip fresh apple juice made from Vic West apples, visit with friends and neighbours while local musicians perform. Build a wacky zucchini car to race down the track, a kids favourite! Bring the pooch to show off their best behaviour and tricks at the dog show starting at 1 p.m. Bring a home-baked apple pie for a chance to win the blue ribbon - judging is at 2 p.m. and the pies will be served after judging.



Your Neighbourhood Liaison
 Gary Pemberton gpemberton@victoria.ca

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

MY GREAT Neighbourhood

IDEAS FROM FURTHER ABROAD

Shipping Containers Make for Creative Placemaking

A good public space is not only inviting but also builds a place for the community. Great spaces arise from collaboration with the users of the place and can provide the community with a sense of pride and ownership of their environment. In recent years, many organizations have turned to using shipping containers with hopes of transforming spaces. These containers can be used to beautify greenways and parklets and used as creative hubs, art installations and retail pop-ups. The City of Langford installed multiple containers on Station Avenue creating a cultural district used for retail space, markets and special events. It also features some amazing art installations. They transformed a difficult space into a creative hub and in the process, made a great community place. If you haven't had a chance to check it out, we highly encourage you to take a trip out that way and then think about how you might use shipping containers in a placemaking project in your neighbourhood.



Photo Credit: Langford Station

Police Recruits Engage with Community, Build Relationships Before Law Enforcement Training Begins



Seattle police recruits are getting to know members of the community and building relationships before hitting the streets as police officers. It's part of a new program called *Before the Badge*, a first-of-its-kind training program that focuses on building interpersonal relationships and officer wellness before law enforcement training. The program launched in May 2022 and has worked with about 70 recruits so far. This new training program serves as a chance for business owners, community members and leaders to engage with the recruits before they complete their training at the police academy. Kudos to the SPD for developing a culture of compassionate and equitable policing.



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MAKING IT HAPPEN

What Makes a Successful Place?

Great public places are recognized as being comprised of four key qualities. They are accessible, active, comfortable and social. The Project for Public Spaces has been helping communities think about how to transform spaces in their neighbourhoods over several decades. On this webpage, PPS provides a framework for assessing your placemaking ideas or a site that you are considering. You may find this helpful in making your next placemaking project a success. <https://www.pps.org/article/grplacefeat>



Supporting Residents to Become Community Connectors in Multi-unit Housing

Resident champions or social animators can do a lot to help foster more vibrant, connected communities in multi-unit housing. The results are often a greater sense of belonging for everyone and more robust practices of spontaneous mutual aid, among other benefits. [This guide](#) discusses fun activities that residents can initiate, both light-touch and more involved, from lobby puzzles and doggy play-dates to emergency preparedness workshops. Also explored are many relatively easy things that landlords, housing operators, community organizations and governments can do to support residents in making these kinds of activities happen. Share this guide to not only enhance neighbour-to-neighbour relationships but also to extend your community association’s reach into multi-unit housing.

Looking for more ways to stay in touch? Sign up for our [City e-newsletter](#) for monthly updates on City programs and initiatives. Register with our [Have Your Say Engagement Portal](#) for a monthly notice to participate in surveys and other online engagement opportunities.



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