

## NEWS RELEASE

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### South Downtown Waterfront Revitalization Begins

#### *Detailed Site Investigation Work Underway*

#### Summary

The first steps towards revitalizing the City of Nanaimo's south downtown waterfront land at 1 Port Drive is set to begin with the commencement of a detailed site investigation which will provide a better understanding of the environmental conditions on the property.

The environmental firm Tetra Tech EBA was selected as the consultant to complete the work following their successful completion of a Request for Qualifications which closed on June 27, 2014. The work performed by Tetra Tech EBA is scheduled to be completed by October 31, 2014.

**Strategic Link:** Waterfront Enhancement: improved public access and use. A working waterfront that supports business, marine industries, transportation, connectivity, entertainment and tourism. Transportation and Mobility: improved external connections such as the foot passenger ferry to Vancouver and work with the RDN on a downtown transportation hub.

#### Key Points

- The City received a grant of \$175,000 from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Green Municipal Fund to assist with the site investigation. Council has also budgeted \$115,000 in the 2014 budget.
- Last fall the South Downtown Waterfront Initiative Committee prepared a vision for the 1 Port Drive lands which would see them become an integral piece of the urban fabric of Nanaimo.
- A number of uses have already been identified for this property including the Island Ferry Services Ltd. Nanaimo to Vancouver passenger only ferry service and the Regional District of Nanaimo's transportation hub.

#### Quotes

"The redevelopment of these lands is a complicated process. Understanding the environmental constraints will greatly assist the City as we start to develop a more detailed vision for this specific property. "

John Ruttan  
Mayor  
City of Nanaimo

#### Quick Facts

- The majority of the land at 1 Port Drive was created through the distribution of coal waste from the Vancouver Coal Mining Company's operations.

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