

## NEWS RELEASE

Distributed April 16, 2018

### Second Session Planned for Public Engagement Pilot Program

#### Summary

The Public Engagement Pilot Program continues with a second engagement session taking place on Thursday, April 26, 2018 in the Beban Park Social Centre. Residents will have the opportunity to discuss a number of topics of interest with members of City Council, the task force as well as other residents during a "Micro Town Hall" session which runs from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm, in the Beban Park Social Centre.

The format will give residents the opportunity to sit at a table with one member of Council where they can ask the member of Council a question and have a discussion around that question. After 30 minutes, the member of Council would move to a different table and the questions would begin again.

Those wishing to attend are encouraged to RSVP by April 23 via email [PublicEngagement@nanaimo.ca](mailto:PublicEngagement@nanaimo.ca) or phone 250-755-7527. For more information on the second session and its format, please visit [www.nanaimo.ca](http://www.nanaimo.ca).

*Strategic Link:* Supporting community engagement "Taking Responsibility to be an Excellent Municipal Government"

#### Key Points

- The session will take place on Thursday, April 26 from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm in the Beban Park Social Centre.
- The goal of this session is to ensure the public has the chance to raise matters they deem important directly with community leadership. Residents can bring up to three questions with them to ask.
- One table will be livecast so residents can participate online. More information will be available closer to the date on the City website, [facebook.com/CityofNanaimo](https://facebook.com/CityofNanaimo) and [twitter.com/CityofNanaimo](https://twitter.com/CityofNanaimo)

#### Quotes

"I look forward to meeting with citizens in an informal setting and having an open dialogue. Please come out and share your concerns with a Council member. "

Sheryl Armstrong  
Councillor  
City of Nanaimo

"We reviewed the feedback collected last summer and found that Town Halls, while popular, were seen by many to create an "us vs them" atmosphere while really only offering engagement opportunities for those who are comfortable speaking in front of a crowd. We believe the design of the Micro Town Hall format will offer the popular aspects of Towns Halls while also creating a relaxed and comfortable environment in which meaningful conversations happen for everyone."

Erin Hemmens  
Member  
Community Engagement Task Force

"The Community Engagement Task Force is looking forward to our next session that will enable the public to engage one-on-one with members of Council. Come out and get involved in community engagement. See you there."

Bill Manners  
Member  
Community Engagement Task Force

## Quick Facts

- The Community Engagement Task Force is a result of a Council motion made to set up an "ad-hoc committee" to develop a pilot program consisting of open-topic engagement sessions held in an informal setting. Their next meeting will take place on Monday, April 16 at 4:30 pm in the Service and Resource Centre boardroom (411 Dunsmuir Street) and is open to the public.

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View the online edition for more information -  
<https://cnan.ca/2HnJasC>