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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Zoning Bylaw to be Updated

In response to the adoption of the City's new Official Community Plan (OCP) on 2008-SEP-08, the City of Nanaimo is initiating a review of the City's Zoning Bylaw. The current Zoning Bylaw 4000 was adopted in 1993. While periodic amendments to the Bylaw have been made throughout the years, a full re-write of the Zoning Bylaw is necessary in order to reflect the new vision for the City of Nanaimo as outlined in the newly adopted OCP. The OCP recognizes that there is a need to update the Zoning Bylaw to ensure that it reflects the goals of the OCP and embraces the concepts of complete communities, environmental stewardship and growth management.

A Zoning Bylaw determines what uses are permitted on a particular property and regulates the siting, height and density of buildings permitted on a lot. As the most direct method for regulating land use, the City's Zoning Bylaw can have a profound impact on the character of the City as well as on an individual's rights to develop property.

The City is interested in hearing from Nanaimo residents and business owners regarding the existing Zoning Bylaw and areas where it can be improved upon. To have a say regarding the drafting of the new Zoning Bylaw members of the public are encouraged to fill out a survey which can be found online at www.nanaimo.ca or can be picked up at the City Hall Annex (238 Franklyn Street). Additional opportunities for public input will be announced in the near future.

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