

## NEWS RELEASE

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### City of Nanaimo to participate in Earth Hour

#### Summary

On Saturday, March 19 at 8:30 pm, the world will turn off its lights for one hour to show it's possible to take action on climate change. This worldwide event is called Earth Hour.

This year, the City of Nanaimo will continue to support this event and raise awareness about what all of us can do, no matter how small, in saving energy and lowering greenhouse gas emissions in our community.

*Strategic Link:* Environmental Responsibility: Build a more sustainable community.

#### Key Points

- Earth Hour will take place on Saturday, March 19 from 8:30 pm to 9:30 pm.
- An Earth Hour themed Glow in the Dark skate will take place at Nanaimo Ice Centre on Saturday, March 19 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.
- Look for the official Earth Hour poster on the screen at Vancouver Island Conference Centre. Non-essential lighting will be dimmed at the Vancouver Island Conference Centre (VICC) during Earth Hour and the screens at VICC will be shut off for three days starting late afternoon Friday, March 27.

#### Quotes

"Our everyday actions, like turning off unnecessary lights, add up to make a big difference. This Earth Hour, let's come together as a community to reduce our energy consumption and show others how easy it is to reduce their footprint."

Bill McKay  
Mayor  
City of Nanaimo

#### Quick Facts

- Earth Hour started in Sydney, Australia in 2007 where people were encouraged to turn off lights, TVs and household appliances for one hour to increase awareness of climate change and to educate about little changes that can be made to reduce carbon emissions.
- Last year BC Hydro reported a reduction of 0.2 per cent of the provincial electricity load which is the equivalent of turning off about 680,000 LED light bulbs.
- In 2015, Earth Hour was a huge success with the lights switched off at over 10,000 landmarks and monuments and millions of people participating worldwide.

Continued... City of Nanaimo to participate in Earth Hour

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