

NEWS RELEASE

Distributed July 13, 2016

Strategic priorities focused eTown Hall scheduled for July 25

Members of the community encouraged to participate and share their ideas

Summary

Nanaimo residents wishing to provide feedback on Council's proposed strategic priorities can now do so by participating in an upcoming eTown Hall meeting scheduled for July 25th. The event follows the tradition of tabling a topic for discussion between Council members and the public, but unlike conventional town hall meetings, Nanaimo's eTown Hall format enables wider involvement by allowing participants to submit questions via social media, the City website, phone call, as well as in person.

During the meeting, residents will be invited to supply feedback on the following priorities contained in the Strategic Plan Update - development of South Downtown Waterfront; Recreation, Culture, Sports and Tourism; Public Safety; Governance Renewal; and Community Wellness. In addition, residents can also share their thoughts of the strategic vision and values.

The July 25th eTown Hall meeting will commence at the beginning of the regular 7:00 pm Council meeting and will run for two hours. If feedback runs past 9:00 pm, the meeting will be extended to continue the conversation.

Strategic Link: Taking responsibility to be an excellent municipal government through community outreach.

Key Points

- As part of the finalization and formal adoption of the Strategic Plan Update, Council directed staff to organize an eTown Hall event to allow the public the opportunity to provide comments.
- The event will be held at the Vancouver Island Conference Centre on July 25, starting at 7:00 pm.
- Residents are encouraged to review available information prior to the start of the meeting. Links to this information can accessed via the online version of this news release or by visiting the City's website - www.nanaimo.ca

Quotes

"I want to encourage anyone who can to participate in the eTown Hall; make your voice and opinions about your community heard."

Gord Fuller
Councillor
City of Nanaimo

"I see this eTown Hall as an important opportunity for the community to come together to ensure the priorities Council has identified are the right ones. I am looking forward to what people have to say."

Wendy Pratt
Councillor
City of Nanaimo

Quick Facts

- The City's previous Strategic Plan expired at the end of 2015. Building on the foundation and public input

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contained in the 2012-2015 document, Council released a proposed update on June 27, 2016. The update will guide Council's strategic decision-making through the remainder of their term.

- The five priority projects and two initiatives identified in the plan represent areas of interest where there is agreement amongst Council. These projects and initiatives do not preclude Council's considerations of other interests which align with the plan's identified vision, priorities and values.

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