

## NEWS RELEASE

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### City of Nanaimo to participate in Earth Hour

#### Summary

On Saturday, March 25 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 25 from 8:30 pm to 9:30 pm.
- Take part in a starlight skate with passive LED lit stars on Saturday, March 25 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the Nanaimo Ice Centre.
- 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 24.

#### 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. Taking small, deliberate and positive steps add up to huge gains for our global environment."

Bill McKay  
Mayor  
City of Nanaimo

#### Quick Facts

- In 2007 Earth Hour started as a grassroots movement in Sydney, Australia encouraging people 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.
- In 2015, 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 2016, 178 countries & territories participated and more than 400 of the world's most iconic landmarks switched off their lights including the Eiffel Tower in Paris and the Empire State Building in New York.
- In 2016, 1.23 million individual actions were made to help climate change from on-the-ground activities to climate petitions.

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

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