

## NEWS RELEASE

Distributed August 28, 2017

### Work of Community Engagement Committee underway

#### Summary

The committee responsible for developing recommendations for a public engagement pilot program is thanking all residents who attended feedback sessions in July and August and is reminding the public that an online survey remains open for those who were unable to provide their feedback in person.

Sessions held at Beban Park, Bowen Park, Oliver Woods Community Centre, Harewood Activity Centre and Maffeo Sutton Park gathered feedback from residents on how they would like to see a program that sparks community conversations organized and rolled out.

The current survey contains similar questions, requests for ideas and information as the sessions. Residents wishing to complete the survey can find it on the Community Engagement page located on the City's website. A link to the survey is available in the online version of this news release. The survey remains open until 12:00 p.m., August 31, 2017.

*Strategic Link:* By providing residents additional opportunities to engage with City Council and staff, the Public Engagement Pilot Program supports the priority of Taking Responsibility to be an excellent Municipal Government.

#### Key Points

- Once the survey is closed, the committee will meet to go over the results and begin work on forming a structure for the program.
- The next committee meeting will be held on Thursday, September 14 at 5:00 p.m. Unless otherwise specified, all meetings are open for viewing by interested members of the public.
- Meeting agendas, minutes and information on the program and committee are available on the City's website.

#### Quotes

"Throughout the public engagement sessions I had the opportunity to speak with many citizens. They had some excellent feedback and I look forward to continuing working with the committee to build on these comments. Thank you to the committee and City staff for their work on this as well as to the citizens who took the time to attend a session or complete the survey."

Sheryl Armstrong  
Councillor  
City of Nanaimo

"I'm pleased to be working alongside fellow residents in designing a program which is focused on creating opportunities for meaningful conversation between residents and City leaders. I've been impressed by my fellow committee members' passion and commitment to the process of community engagement, as well as by the support offered through City staff and Council. Meeting with residents at the Maffeo Sutton public consultation confirmed for me that Nanaimo is ready for a new conversation, and I am delighted to be working in support of that."

Erin Hemmens  
Community Engagement Committee  
City of Nanaimo

Continued... Work of Community Engagement Committee underway

"It is great to have a diverse group of men and women consisting of residents who live throughout the community. Together our goal is to represent the thoughts and ideas of everyone who has participated in this process."

Bill Manners  
Community Engagement Committee  
City of Nanaimo

## Quick Facts

- The Community Engagement Committee formed on July 11, 2017.

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