

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Affordable Housing Expo on Saturday, April 28**

#### *Help Shape Nanaimo's New Affordable Housing Strategy*

#### **Summary**

The City of Nanaimo is developing an Affordable Housing Strategy to address the rising cost of housing and is seeking the public's help to make sure the strategy is going on the right track.

Drop by the Affordable Housing Expo on Saturday, April 28 between 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church (4235 Departure Bay Road) to learn more about the Strategy process and provide feedback on proposed policy options. This family-friendly event will feature games, lego, snacks and a draw for a \$500 Parks and Recreation gift certificate, as well as a chance to connect with City staff and ask any questions you may have.

*Strategic Link:* Affordable Housing is one of Council's Key Initiatives in the 2016-2019 Strategic Plan.

#### **Key Points**

- Nanaimo's Affordable Housing Strategy is the first comprehensive study of affordability across the housing continuum, which includes social, non-market and market housing.
- The Affordable Housing Strategy will establish the City's role and priorities with regard to promoting affordable, appropriate, and accessible housing in Nanaimo over the next ten years (2018 - 2028).
- The next step in the process is the Affordable Housing Expo, which is a chance for the public to view the work to date and provide feedback on potential policy options. The final Strategy will be complete in August 2018.

#### **Quotes**

"While housing is a serious issue, Affordable Housing Expo is intended to be a little more fun and family-friendly event than the typical open house. The decisions we make today will have a huge impact on the next generation - so if you have kids, please bring them on the 28th. Everyone is welcome!"

Karin Kronstal  
Social Planner  
City of Nanaimo

"Affordable housing is a issue that affects everyone - from the homeless person on the street to the family looking to buy their first home. Our City has made some progress, but we need to do even more to make sure that there is a place for everyone in our community."

Gord Fuller  
Councillor  
City of Nanaimo

Continued... Affordable Housing Expo on Saturday, April 28

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