

## NEWS RELEASE

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### Get Involved Nanaimo!

*New online engagement site launched*

#### Summary

Residents now have a new way to share their point of view with the City of Nanaimo. City staff have been working behind the scenes to launch a new online public engagement site, Get Involved Nanaimo. The site is now live and residents interested in participating can register at [www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca](http://www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca). As part of the launch, the City has set up some fun projects where residents can share their favourite things about living in Nanaimo and spark up conversations as well as ideas.

The platform, hosted by Bang the Table, has a number of features for residents to provide their feedback, share ideas, collaborate and learn about City projects and initiatives in a safe and constructive environment. Features include chat forums, surveys, storytelling, interactive maps, idea brainstorming and question and answer sections as well as 24/7 moderation to ensure comments and conversations follow the platform's terms of use.

As a result of this addition to the City's engagement models, the Community Engagement page on the City website has undergone a makeover. The new page features a direct link to the Get Involved Nanaimo site as well as other helpful links to other ways residents can engage with the City.

Residents can sign up now to get involved by visiting [www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca](http://www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca) and follow the instructions to register.

*Strategic Link:* Providing online access to public engagement supports Council's priority of Governance Excellence.

#### Key Points

- Implementing an online engagement platform supports a recommendation from the Community Engagement Task Force's report on the Public Engagement Pilot Program.
- The City has implemented a new online engagement site, Get Involved Nanaimo. It can be found at [www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca](http://www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca).
- Registration to participate in discussions, surveys, brainstorming and more on Get Involved Nanaimo is free.

#### Quotes

"We are very excited to get this site up and running. Get Involved Nanaimo brings a new realm of engagement between residents and the City. Not everyone can attend engagement events such as open houses in person or appear as a delegation at a Council meeting. Being online gives people the opportunity to spark a conversation from wherever they may be."

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