

Update Parksville 2020 - A Vision For Our Future

PARKSVILLE, BC: The City of Parksville's review of the Official Community Plan is well underway with significant information now available and many more opportunities to participate yet to come. The City's OCP process, called *Parksville Plan 2020: A Vision for Our Future*, provides an opportunity for residents to have their say; to describe how they want to live, work and play in Parksville over the next ten years.

- The first series of six information gathering workshops were held in October and November. *Create Our Future* workshop participants were promised that all workbooks comments would be provided to the public online. As such, a 70 page PDF as well as a summary prepared by the consultant, H B Lanarc, is now on the website at <http://parksville.ca/ocp>.

What do you love about Parksville? What are the most important issues that you feel Parksville's OCP should address? These are just a few of the questions residents were asked during the first series of public workshops held in October and November. For those not able to attend a workshop, these same questions are available on the City's website in survey format until January 3, 2011.

- Two youth engagement forums in November involved the OCP consultant working with the three high schools in School District 69 and the Youth Action Committee of the Parksville Qualicum Community Foundation (called *The Hand*) to explore the issues most important to Parksville's young generation. In these forums, youth described their vision for a youth-friendly community in ten years time. Youth will continue to be involved in the process of sifting through information received at the forums and assist in generating themes and analysis. As soon as the results from the youth forms are available, they will be posted on the City's website.
- The inaugural meetings of the two OCP advisory committees were held on November 29. The OCP advisory committee structure was approved by Council in September and consists of two advisory committees, each with nine members -- the OCP Citizen Advisory Committee and the OCP Community Advisory Committee. Both advisory committees will review the overall update process equally and will have related but slightly different tasks. The committees will next meet in January.

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- While the OCP process is underway, the City will continue to provide an opportunity for residents to post comments or ideas on a large bulletin board located in the Atrium in the Parksville Civic and Technology Centre. All comments will be passed along to the OCP consultants.
- Residents may sign up to receive updates and information about the OCP review, delivered directly to their inboxes. Sign up online or email communications@parksville.ca

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