

From: ["Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca)
To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)
CC: ["City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"](#)
["Dunn, William" <William.Dunn@vancouver.ca>](mailto:William.Dunn@vancouver.ca)
["Hagiwara, Rosemary" <rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca>](mailto:rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca)
Date: 4/19/2021 5:22:21 PM
Subject: Your City Hall Update - Civics Toolbox

Dear Mayor and Council,

The purpose of this email is to provide an update on the progress of [Your City Hall](#) (YCH), a framework that was initiated by the City Clerk's Office in Fall 2019.

YCH has three interconnected goals: increase civic literacy, deepen local democracy, and reduce barriers to participation in civic life that includes but extends beyond voting. A brief outline of this work was presented to Council at the report back on the Random Ballot Order on January 19, 2021. To achieve these goals, YCH has three action areas:

- (1) Embark on a listen and learn campaign to understand and respond to gaps in knowledge about how local government works, how to get involved, and how to make change happen;
- (2) Build a toolbox of resources to fill gaps in information and clarify pathways to civic participation; and
- (3) Convene partners and amplify actions among interested individuals and groups.

We are pleased to share an update on action area 2: the **Your City Hall Civics Toolbox**. The toolbox can be found [here](#).

The Civics Toolbox aims to fill gaps in information about how City Hall works, how to get involved, and how to make change happen. The aim is to clarify pathways to participation, encourage collaboration, and amplify actions. The toolbox is intended for all interested individuals, groups and organizations wanting to know more about their city, and how to get involved. The toolbox includes five sections:

1. Democracy and democratic participation
2. Vancouver's people and neighbourhoods
3. City government and how decisions are made
4. City policy and planning issues
5. Getting involved

In total there are six presentations, 20 activities, nine fact sheets and 16 worksheets that can be used in any order – on their own, or in conjunction with other activities. Activities include bingo and jeopardy games, creative activities involving photography, drawing or interviews, activities involving research on city issues, mock debates, and activities focused on learning

how to register to vote.

Reflecting the work-in-progress nature of the Civics Toolbox, City Clerk's Office staff are now engaging with community groups to test and refine activities (e.g. CityStudio, Neighbourhood Houses, settlement organizations, youth-serving organizations). In addition, opportunities to work with community partners to co-create new tools and resources will be pursued. A full public launch is planned for later this year once more feedback has been gathered from our community partners.

Please contact Rosemary Hagiwara at rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca or Will Dunn at William.dunn@vancouver.ca if you have any questions.

Best,
Paul

Paul Mochrie (he/him)
Acting City Manager
City of Vancouver
paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməŋəm (Musqueam), lóóvú 7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tseil-Waututh) Nations.