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To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)
Date: 9/13/2021 10:25:59 AM
Subject: [Upcoming IB: Launch of West End Community Hub Renewal Plan engagement \(September 14, 2021\)](#)

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to inform you that the City will be issuing the below information bulletin on September 14, 2021 regarding the launch of the West End Community Hub Renewal Plan project and engagement process. Please keep this information bulletin embargoed until it goes live from the City media email account at 10:00 AM on September 14.

This Indigenous-centred engagement process is launching on September 21 with a virtual event that features artists and Knowledge Holders from the *xʷməkʷəyəm* (Musqueam), *Skwxwú7mesh* (Squamish), and *səlililwətaʔt* (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. The result of the engagement will be a renewal plan that details a shared vision for the future of the West End Community Hub (West End Community Centre, King George Secondary School, Joe Fortes Library and the potential addition of Fire Hall No. 6, childcare facilities, seniors' spaces, cultural facilities and outdoor amenities).

Best,
Paul

City of Vancouver
Information bulletin
September 14, 2021

Public invited to reimagine future of West End Community Hub

Indigenous-centred launch event kicks off September 21

The City invites the public to attend the virtual launch of *W.E. Connect*, an engagement process that will help guide future redevelopment of the West End Community Hub, the site that includes the West End Community Centre, King George Secondary School, Joe Fortes Library, and other important facilities.

Reconciliation is at the heart of this process, and we invite the community to hear stories that have defined this land for millennia at our online launch event, *W.E. Connect: Coast Salish Chronicles of the West End*, on Tuesday, September 21 from 7-9 pm. To register, visit shapeyourcity.ca/weconnect.

At the event, the public will listen and learn from local Indigenous artists and Knowledge Holders including:

- Chrystal Sparrow: *xʷməθkʷəyəm* (Musqueam) artist and carver
- Aaron Nelson-Moody: *Skwxwú7mesh* (Squamish) Knowledge Holder and carver
- Gabriel George: *səlilwətaʔt* (Tsleil-Waututh) Knowledge Holder

Participants will have the opportunity to reflect on the stories' key ideas and help us create a vision for the renewed West End Community Hub. They can also share their own experiences of the neighbourhood, people and land, through the online West End Experiences survey or in person by attending more than 10 themed community workshops in September and October.

The Process

The City, Vancouver School Board, Vancouver Public Library, the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation and the West End Community Centre Association are seeking input from the public to reimagine a space where everyone can come together to connect, relax, learn, and play.

We will work closely with key community groups to understand the diverse community perspectives of the West End neighborhood. Community input will be considered at every step of the project process and will help us make better decisions that reflect the needs and desires of the community.

Early in 2022, we will launch surveys and workshops asking the community how they use the current site and what features they would like to see. Based on input received, we will explore draft options for the renewed community hub spaces. In summer 2022, we will present a draft plan of the preferred option to the community for feedback.

The result will be a renewal plan that details a shared vision for the future of the buildings, programming and outdoor spaces at the site. We will hold a public information session and plan to submit the Renewal Plan to City Council in fall 2022.

Background

We are working to renew and expand the buildings and outdoor spaces at this site.

- The West End Community Centre will be replaced with a recreation facility designed for a growing neighbourhood, including the replacement of the ice rink.
- King George Secondary School will be redeveloped to provide more spaces for students and to meet seismic upgrade requirements.
- Joe Fortes Library will be expanded to meet the growing need for library services.
- Other potential uses that are needed to support the West End and will be considered for addition or expansion in the renewal plan include relocation of Firehall No. 6, seniors spaces, arts and culture facilities, childcare, and outdoor amenities.

This work will build on the City's [West End Community Plan](#). Since the plan was adopted in 2013, the West End has seen significant progress on the delivery of a number of community amenities that were identified in the plan's Public Benefits Strategy (PBS).

In addition to the community hub redevelopment, there are currently a number of other West End Plan projects underway. Learn more about public benefits completed, under construction, and upcoming projects at vancouver.ca/westendplan.

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