

Press Release

COMMUNITY TO HELP SET VISION FOR POCO HERITAGE STRATEGY

Port Coquitlam, BC – June 23, 2009... What does heritage mean to you? That's what the City of Port Coquitlam will be asking residents this summer as it begins to develop its first heritage strategic plan, the PoCo Heritage Strategy.

In order to receive input, City staff will be going to the community and setting up a booth at community events, civic facilities and other public locations this summer to find out what features and qualities are important heritage to Port Coquitlam's community members. There will be interesting facts, interactive displays for both adults and children, surveys and a contest with prizes. Look for the City Info tent at the at the Canada Day events held at Lions Park and Castle Park.

"Council is listening to the community, and they've been calling on us to be more proactive about our heritage," Mayor Greg Moore said. "This strategy will be the foundation of my Heritage First initiative, ensuring that we recognize our heritage as our community moves forward. It's also a key part of our efforts to engage the community in planning for our City's future, along with the Corporate Strategic Plan and the Environmental Strategic Plan."

The PoCo Heritage Strategy will:

- define the City's vision for heritage,
- establish guidelines for how the City recognizes and conserves its heritage resources, and
- guide the City's future decisions on heritage resources.

"Heritage is more than just buildings," noted Cllr. Glenn Pollock, who chairs Council's Social Inclusion Committee overseeing the strategy. "It can include people, places, buildings, landscapes or memories – it can be the red brick of City Hall, the salmon that run through our streams, the rivers and trails that surround us, and heroes like Terry Fox."

The City is receiving assistance from the well known heritage consulting firm, Donald Luxton & Associates. For more information or to take part in the on-line survey about what heritage means to you, visit www.portcoquitlam.ca/heritagestrategy.



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