

VICTORIA URBAN RECONCILIATION DIALOGUE

Hosted through the Victoria Native Friendship Centre, TheDialogue@VNFC.ca

RECEIVED

JAN 28 2020

January 23, 2020

His Worship Mayor Ken Williams
District of Highlands
1980 Millstream Road
Victoria, BC V9B 6H1

District of Highlands

Re: Victoria Urban Reconciliation Dialogue Gathering, February 28-29, 2020

Dear Mayor Williams:

The Victoria Urban Reconciliation Dialogue (VURD) is hosting a gathering at Saanich Fairgrounds in February 2020. We acknowledge the Saanich Fairgrounds sit on the traditional territory of WJOLELP (Tsartlip First Nation), who together with their WSÁNEĆ family, remain deeply connected to this land.

The VURD Feb2020 Gathering will be the culmination of two years of dialogue and relationship building across the complex and diverse urban landscape of Victoria and greater area.

We are honoured to request your presence at the Feb2020 Gathering and offer you two (2) free seats so you and a colleague can attend.

Here is a high-level overview of the Gathering:

Friday, February 28, 2020	3pm-5pm	Networking & Interactive Happenings
	5pm-6:30pm	Opening Ceremonies
	6:30-8:30pm	Discussion Panel <i>Moderator Shelagh Rogers</i>
Saturday, February 29, 2020	9am-2:30pm	Workshops
	2:30pm-5pm	Plenary Presentations
	5pm-6pm	Closing Ceremonies



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This Community Gathering will build from previous Advisory Panel Gatherings; November 2018, 40 Advisors, February 2019, 85 Advisors. This time we will gather 300 Advisors representing community service agencies, First Nations, Metis Nation, school districts, police departments, health authority, post-secondary institutes, all levels of government (federal, provincial, regional, municipal), and urban Indigenous community including Elders, artists and youth.

An Event Plan is attached that furthers describes the Feb2020 Gathering. Please **RSVP** online by **Monday, February 10, 2020** by following this link: <https://forms.gle/wvn7Qx9eJCg4oci98>. If you have any questions or would like to make changes to your RSVP, please contact TheDialogue@vnfc.ca.

Sincerely,

Ron Rice



VURD Co-Chair
Executive Director,
Victoria Native Friendship Centre

Stuart Gale



VURD Co-Chair
Coastal Regional Executive Director,
Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

Attachment

VICTORIA URBAN RECONCILIATION DIALOGUE

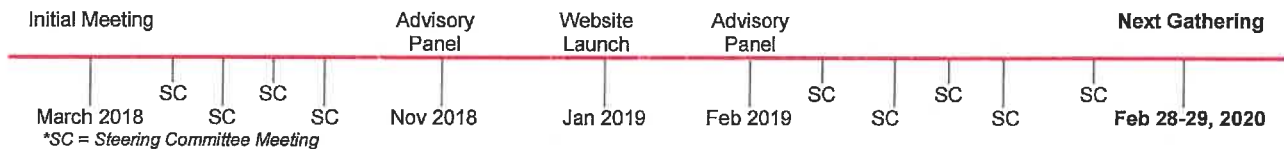
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VURD FEB2020 Gathering EVENT PLAN

Background

On March 29, 2018, representatives from urban Indigenous organizations, government and community gathered at the Victoria Native Friendship Centre (VNFC) to engage in a dialogue about reconciliation in Victoria and area. This group now acts as a Steering Committee for the Victoria Urban Reconciliation Dialogue (VURD), an initiative hosted by VNFC. The process reflects a sectoral and grassroots approach where the ultimate accountability is to the urban Indigenous community and their allies.

The VURD Steering Committee meets regularly and has hosted two Advisory Panel Gatherings, bringing together 40 people in November 2018 and 85 people in February 2019, from various organizations and relevant sectors. VURD also has a Working Group which acts as the secretariat and project office. More information can be found at www.TheDialogueVictoria.ca, or email TheDialogue@vnfc.ca.



Purpose of VURD Feb2020 Gathering

Four main purposes have been identified for the Gathering:

1. **Grow the Circle:** Build and strengthen relationships through networking and shared cultural and educational experience designed to connect 300 people.
2. **Learn About Reconciliation:** Grow our shared understanding of what reconciliation means in this place at this time, what people/organizations are doing to advance it, and what else we can do moving forward together.
3. **Co-Create a Blueprint:** Dialogue about the *Draft Reconciliation Blueprint for Victoria and Area*, shaped from knowledge gathered at two previous Advisory Panel Gatherings.
4. **Inspire/Garner Support:** Cultivate commitment to *Draft Reconciliation Blueprint*, through strong communication tools, methodical processes and interactive facilitation.



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