



Media Release

For Immediate Release

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Capital Regional District, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC V8W 1R7

Bowker Creek Initiative to Hold Blueprint Open House January 23

Victoria, BC – The Bowker Creek Initiative is hosting an open house on January 23, 2010 to receive feedback on their 100-year plan, “The Bowker Creek Blueprint,” to restore the Bowker Creek watershed. The public is invited to learn about planning and restoration efforts along the creek over the last five years, to view the draft Bowker Creek Blueprint, and to give comments and suggestions to aid in finalizing the plan.

The Open House will take place from 10am – 2pm at Hillside Centre Mall, near the Zellers entrance. Short talks will be given hourly, at 10 am, 11 am, 12 pm and 1 pm. Displays, feedback forms and the watershed model will also be on hand.

The Bowker Creek Initiative is a pilot project, and is leading efforts to restore urban creeks in the region and in the province. The Bowker Creek Blueprint presents a vision of how an urban creek can be transformed into a natural oasis for wildlife and people. Healthy urban watersheds foster habitat for native flora and fauna, provide greenways between neighbourhoods and result in cleaner water, less flooding and more liveable communities.

The Bowker Creek Watershed extends from the University of Victoria south through the municipalities of Saanich and Victoria, before discharging to the sea in Oak Bay. Over the last 200 years the watershed has changed from a natural state, to agricultural use, to the current mix of residential, commercial and institutional uses. Today, less than 40% of this urban creek remains above ground. The Bowker Creek Initiative has been working steadily since 2004 to improve the creek and its watershed.

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For further information please contact:

Tanis Gower, Bowker Creek Initiative Coordinator

Tel: 250.360.3302

www.bowkercreekinitiative.ca