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Downtown design charrette set for July 30 to Aug. 3

July 18, 2012

PENTICTON — Excitement is building as the City of Penticton and Downtown Revitalization Select Committee members put together the final plans to hold a week-long design charrette.

“We have listened and we have learned. Now it is time to roll up our sleeves and sketch out ideas for Downtown Penticton,” said Barb Haynes, the Committee Co-Chair and Downtown Penticton Association Executive Director. “These sessions are not designed to come up with the final plan, but to take all the ideas and feedback we have received during the visioning and learning phases and use that as inspiration for concepts we can shape moving forward.”

The Vibrant Penticton downtown charrette is scheduled for July 30 to Aug. 3 at the Lakeside Resort. A charrette team will be assembled with designers, facilitators and City staff during the week when they will work with group of 30 to 40 stakeholder participants representing a wide range of groups and organizations in the community. Stakeholders will be involved in idea generation and discussion as the charrette team outlines rough sketches that graphically illustrate the design vision for Downtown Penticton.

As the charrette progresses, a workshop will be conducted to provide a range of different feasibility and costing approaches – giving participants real-time data upon which they can make decisions. The charrette team is also expected to produce a list of broad policy recommendations that would be needed to realize the concepts.

Before the charrette, City staff and representatives will have a booth set up July 28 during the Saturday markets to allow residents to give input and ideas through creative drawings.

The public is invited to attend a specific session during the charrette – the stakeholder walkthrough and Q&A period – scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 1 from 5 to 7 p.m. Members of the public can review concepts while the charrette team works. Once they have completed a tour, people can ask questions outside of the room, so as not to disturb the design process.

“A lot of work has been done to date, and we’re providing all that information to stakeholders and the charrette team,” said Anthony Haddad, Director of Development Services. “The planning process is focused around what the community wants and needs from Downtown Penticton, so the team is excited to work alongside stakeholders.”

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