

Media Release

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON 3400 – 30<sup>th</sup> Street Vernon, BC V1T 5E6

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE DATE: October 13, 2016 MEDIA CONTACT: Tanya Laing Gahr, Communications Officer TELEPHONE: 250-550-3539

## City of Vernon and Greater Vernon Chamber of Commerce Announce Development Forum

City of Vernon Council approved the staff recommendation to host a forum with the Greater Vernon Chamber of Commerce action team, the Business Improvement Group for Real Estate and Development (Big Red). The forum is being planned for November and will provide an opportunity for Big Red and Council members to discuss a variety of topics related to the development approval processes with senior staff.

The forum will open with an overview of the recently created Community Infrastructure and Development Services Division, an update on current development activity in the community and application processing times.

"Council and staff are committed to ensuring that the City of Vernon's development approval process is as efficient as possible," said Kim Flick, Director of Community Infrastructure and Development. "We want to ensure that we are meeting the needs of industry while maintaining the vision as set out by the whole community, documented in the Official Community Plan."

"The Chamber and Big Red look forward to sitting down with both the elected and nonelected officials at the City of Vernon to see how processes can be improved to ensure we have a strong investment climate, not just now but in the long term," said Dauna Kennedy Grant, Chamber president. "We believe there has to be continual engagement with the development community to ensure efficient processes are in place at City Hall so that we continue to be open for business and are able to attract new investment."

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For more information, contact: Greater Vernon Chamber of Commerce Dauna Kennedy Grant, President TELEPHONE: 250-545-3173