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**For Immediate Release**

## **City of Richmond honoured as a World Leisure Community of Excellence**

**Richmond, BC** – The City of Richmond (British Columbia, Canada) has been designated as a World Leisure Communities of Excellence for 2017 by the World Leisure Organization (WLO). This title recognizes Richmond’s innovative and successful use of leisure to improve its citizens’ quality of life.

“Richmond City Council understands that to be a healthy, vibrant and sustainable city, we must nurture opportunities for recreation and for our rich arts and cultural communities. Richmond also provides a variety of outdoor green space, celebrates our unique heritage and waterfront roots, and provides meaningful opportunities for volunteerism and engagement,” says Mayor Malcolm Brodie. “We are proud to be recognized by the World Leisure Organization for our commitment to supporting leisure opportunities for our citizens and enhancing overall community livability and well-being for Richmond residents.”

Earlier this month, the World Leisure Organization (WLO) advised City staff that there had been a unanimous decision to recognize and designate the City of Richmond as a World Leisure Community of Excellence for 2017. In its announcement, the WLO stated, “the City of Richmond receives this award for its substantive contributions as a community to promoting leisure as a means to enhance the human condition. Richmond serves as an exemplar of how broad-based citizen involvement can effectively promote leisure as integral to the social, cultural, economic, and sustainable environmental development of the community.”

The title World Leisure Community of Excellence is given to communities that have successfully used leisure in all its forms to reinvent themselves and to improve the economic, social and cultural lives of their citizens, and that have made substantive contributions consistent with advancing the mission of WLO. In so doing, WLO brings global attention to the excellence communities have achieved through working together with their citizens to promote leisure as a means to enhance the human condition.

Find out more about this award at <http://worldleisure.org/the-city-of-richmond-designated-as-one-of-the-world-leisure-communities-of-excellence-for-the-year-2017/>.

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