



INFORMATION RELEASE

October 29, 2018

Greater Victoria Smart City Projects Getting More International Recognition

Victoria, BC — The Intelligent Community Forum (ICF) recently named the South Vancouver Island region as a recipient of the *Smart21 Communities* award. It is the first time Greater Victoria has received the honour. This select group of 21 global cities will go on to be semi-finalists in the ICF's Intelligent Community of the Year competition in 2019.

The South Island Prosperity Project, Greater Victoria's economic development agency, submitted an application to ICF on behalf of the region.

The Intelligent Community Forum is a global network of cities and regions. Its mission is to help communities use information and communications technology (ICT) to create inclusive prosperity, tackle social and governance challenges, and enrich their quality of life.

"We are pleased to see Greater Victoria receive international recognition for its efforts to be a smart community. Throughout the application process we took a very close look at the South Island's technology assets and discovered that our region is well-positioned to take on the challenges of the digital age. SIPP brings together a number of working groups, including representatives from municipal governments, First Nations, public and private sector business leaders, non-profits and academia. By working together collaboratively, we can continue to take our community to greater heights and be recognized around the world," says Emilie De Rosenroll, CEO of South Island Prosperity Project.

Other cities selected to receive the honour include: Adelaide (Australia), Curitiba (Brazil), Surat (India), Moscow (Russia), and Abbotsford, BC. The Intelligent Community of the Year will be named at the ICF Global Summit in London, England in June 2019.

The South Island Prosperity Project was also recently shortlisted for a Smart City World Expo Congress award for its work in governance and the innovative model to work collaboratively in the region. Winners will be announced in Barcelona, Spain on November 13.

For more information, watch ICF Announcement video: https://youtu.be/E50UJI5r_wA

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ABOUT SOUTH ISLAND PROSPERITY PROJECT

The South Island Prosperity Project (SIPP) is the economic development organization for Greater Victoria, B.C., comprised of 45 members, including 10 local governments, five First Nations, three post-secondary institutions, seven industry associations and non-profits, and 20 major employers, all working together to bolster our region's economic and social prosperity. This will happen by catalyzing the creation of high-quality, household-sustaining jobs, so that more families can afford to live, work and build a life here.

SIPP's mission is to facilitate and promote the development of a strong, regionally diversified economy on South Vancouver Island. www.southislandprosperity.ca.