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## News Release

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### **Sooke to Present New Town Centre Initiatives at UBCM**

**Sooke, BC - September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009**

Municipal representatives from around the province will have the opportunity to learn about the District of Sooke's exciting new green and economic development incentives during two presentations at the annual Union of British Columbia Municipalities convention next week.

The District has been invited to share the results of the innovative Town Centre Plan which features compact, sustainable, high-density projects and when combined with an updated Official Community Plan, new Parks and Trails Master Plan, and a new Transportation Master Plan, provides a vision that will guide future development in the Town Centre.

"We are also very excited at this opportunity to share information about our Town Centre Stimulus Program with our colleagues from across the province," Mayor Janet Evans said. "This program is designed to encourage sustainable development while encouraging economic growth."

The Town Centre Stimulus Program provides for tax exemptions, building permit fee reductions, Development Cost Charge reductions for low impact environmental developments, and the reinvestment of all incremental property taxes generated into capital projects in the Town Centre.

"We will also have the opportunity to highlight the Mariner's Village project, the first development to embrace the opportunities presented under the stimulus program," explained Director of Finance Dave Devana. Mr. Devana, who along with Chief Administrative Officer Evan Parliament will be making the presentations, said the project is estimated to be worth \$275-million and will transform the Sooke Town Centre.

The UBCM convention will be held in Vancouver from September 28 to October 2, 2009.

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