

March 15, 2018

Capital City Comic Con Kicks off in Victoria

VICTORIA, B.C. – The inaugural Capital City Comic Con kicks off at the Victoria Conference Centre and Crystal Garden this week, bringing thousands of fans to Greater Victoria. Taking place from March 16^{th} – 18^{th} , the Capital City Comic Con will bring locals and tourists together for three days of fan culture related to comics, toys, games, family fun, science fiction and popular culture.

The Capital City Comic Con's program includes a variety of activities, such as panels, exhibitors, meetups, photo ops, autographs, attractions and much more. Examples include comic writing workshops, celebrity q and a's, sketch battles, toy reviews and gaming demonstrations. Many celebrity guests will be in attendance over the three day convention, including Patrick Warburton, who played Puddy on Seinfeld, James Marsters, who played Spike in the TV series Buffy the Vampire Slayer and professional wrestler Bret "The Hitman" Hart.

"Hosting Capital City Comic Con is incredibly exciting for those of us into fan culture." said Capital City Comic Con organizer and Cherry Bomb Toys owner Candice Woodward. "We are really proud to have created this with Tourism Victoria and the DVBA. The community support has been tremendous and we look forward to a great fun filled Comic Con weekend!"

"Bringing a brand such as Comic Con to Greater Victoria really diversifies our tourism product," said Paul Nursey, President and CEO of Tourism Victoria. This is a great way to drive hotel room occupancy, and at the same promote Greater Victoria to a population segment that might not have been to Greater Victoria in the past."

"The Downtown Victoria Business Association is proud to help organize Capital City Comic Con," said Jeff Bray, Interim Executive Director of the Downtown Victoria Business Association. "We support over 1500 businesses in the downtown core and believe Capital City Comic Con is a great way to bring people into the area. Attendees will enjoy the many attractions downtown Victoria has to offer and support the local economy."

In 2016, Tourism Victoria took over the sales and marketing function of the Victoria Conference Centre from the City of Victoria, with the goal of driving conference business in the traditional shoulder and off-seasons for tourism operators in Greater Victoria. Capital City Comic Con builds on recent shoulder and off-season conferences at the Victoria Conference Centre, such as the Impact Sustainability Travel & Tourism 2018 conference in January.

Although VIP tickets are sold out, Capital City Comic Con tickets are still available. Ticket Rocket is the official ticket provider for Capital City Comic Con and tickets can be purchased:

- Online via Ticket Rocket at the Capital City Comic Con website: (<u>https://www.capitalcitycomiccon.ca/wp/tickets/</u>)
- 2. In person at the Ticket Rocket Box Office (101-804 Broughton St., Victoria BC)
- 3. By phone via Ticket Rocket Box Office (Local 1-250-590-6291, and toll free 1-855-842-7575)









Tourism Victoria (Greater Victoria Visitors and Convention Bureau) is our region's official, not-for-profit destination marketing organization working in partnership with nearly 1,000 businesses and municipalities in Greater Victoria.

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