



# where ishere

small cities, deep mapping, sustainable futures

## NANAIMO EVENT

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### Imagining Downtown Nanaimo Video Walk-About

**April 2, 2016 @ Nanaimo Museum (100 Museum Way, Nanaimo, BC) – In the Program Room**

**Time Slots: 1pm, 2pm, 3pm.**

### Get Involved

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The Vancouver Island University 'Where is Here?' Research Team, in collaboration with: the City of Nanaimo, and the Downtown Nanaimo Business Improvement Association (DNBIA) invites your participation.

- Share what you value about your downtown
- Deepen your civic pride
- Connect with other residents

### What is this initiative?

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*Where is Here?* is a community action project that engages residents within three cities (Nanaimo, Port Alberni and Courtenay) in a video/mapping adventure, in which participants are asked to tell a story on video about the place within the downtown core of their resident city in which they "**feel most connected to their community**". Videos (1-1.5 minutes each) of residents talking about their 'connect-spots' are uploaded onto an online map that is accessible to the wider public.

### Why are we doing this?

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Small cities, and especially ones that are resource-dependent, are struggling to thrive in a changing economic landscape. Downtown areas in these cities are 'beacons' of civic identity and they can offer opportunities for economic and social development. Making our downtowns more vibrant requires knowledge of what residents value about them. We want to know what people love about their downtowns, and what keeps them there.

### Who Should Participate?

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If you are a resident of Nanaimo, Port Alberni or Courtenay and care about the future of your community, particularly your downtown area, you are encouraged to participate. Participants must be willing to allow the videos of themselves and their 'connect spots' to be displayed online for an indefinite period of time.

## When is this happening?

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IN NANAIMO, Participants are invited to attend a 'walk-about' – on **Saturday, April 2nd at either 1pm, 2pm or 3pm.** Here, a group of locals, along with a Vancouver Island University 'film crew', will meet at the Nanaimo Museum in downtown Nanaimo (100 Museum Way), and together 'walk about' the downtown core – learning about (and filming) each participant's 'connect spot' along the way. Participants will be asked to **tell a story – why is this place important to you? Why do you feel connected here? Take us for a bit of a tour so that we can see and imagine this place through your eyes.** The event will happen rain or shine, and will end with hot coco and cookies!

## What's in it for Me?

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- Cookies!!!! And Hot Coco.
- A chance to talk about your downtown with other fun and fabulous people and to influence its development
- A chance to see yourself on the big screen – talking about the reasons you love where you live
- Exercise and friendship (walking in groups is fun)

## How do I Participate?

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Sign up in advance by emailing [sharonkarsten@live.com](mailto:sharonkarsten@live.com). In your email, please state:

A) your name

B) your downtown 'connect spot' (note – this must be within a 15-minute walking radius of the Nanaimo Museum)

C) a description of why this spot is important to you

D) which hour-long time-slot on April 2nd works for you: 1-2pm, 2-3pm, 3-4pm.

Entries will be reviewed and participants/connect spots selected that represent Nanaimo's diverse cultural landscape.

## Contact

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For further info, contact Sharon Karsten, Project Coordinator: [sharonkarsten@live.com](mailto:sharonkarsten@live.com)

Visit our facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/whereishereculturalmapping/info/>

or webpage: [www.whereishereculturalmapping.com](http://www.whereishereculturalmapping.com)

