Bike Parking & Theft Prevention

Racks: Lock your bike to proper bike racks—not fences, trees, or signs. Opt for well-lit, high pedestrian traffic areas—ideally under cover from the rain. Avoid hidden/low-traffic areas that give potential thieves more time to work unnoticed. Also avoid ground level racks that support the whole bike by one wheel—these can cause damage and encourage you leave your frame unlocked.

Rooms: Some workplaces have bike storage—awesome! Your bike is out of the rain and can only be accessed by a limited number of people. Keep in mind, you still may want to lock up your bike in a bike storage room.

Lockers: Lockers are great—only you have access, which makes them highly secure.

Remember to...

⇒ Invest in a lock that is secure and difficult to break/cut. Buying a cheap cable lock will not keep any bike safe. Though no lock is completely theft-proof, some are better than others. Check the security rating (but remember, each brand has a slightly different rating system). Keep in mind that the price of a lock usually gives you a sense of how secure it is. Buy a lock that is representative of the value of your bike. Your lock should cost you about one tenth of the value of your bike.

⇒ Lock it twice. Lock the wheels to the frame with a cable and the frame to the rack with a u-lock.

⇒ Check to make sure the bike can't be lifted up and over what it's locked to.

⇒ Secure your seat. If you have a quick release seat, either loop it in through your cable lock, or take it with you. You can also bring it in to a shop to have it changed from a quick release to a fixed clamp if you don't need to adjust the seat height often.

⇒ Opt for a less flashy bike if you know you'll be locking it outside—flash and newness attracts bike thieves.

⇒ Record your bike's serial number, located under the bottom bracket (i.e. on the frame where your pedal cranks meet the bike). Record the make, model, and colour. Take a picture of yourself with the bike. You can also have your bike engraved by the police.

Greater Victoria
Bike to Work *Society*