



**CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT**

**ACCESS AWARENESS COMMITTEE  
A G E N D A**

February 9, 2011

4:00 p.m., Council Chambers, Municipal Hall

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1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **LATE ITEMS**
3. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**
4. **INTRODUCTIONS**
5. **ELECTIONS**
  - (1) Elections of Chair and Vice-Chair
6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - (1) Minutes of the Access Awareness Committee meeting, November 10, 2010 Pg 1 – 4
7. **NEW BUSINESS**
  - (1) Review of Committee Terms of Reference (TOR) Pg. 5 – 7
    - (a) 2010 Year End Final Report
  - (2) Membership List Contact Information
  - (3) Committee Member Interests – What Each Member Brings to the Table
  - (4) Meeting Schedule Dates and Times
  - (5) Agenda Items and Distribution
  - (6) 2011 Work Plan Discussion
    - (a) 2010 Sub-committees
      - (i) Measuring – Up – Gold Star Program
      - (ii) Access Awareness Day
      - (iii) Buccaneer Days
      - (iv) Accessible Housing
      - (v) Accessible Tourism
8. **OLD BUSINESS**
  - (1) Scent Free Environment / Environmental Sensitivities
    - (a) Additional Information Pg. 8 – 12
    - (b) Sample Survey Pg. 13
  - (2) Sidewalk Ramp List – Follow-up Report from Jeff Miller, Staff Liaison Pg. 14

- (3) Difficulties Associated with Opening Doors in Municipal Buildings – Follow-up Report from Jeff Miller, Staff Liaison

**9. COMMUNICATIONS**

- (1) Letter from Danielle Harriott, BC Transit, dated December 29, 2010, Re: Participation on Access Awareness Advisory Committee Pg. 15

**10. NEXT MEETING**

**11. ADJOURNMENT**



**CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT**  
**MINUTES**  
**ACCESS AWARENESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, November 10, 2010**  
**4:00 P.M.**  
**Pioneer Room A, Recreation Centre**

**PRESENT:** Brian Gray – Chair  
Lorne Argyle – Vice-Chair  
Councillor Meagan Brame (Arrived 4:15 p.m.)  
Councillor Don Linge (Arrived 4:54 p.m.)  
Eleanor Calder  
Emmy Labonté  
Daniel Jenkins  
Paul Newcombe  
Bob McKie – Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Representative –  
(Departed 5:18 pm)  
Danielle Harriott – BC Transit (Arrived 4:17 p.m.)

**STAFF:** Jeff Miller – Director of Engineering & Public Works (Staff Liaison)  
Deborah Liske – Recording Secretary

**REGRETS:** Andy Katschor – Parks Manager (Staff Liaison)

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Gray called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

**2. LATE ITEMS**

The following late item was introduced:

1. Add to Agenda item **7. NEW BUSINESS** (2) Review of Sidewalks – Vice Chair Argyle and Atilla Szabo

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by Vice Chair Argyle, seconded by Paul Newcombe that the agenda of the Access Awareness Advisory Committee meeting of November 10, 2010 be approved with the inclusion of the late agenda item.  
The motion **CARRIED**.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved by Bob McKie, seconded by Vice Chair Argyle that the minutes of the Access Awareness Advisory Committee meeting of October 13, 2010 be approved as presented.  
The motion **CARRIED**.

**5. OLD BUSINESS**

- (1) Scent Free Environment

Eleanor Calder and Emmy Labonté provided the committee with an overview of the research compiled on scent free environments. Key points included:

- Environmental sensitivities are adverse reactions to the environment
- 40% of Canadian population is affected by environmental sensitivities
- Environmental sensitivities are an immune problem
- Canadian Human Rights Commission recognizes environmental sensitivities as a disability ( [www.environmentalhealth.ca/summer07humanrights.html](http://www.environmentalhealth.ca/summer07humanrights.html) )
- Several Canadian universities have scent free policies
- Public Service Alliance of Canada adopted a scent free policy
- Canada Post will not accept or deliver scented advertising that is not sealed
- UVic and BC Transit have internal scent free policies
- BC Lung Association is a great resource for information on creating scent free environments ( [www.bc.lung.ca](http://www.bc.lung.ca) )
- The Vancouver Island Health Authority's Occupation Health and Safety Committee has a scent free policy
- The District of Saanich has started an educational campaign through their community newsletter

Councillor Brame arrived at 4:15 p.m. and Danielle Harriott, BC Transit representative arrived at 4:17 p.m.

Ms. Calder noted education is key to awareness and made the following suggestions:

- Educate ourselves as committee members about environmental sensitivities
- Invite the Environmental Health Association of BC make a presentation ([www.ehabc.org](http://www.ehabc.org) )

Committee members discussed environmental sensitivities and how the population is effected by them.

Committee members also discussed how they would like to proceed on this topic. Ms. Calder made the following suggestions:

- Ms. Labonté and Ms. Calder will continue to research liability issues
- Consult with the municipal Occupational Health and Safety Committee on awareness
- Survey committee members to determine awareness of environmental sensitivities and their effect

## 6. **REPORT FROM BC TRANSIT REPRESENTATIVE**

Danielle Harriott, BC Transit did not have anything to report.

Councillor Linge arrived at 4:54 p.m.

## 7. **NEW BUSINESS**

(1) Centennial Celebrations Committee Invitation

Chair Gray suggested the committee consider including or highlighting a theme for Access Awareness Day in 2012 that will complement the centennial celebrations which will be taking place throughout the year.

Councillor Linge will advise the Centennial Celebrations Committee the Access Awareness Advisory Committee plans to host Access Awareness Days on June 2, 2012. Committee members also requested the Centennial Celebrations Committee keep in mind the need to ensure all activities are accessible to everyone.

(2) Review of Sidewalks – Vice Chair Argyle and Atilla Szabo (**Late Item**)

Vice Chair Argyle and citizen Atilla Szabo completed a tour of Esquimalt compiling a list of sidewalk ramps and curbs that require repair or modification. Vice Chair Argyle noted the tour was very informative. The detailed list and highlighted map was provided to Jeff Miller, Director of Engineering and Public Works. The Director of Engineering and Public Works noted a specific amount of money is budgeted for sidewalk improvements each year and suggested the list be reviewed and prioritized.

Moved by Paul Newcombe, seconded by Councillor Brame that Vice Chair Argyle and Mr. Atilla Szabo create a numbered prioritized list of sidewalk ramp lips for repair and / or improvement for Jeff Miller, Director of Engineering and Public Works to utilize in designating repairs.

The motion **CARRIED**.

This item to be brought back to the January meeting.

**8. REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES / WORK PLAN ITEMS**

(1) Measuring-Up Gold Star Program

No report.

(2) Access Awareness Day

(a) Difficulty in Opening Doors – Follow-up by Jeff Miller

Jeff Miller, Staff Liaison noted he will have a follow-up report for the January meeting.

Councillor Brame noted the entrance doors to the curling rink and ramp to curling ice is fabulous.

Bob McKie department the meeting at 5:18 p.m.

(3) Accessible Housing

(a) Accessible Building Checklist – Research by Chair Gray

Chair Gray distributed information from the housing registry which provides a list of housing opportunities for seniors and adults with disabilities. Chair Gray noted an extreme shortage of units available in Esquimalt.

Chair Gray recommended the committee continue to discuss accessible housing and make recommendations to Council to consider actions that will encourage increasing accessible housing in future development.

Discuss this item further at the January meeting.

(4) Accessible Tourism

Councillor Brame requested committee members continue to suggest areas of Esquimalt that are accessible for notation in the tourism section of the website.

(5) Accessible Employment

Nothing to report.

9. **COMMUNICATIONS**

- (1) Letter from Helen Martin, dated October 20, 2010, Re: Sidewalks

Jeff Miller, Staff Liaison reported he has been in communication with Ms. Martin to discuss her letter.

Moved by Vice Chair Argyle, seconded by Eleanor Calder, that the Communications item be received.

The motion **CARRIED**.

- (2) Letter from Andy Katschor, Manger of Parks Services, Township of Esquimalt, dated October 25, 2010, Re: Outdoor Fitness Equipment Grant

Moved by Vice Chair Argyle, seconded by Paul Newcombe, that the Communications items be received.

The motion **CARRIED**.

10. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Access Awareness Advisory Committee will take place on Wednesday, January 12, 2011.

Chair Gray thanked committee members for their work on the committee.

Committee members thanked Chair Gray for his participation in the activities of the committee.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

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, Chair

This day of January, 2011



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

COUNCIL POLICY

<b>TITLE:</b> <b>Terms of Reference</b> <b>– Access Awareness Advisory</b> <b>Committee</b>	<b>NO. ADMIN - 49</b>
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**PURPOSE**  
The purpose of the Access Awareness Advisory Committee is to:

- assist the Township of Esquimalt in making Esquimalt more accessible to all its citizens.
- Advise and assist Council to accomplish its goals and objectives as outlined in Council's Strategic Plan.

**MANDATE**  
The Access Awareness Advisory Committee will, consistent with the purpose described above, undertake the following:

- Provide opportunity for public input respecting accessibility issues.
- Identify accessibility barriers to services and facilities and advise and make recommendations to the Municipality for strategies to improve access for all people.
- Provide increased awareness to Council respecting accessibility issues in areas including but not limited to, transportation, housing, recreation, employment and education.
- Identify sources of funding and grants to support access awareness related activities.

In its advisory role, the Committee will provide organizational context to discussions and ensure that:

- any form of communication from the Committee [which includes correspondence, logos, branding, graphics] represents the Corporation of the Township of Esquimalt;
- any action proposed to be taken [which includes supporting or participating in an endeavor] has first received Council endorsement.

The Access Awareness Advisory Committee will submit to Council an annual work plan at the beginning of each year describing its plans for the year. The Committee will submit to Council a final report at the end of each year describing its activities and accomplishments of the previous year.

**MEMBERSHIP**  
The Committee consists of up to Ten (10) full voting members and Two (2) non voting members as follows:

Full Voting Members

- Council Members – Two (2) appointed by the Mayor.
- Community representatives – Up to Seven (7) appointed by Council.
- A Youth representative – appointed by Council per Council's policy "ADMIN – 60, Role of Youth Representative Appointment to Council Committees".

<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:</b> January 17, 2011	<b>APPROVED BY:</b> Council	<b>REF:</b> Staff Report ADM-11-001	<b>RESCINDS NO.</b> February 9, 2009	<b>PAGE 1 OF 3</b>
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Non Voting Members

- A liaison representative assigned by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee.
- A liaison representative invited from BC Transit.
- A staff liaison position – appointed to act as a resource to the Committee as outlined in Council’s policy “ADMIN – 61, Role of Staff Liaison Appointment to Council Committees.”
- A recording secretary – assigned to the Committee to prepare meeting agendas, take the minutes and prepare any other correspondence as required.

**QUORUM**

- The calculation of quorum to conduct business is 50% +1 of full voting members shown below:
  - If: 7 full voting members – quorum is 4
  - 8 full voting members – quorum is 5
  - 9 full voting members – quorum is 5
  - 10 full voting members – quorum is 6

**ELIGIBILITY**

Committee members may be members of disabled organizations, but they are not to be formal representatives of any specific organization. An effort will be made to ensure representation of a broad cross-section of abilities/ disabilities.

**TERMS**

Members may be appointed for one or two year terms with term end dates split between alternating years to ensure continuity of committee membership. On application, members may be re-appointed for up to three consecutive terms.

All appointees sit at the pleasure of Council and may be removed at Council's discretion. Council may disqualify an appointee from holding that appointment if the person is absent from committee meetings for a period of 3 consecutive regularly scheduled committee meetings, unless the absence is because of illness or injury or is with the leave of Council.

**MEETINGS**

The Committee will meet a minimum of four times per year in accordance with its regular schedule of meetings established annually at the first meeting of the year. No meetings are held during the summer and winter breaks (July, August and December). Special meetings may be held at the call of the Chair.

At the first meeting of each calendar year the committee will elect a Chair and Vice-Chair from amongst its members. If Council deems it necessary, Council may appoint the Chair for the Committee.

The meeting rules and procedures will be in accordance with the Council Procedure Bylaw.

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**ORIENTATION/TRAINING**  
 The Committee members appointed by Council will be provided an orientation/education session from Staff to be scheduled early in the new year.

Staff will seek to arrange specific training in conducting effective meetings for those Committee members appointed as the Chair and Vice Chair.

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## TOLUENE (METHYL-BENZENE)

By Katy Young

The Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS) and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recognize that the chemical solvent toluene has neurological effects on inhalation. Toluene deposits in the fatty tissues of the body, including in the brain. Being a solvent it does its work to dissolve fatty tissues such as the myelin sheath whose function it is to protect the nerve endings. A substantial portion of the healthy brain bulk is made up of this fatty material.

Results of toluene exposure include a general de-fatting of tissue and symptoms can include dry skin, dermatitis, headache, confusion, intoxication, insomnia, attention deficits, depression, behavioral changes, nervousness, motor activity impairment, muscular fatigue, drowsiness, narcosis, coma and death. As well as these neurotoxic effects, toluene exposure is known to result in respiratory tract and eye irritation, liver/pancreas effects, mutations, reproductive effects, and kidney failure. Toluene is recognized as a common ambient and indoor air contaminant, with indoor levels generally far in excess of ambient levels. It is also known that these elevated levels (outside the production workplace) are caused by the inclusion of toluene in processing and manufacture of many consumer products including building mate-

rials. Though many people inhabiting modern buildings and using toxic products suffer from associated symptoms, it is rare that toluene is recognized as the cause. We can see from the coincidence of exposure and symptoms that it could greatly benefit us to practice prudent avoidance of offending products in our homes and workplaces

Along with xylene, toluene was banned from use in dry cleaning facilities in the mid-seventies due to its extreme toxicity. It is included in the EPA's listing of Extremely Hazardous Substances



(EHS). Toluene is a constituent of crude oil and coal tar and is a by-product of refining processes. Toluene is classified as Hazardous Waste. Being that the disposal of hazardous waste materials is extremely problematic and expensive, toluene among others is declassified and diverted back into the consumer stream, becoming a common and useful solvent. It is used in the production and manufacture of many products, including paints and paint thinners, adhesives, carpet underlay, inks, computers, cleaning agents, perfume, pharmaceuticals, dyes,

nail polish, pesticides, and plastic pop bottles. Toluene in its non-isolated form (contaminated with benzene and xylene), known as BTX, is added back to gasoline to increase octane levels. The American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH) and our own Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) allow toxic chemical exposure levels in the work place. Illnesses resulting from these exposures tend not to be compensated other than forms like "non-specific stress leave" and "leave for unexplained neurological illness". There is no regulatory body available to address air quality in our homes.

Canadian law does not require that chemical processes, additives and ingredients be listed for many consumer products. Subsequently, people are generally unaware that products they are using can be off-gassing toxicity into their immediate environment and contributing to their symptomology. Nor are doctors educated to address chemical poisoning; they do not generally ask their patients exhibiting these symptoms what they may have been using or may have been exposed to. It appears that it is up to the individual to make the correlation between exposure and symptoms. It is up to each of us to recognize and remove offending agents, and to practice vigilance and discernment. Make toluene uncommon in your immediate environment, and you may notice a profound improvement in your general sense of function and well being.

### ■ *Who are the Environmentally Ill?*

Potentially anyone. The Environmentally Ill or sensitive are those who cannot tolerate life in a society saturated with chemicals and toxins. In short they are unable to function in the modern world because their bodies' immune systems are unable to tolerate many of the foods, chemicals, paints, pollens, dust, plastics, gases, synthetic fabrics, resins, beauty products, chemical cleaners and insect repellents that most of us take for granted. When exposed, the environmentally sensitive react negatively to even the slightest amounts of toxins and chemicals and often have very severe reactions. The reactions can be immediate or delayed.

While some 40 million Americans suffer from easily recognizable allergies (such as hay fever), the more complex "allergies" that the Environmentally Ill suffer are harder to identify. They appear healthy, and many people diagnosed with

- Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS)
- Fibromyalgia Syndrome (FS)
- Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS)
- Restless Legs Syndrome, asthma, etc.

do not know they are sensitive to everyday foods and chemicals because their reactions are often chronic or delayed. Therefore, no connection is made between their symptoms and the exposure. The condition is often initiated by an exposure to toxic, and/or sensitizing chemicals in new or renovated buildings, some new carpet, furniture and cabinets made out of pressboard, and pesticide at home, work or in the community.

### ■ *What are the symptoms of Environmental Illness?*

They vary; not everyone reacts to the same things with the same intensity in the same way. That's what makes the illness so baffling. In many cases, patients feel chronically sick – as if they had the flu. Chronic, debilitating fatigue is common. Reactions can affect any of the body's systems with pains ranging from pseudo-heart-attack to arthritis and fibromyalgia; and from insomnia to unrefreshed sleep. Symptoms may occur in the stomach and intestines, skin, eyes, nose, throat and lungs, as well as the genitourinary tract and cardiovascular system.

When reactions affect the nervous system, the patient may exhibit a wide range of mental and emotional symptoms such as migraine headaches, poor short-term memory, confusion, depression, irritability, convulsions, dizziness, amnesia, panic attacks, phobias, etc. Patients will often describe their cognitive function problems as "brain-fog." Psychological assistance to provide coping strategies for a long term disability may be helpful, but is not enough. The reactions must be stopped.

*Almost everyone suffers from some type of environmental sensitivity. You may be a person who gets a headache from perfumes or car exhaust when you have a cold or the flu. What happens in that situation is that the flu or the cold is altering your immune capabilities. What one person may feel with a cold or the flu is the way people with Environmental Illness feel all the time. They might get headaches from perfumes, or get nauseous from exposure to any number of things.*

**Alan Levin, M.D.**

**Immunologist and nationally-recognized expert on Environmental Illness  
San Francisco, California**

## **Environmental Sensitivities – 1 Definition**

*Reprinted selection from "It's Time for Help in Quebec", Fall 2004 Eco-Sense (a revision of an AEHA-Quebec article by Rohini Peris).*

Environmental sensitivities can occur when people become sensitive to substances or phenomena in their everyday environment at levels well below what would be considered to be acceptable to "normal" people. Sensitivity reactions can be triggered by scented products, cleaning products, laundry detergents, paints, petrochemicals, cigarette smoke, pesticides, pets, plants, fuels, electromagnetic radiation, molds, and foods.

The effect of environmental sensitivities can be overwhelming. Productive people may suddenly or gradually become unable to tolerate offices, homes, schools, hospitals and public places. Employers, who may or may not be aware of the problem, may refuse to make the accommodations necessary to allow people affected to continue working in safety. Many people with sensitivities lose their jobs if they are not provided with the accommodations they need to work productively. Some become homeless. All too often, retirement savings are depleted and debts are incurred in an attempt to create safe living conditions and to fund the cost of treatment. Treatment of these problems can be expensive and difficult to obtain, and includes avoidance of offending agents. Some people with sensitivities do improve after many years if they are able to find a safe environment in which to live and work, and if they can obtain (and afford) treatments that are both tolerable and effective for them. Sadly, despite skills and education, some people with sensitivities end up on social assistance. Many become socially isolated as they are forced to retreat from places and activities they love, and for some, the devastation extends to losing spouses, family and friends who may not believe that they are ill.

This disability may be invisible, but it is real. Like others with disabilities, persons with sensitivities have special needs which include, but are not limited to: housing in a safe and tolerable environment so that their bodies can heal, well-tolerated, environmentally safe products available at a reasonable cost, consumer self-help groups, a support system, tolerable meeting places, publicly funded treatments, safe hospitals, schools and other public facilities, and accommodation in the workplace. Like all Canadians, we are entitled to freedom from discriminatory treatment, which includes the right to accessible workplaces, accommodation and public facilities. Notably, environmental sensitivities have been recognized as disabilities by the Canadian Human Rights Commission and many provincial human rights commissions.

Truly fragrance-free products from reliable producers are available from natural food stores/co-ops and mail order. Read the product labels carefully.

- Misleading advertising words such as; natural, floral, hypoallergenic, natural scent, and the names of flowers make you think the product is safe when it may not be safe.
- Some "unscented" and "fragrance-free" products can contain masking fragrances (to cover up the smell of other ingredients) or fragrances used for other purposes.

*BOOKS about making, using and buying safe products:*

**Better Basics for the Home**, Annie Berthold-Bond, 1999  
**Creating a Healthy Household**, Lynn Bower, 2000  
**Home Sweet Home**, Debra Lynn Dadd, 1997  
**Less Toxic Alternatives**, Carolyn Gorman, 2001  
**Safe Shoppers Bible**, Steinman, Epstein

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

[www.fpinva.org](http://www.fpinva.org) (Fragranced Products Information Network)

[www.nottoopretty.org](http://www.nottoopretty.org)

[www.noharm.org](http://www.noharm.org) (Health Care Without Harm)

**"Acute Toxic Effects of Fragrance Products,"** Rosalind C. Anderson, Julius H. Anderson, Archives of Environmental Health, 1998; 53(2):138-146

**Aggregate Exposures to Phthalates in Humans,** Health Care Without Harm, 2002, 202-234-0091

**Chemical Exposure and Human Health** (reference to 314 chemicals, guide to symptoms and health effects), Cynthia Wilson. Available from: McFarland & Co. Pub., 800-253-2187

**Drop-Dead Gorgeous: Protecting Yourself from the Hidden Dangers of Cosmetics,** Kim Erickson, 2002

**Fragrance and Health,** Louise Kosta, 1998. Available from: Human Ecology Action League, 404-248-1898

**"Perfume Toxicity, Sensitivity, Accommodations and Disability,"** Cindy Duehring, Medical and Legal Briefs, Part I-Health Hazards, Part II-Public Behavior Control. Available from: Chemical Injury Information Network, 406-547-2255

**"Respiratory Toxicology of Fabric Softener Emissions,"** Rosalind C. Anderson, Julius H. Anderson, Journal of Toxicology and Environmental Health, 2000; Part A 60:121-136

**"Toxic Effects of Air Freshener Emissions,"** R. C. Anderson, J. H. Anderson, Arch. of Environ. Health, 1997; 52(6):433-441

**ADDITIONAL READING:**

**An Alternative Approach to Allergies: The New Field of Clinical Ecology Unravels the Environmental Causes of Mental and Physical Ills,** T. G. Randolph, R. W. Moss, 1980

**Chemical Exposures: Low Levels and High Stakes,** Nicholas Ashford, Claudia Miller, 1998

**Chemical Sensitivity, Vol. 1-4,** William Rea, 1992-1997

**Our Stolen Future,** Theo Colburn, Dianne Dumanoski, John Peterson Myers, 1996 [www.ourstolenfuture.org](http://www.ourstolenfuture.org)

**Staying Well in a Toxic World,** 1993 New Millennium Update, 2000 Lynn Lawson

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TO ORDER BROCHURES CONTACT:

REDEMSKE DESIGN, 344 Gardiner Road, Jefferson, ME 04348

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5.07

# FRAGRANCE: A Growing Health and Environmental Hazard



*Today's fragrances make you think they are made from flowers.*

**They contain toxic synthetic chemicals you inhale, and absorb through your skin.**

Fragrance chemicals in fabric softeners, laundry detergents, perfumes, personal care products, air fresheners and many other products contribute to health and environmental problems.

2006 REVISED AND UPDATED EDITION

## Fragrance can be present... even if you can't smell it.

Your sense of smell gives you information about new odors. Continued exposure to an odor, such as a fragranced laundry product, makes you unable to smell that odor. It doesn't matter if you are exposed to your fragrance or someone else's fragrance - *you will be unable to smell it after a short time.*



### MANY PRODUCTS CAN CONTAIN FRAGRANCE CHEMICALS:

Air fresheners and deodorizers (in buildings, cars, etc.)	Hair products (hair sprays, shampoos, conditioners, gels)
Fabric softeners	Cosmetics
Laundry detergents	Hand and body lotions
Soaps (bar, liquid)	Bath powders and oils
Dishwashing detergents	Deodorants, anti-perspirants
Bleach and bleach powders	Shaving creams, after shaves
Disinfectant sprays	Perfumes, colognes
Polishing waxes and cleaners	Essential oils
Pesticides	Candles, potpourris
Tissues and toilet papers	Nail polish and polish remover
Plastic bags, trash and kitchen	Food additives
Disposable diapers, toys,	Marking pens
Clothing and fabrics	Kitty litter, etc.
Books, papers, advertising	

**Just because  
you can buy  
a product  
does not  
make it safe!**

★ **Second-hand fragrance chemical exposure is just like second-hand smoke... you are exposed to toxins without your consent!**

### You are not protected by the government from exposure to fragrance chemicals in products.

Despite the widespread, constant exposure to an unknown number of fragrance chemicals in thousands of products, there is *minimal government regulation and monitoring of their safety.*

- The fragrance industry is primarily self-regulated.
- Trade-secret laws keep toxicity testing and identification of fragrance ingredients from being accurately and truthfully disclosed to anyone, including the FDA.
- The FDA does not review the safety of cosmetic products or their ingredients, and can't require manufacturers to do safety testing before these products are marketed.
- Products can be labeled "unscented" or "fragrance-free" and still contain fragrances, because the fragrance chemicals are used for other purposes besides fragrance.

**95% of the chemicals in fragrances are synthetic compounds derived from petroleum.**

*"Lack of evidence can hardly be used as evidence of safety, when no one has ever looked."*

Health Care Without Harm

From 1980 to 1989, industry sales doubled for fragrance materials. The present proliferation of fragranced products now contain more volatile and longer-lasting fragrances, which means your exposure to toxic fragrance chemicals has dramatically increased.

### Dispersion and Transfer of Fragrance Oils

Tiny oil droplets of fragrance chemicals (designed to be very volatile and long lasting), are constantly being released into the air from people's fragranced personal care and laundry products, and other products such as air fresheners. They concentrate in closed spaces and spread across open areas. The fragrance oil droplets, floating in the air, adhere to every surface they contact, including people, furnishings and food. This is why if you don't use any fragranced products, and go to any public or private place where fragranced products are used, you will smell fragrance on your clothes, hair and skin when you go outside or return home. The oil droplets are absorbed into your bloodstream when you breathe, and when the oil contacts your skin. If fragrance oil droplets are in your home or foodstore air, all exposed food, including fresh fruits and vegetables, will be covered with fragrance chemical oils.

When people using fragranced personal care and laundry products touch or hug others, there is direct transfer of some fragrance chemical oils from their clothes, skin and hair to the other person. Oils will also transfer to furniture or anything else they touch or contact, and all will smell of fragrance. When other people contact these surfaces, the oils will then transfer to those people.

If you wash your hands with a fragranced soap or use a fragranced hand lotion, the fragrance chemical oils can transfer to food you are eating or preparing. If you knead bread dough, the bread will smell and taste of fragrance. Washing dishes, fruits, or vegetables with fragranced soaps can leave a fragrance odor and oil residue on them.

Fragrance chemical oils are very difficult to remove from skin, hair, clothes and other surfaces by washing with soap and water.

### Intentional Public Fragrance Exposures

Fragrances are dispensed using ventilation systems and individual dispensers in public areas, such as offices, stores, restaurants, hotels, airports, hospitals, nursing homes, airplanes, etc. Fragrances are designed to:

- **Cover-up poor air quality and insufficient fresh-air ventilation** (odors, cigarette smoke, exhaust, pesticides, mold, and chemicals outgassing from furniture, carpet, equipment, cleaning products, etc.)
- **Change the mood and behavior of people** (increase retail sales, relax the public in potentially stressful places or situations such as airports, subways, businesses, etc. and disguise unpleasant odors in hospitals and nursing homes)
- **Add a scent to the air** (food smells in shopping malls and floral scents in stores)

Advertising creates the illusion that fragranced products will make consumers happy, sexually attractive, popular, fashionable, clean and fresh smelling, good moms and dads, and great housekeepers.

*To deliberately expose the public to fragrance chemicals, with the intent to alter their mood and manipulate their behavior and health, without their informed consent, is unethical.*

## Sample Survey for Members of Access Awareness Advisory Committee

Please indicate how often you are bothered by perfume, aftershave, or scents:

- Frequently
- Occasionally
- Seldom
- Never

If scents bother you at work or public spaces, in what way are you bothered? (You can check more than one)

- My clothes and/or hair smell
- Stinging eyes
- Coughing
- Headaches
- Interferes with work performance
- Concern for long term health effects
- Triggers allergies
- Triggers asthma
- Not at all bothered by scents
- Other, please describe

Do you currently wear scented products (perfume, cologne, aftershave) to work or in public?

- Yes
- No

Would you be willing to stop wearing scented products to work or in public if you knew it was affecting the health of others around you?

- Yes
- No

Would you support scent-free areas in Public and Municipal Buildings?

- Yes
- No

Are you

- Male
- Female

Additional comments:

To: Jeff Miller, Director of Engineering & Public Works, Township of Esquimalt  
From: Atilla Szabo and Lorne Argyle for the Access Awareness Advisory Committee

## *Accessibility Survey*

Nov. 8, 2010

*Prioritized List with 1 being the most important.*

### **Priority 1:**

Denniston Park – entrance curb 6”  
Fraser-Munro-Bewdley intersection – 2 cross walks  
Munro-Hadfield-Saxe Point path – crosswalk  
Lampson @ Munro – 6” curb, crosswalks  
Esquimalt @ Sturdee – too steep, slanted, dogleg  
Esquimalt @ Constance – twisted slope  
Admirals @ Woodway – curb not cut, short pedestrian walk signal time  
Effingham @ Drake – 6” curb  
Park Terrace @ Old Esquimalt Road – curb, crosswalk  
Old Esquimalt Road @ High Rock Path – 6” curb, crosswalk  
Lampson @ Transfer – crosswalk  
Colville @ Tillicum – too steep, 3-way stop?  
Colville @ Macleod – crosswalk with 6” curb  
Colville @ Hutchison – crosswalk, 6” curbs, 2 mailboxes impeding sidewalk  
Lugrin – Play Park – need curb cuts  
Lockley at parking lot – crosswalk  
Intervale-Highrock-Rockcrest – crosswalk with 6” curbs  
Rockheights School – crosswalk with 6” curb, driveway with 6” curb  
Old Esquimalt Road-Viewfield-Dominion – No crosswalks, need curb cuts  
Esquimalt @ Head – north corners – need 90° cuts, telephone pole; short walk signal time

### **Priority 2:**

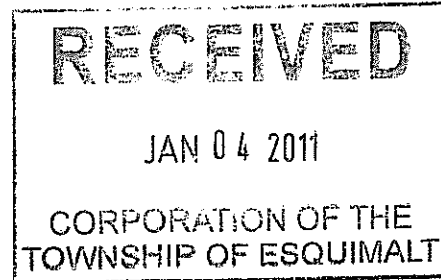
Lyll @ Grafton – crosswalk lines  
Footpath – Constance to Admirals – too steep, 6” curb  
Footpath – Greenwood to Admirals - curb grind, root lift – rough  
Constance @ Miles – 2” road lift at each end of Miles  
Woodway – Drake Path – steep, narrow, rough, dangerous

### **Priority 3:**

Craddock @ Grafton – 2 corners – need curb cut  
Beatty @ Grafton – 1 corner – curb cut  
Bewdley – Saxe Point Path (Hydrant) – needs curb cut  
Hutchison @ Railroad Crossing – rough, steep  
Hutchison @ Lockley – 4-foot drop, steps only, grass slope – need warning signs  
Lockley @ Lugrin – steps – need warning signs  
Lockley @ Intervale – crosswalk to ? Steps, grass slope – need warning

December 29, 2010

Mayor Barbara Desjardins  
Township of Esquimalt Municipal Hall  
1229 Esquimalt Road  
Esquimalt, BC V9A 3P1



RE: Access Awareness Advisory Committee

Dear Mayor Desjardins:

Thank you for affording BC Transit the opportunity to participate in Esquimalt's Access Awareness Advisory Committee. The Committee is an invaluable tool in ensuring our communities are accessible for all citizens. The strong dedication and enthusiasm demonstrated by group members is commendable.

Due to time and logistical constraints, BC Transit will be attending meetings biannually, in July and November. However, should the Committee wish to discuss a particular transit issue or invite a BC Transit representative to attend a specific meeting, we would be more than pleased to do so.

Sincerely,

Danielle Harriott  
Custom Transit Project Manager

Cc: Wanda le Roux, Manager, Transit Planning, BC Transit