



**CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT**

**MINUTES**

**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Thursday, May 15, 2008  
7:00 p.m.  
Esquimalt Council Chambers

- PRESENT:** Tara Hastings – Chair  
Councillor Jane Sterk  
Lorraine Nygaard-Ishizaki  
Alison Gaul  
Eileen Palmer  
Mark Salter
- GUESTS:** Ian Dyck – CRD Roundtable on the Environment  
Dayle Cosway – SOUL – BC – Society for Organic Urban Land Care
- STAFF:** Gilbert Coté – Director of Engineering and Public Works (Staff Liaison)  
Deborah Liske – Recording Secretary
- REGRETS:** Mayor Chris Clement  
Edwin Hubert – Vice Chair

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Tara Hastings called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

**2. LATE ITEMS**

The following late items were introduced:

1. Add to Agenda item 7. REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES **(4) Driving Reduction (c) Update on Anti-Idling Bylaw**
2. Add to Agenda item 7. REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES **(4) Driving Reduction (d) Safe Kids Week**

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by Chair Hastings, seconded by Councillor Sterk that the agenda of the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting of May 15, 2008 be approved with the inclusion of the late agenda items.

The motion **CARRIED**.

**4. PRESENTATIONS**

- (1) Ian Dyck – CRD Roundtable on the Environment – Integrated Water Forum

Ian Dyck, a member of the CRD Roundtable on the Environment attended the meeting to provide the Environmental Advisory Committee with an overview of current initiatives for integrated water management within the Capital Regional District.

Key points of the PowerPoint presentation included:

- The mission of the Roundtable on the Environment is to increase understanding between human activity and the environment in order to protect human health, the environment and to achieve sustainability.

- Priorities of the Roundtable on the Environment include:
  - Food and agriculture
  - Stewardship
  - Energy and climate change
  - Planning and monitoring
- CRD population is expected to grow by 25% over the next 20 years.
- Continued decline in key environmental indicators unless per capita need are reduced by 25% on average over the same period of time.
- Coordinated activities required by governments, households and businesses to address challenges.
- Review of: Where water comes from:
  - Rainwater
  - Watersheds and aquatic ecosystemsWho uses water:
  - Agriculture
  - Buildings and community
  - Industry
  - Landscapes
  - Stormwater
  - Watersheds and aquatic ecosystemsWhat happens to water:
  - Streams and groundwater
  - Liquidwaste
  - Evapotranspiration
  - Stormwater
- The biggest challenge is determining how to motivate and engage citizens, business and governments to change.

Mr. Dyck provided the Committee with an overview of the upcoming regional forum, hosted by the CRD Roundtable on the Environment, on Integrated Water Management in the Capital Region. The forum will take place on June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the Ambrosia Centre and all members of the Environmental Advisory Committee members are welcome to attend. The forum will concentrate on how to manage water resources in an integrated and sustainable manner within the CRD.

Mr. Dyck responded to questions from the Committee. The Committee further discussed integrating water management in the development of new and existing buildings and structures.

(2) Dayle Cosway – SOUL – BC – Society for Organic Urban Land Care

Dayle Cosway of the Society for Organic Urban Land Care provided the Committee with a powerepoint presentation on the role that education will have in assisting in the reduction of pesticide use.

Key points of the presentation included:

- Concentrate on the educational component of pesticide reduction.
- CRD PURE working Group has an existing educational component currently in use.
- Proven that education plays a very important role.
- Most effective way to change individual behaviours is through social marketing.
- Current behaviours are based on using pesticides.
- Social factors that influence the use of pesticides include:
  - Socioeconomic status
  - Aesthetic beliefs
  - Attitudes about neighborhood citizenship
  - Desire to avoid conflict with neighbors
- Need to exchange the current behaviors with acceptable behaviors that are beneficial.

- Alternate products other than pesticides.
- Instruments available to assist individuals in making the change to not use pesticides include:
  - Emphasize written over verbal commitments
  - Seek commitment in groups
  - Public commitment
  - Active involvement
  - Public examples
  - Support
  - Incentives
- Plan is required in order to implement.
- Need to know audience.
- Need a captivating, easy to remember, specific message.
- Options for distributing educational material to the public include:
  - Website
  - Hotline
  - Brochures and fact sheets
  - Advertising
  - Booths at community events
  - Networking with Community Partners
  - Workshops
- Partner with other organizations to assist in getting the message out there.
- Education by itself does not work – need education outreach, community agreement and bylaw.

Ms. Cosway responded to questions from the Committee.

The Committee discussed the creation of a plan to educate the community on alternatives to pesticides. It was suggested that Andy Katschor, Parks Manager, be invited to attend the June meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee to provide an overview of the perspective of the Parks Department in relation to pesticide use, reduction and the bylaw.

## **5. MINUTES**

Moved by Chair Hastings, seconded by Eileen Palmer that the minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting of April 17, 2008 be approved as presented.  
The motion **CARRIED**.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

### (1) Hydrogen Fuel Cell Powered Sailboat

Lorraine Nygaard-Ishizaki informed the Committee that during the Tall Ships Festival (June 26 – 29, 2008), a hydrogen fuel cell powered sailboat will be on display at the West Bay Marina. Additional information about the Hydrogen Fuel Cell Powered Sailboat can be found at [www.agoenvironmental.com/Under\\_development.htm](http://www.agoenvironmental.com/Under_development.htm) and the Tall Ships Festival can be found at [www.tallshipsvictoria.ca](http://www.tallshipsvictoria.ca).

### (2) CRD Report on the TravelChoices Select Committee (*For Information*)

Councillor Sterk reviewed the report with the Committee and noted the proactive approach to transportation alternatives within the CRD.

Moved by Councillor Sterk, seconded by Lorraine Nygaard-Ishizaki that the report be received.  
The motion **CARRIED**.

7. REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES

- (1) Urban Landscape
  - (a) Community Gardens

Mark Salter reported to the Committee that the Esquimalt Native Urban Farmers – ENUF and the Workpoint Community Gardens Group have indicated that they would like to partner in a community garden. The two groups are currently in discussion with the Department of National Defence to utilize a space located in Workpoint behind the Military Families Resource Centre.

Mr. Salter further reported that Macaulay school also has a gardening program and ENUF will provide foster gardeners over the summer months to sustain the gardens while school is out.

It was also noted that SOUL - Victoria has reviewed the proposed community garden site on Colville Road and suggested that a professional assessment of the site take place in anticipation of receiving permission from the municipality to utilize the site.

It was suggested that a Sustainability Fair be organized to provide information and demonstrations to residents on such topics as composting, urban hens etc.

- (2) Pesticide Reduction

The Director of Engineering and Public Works reported the draft Pesticide Reduction Bylaw will be presented to Council on May 20, 2008. It was further reported that staff have recommended to Council that an educational campaign be developed.

- (3) Gorge Discovery Centre

Councillor Sterk reported that Council reviewed a Licence of Use Agreement between SeaChange Marine Conservation Society and the Township of Esquimalt at a recent meeting of Committee of the Whole.

- (4) Driving Reduction
  - (a) Draft Letter to BC Transit

Alison Gaul reviewed the draft letter to BC Transit with the Committee. The Committee discussed the draft and provided Ms. Gaul with additional alterations. Ms. Gaul will complete final revisions and forward to the Recording Secretary for distribution. The Director of Engineering and Public Works noted that he is in discussion with BC Transit and the Graving Dock on alternatives for service to the Westshore.

Moved by Chair Hastings, seconded by Mark Salter that upon completion of the final draft, the letter, under the signature of the Chair, be forwarded to BC Transit.  
The motion **CARRIED**.

The Committee discussed encouraging other community groups to write to BC Transit to encourage changes to transit services.

- (b) Sidewalk Installation Requirements

The Director of Engineering and Public Works will provide the required maps to review the locations in Esquimalt that require sidewalk installation. The maps will be distributed at the next meeting.

- (c) Update on Anti-Idling Bylaw (**Late Item**)

Lorraine Nygaard-Ishizaki reported to the Committee that the CRD has received three letters in support of an anti-idling bylaw. It was suggested that individual Committee members forward a

letter to the CRD indicating their support of the proposed bylaw.

(d) Safe Kids Week **(Late Item)**

Alison Gaul provided the Committee with information on the Safe Kids Week event which will be taking place May 29, 2008. The event, sponsored by the Vancouver Island Health Authority, along with the assistance of the Macaulay Elementary School and its Parent Advisory Council will promote pedestrian safety by coordinating the Walking School Bus.

(5) Sustainability

(a) Buccaneer Days Booth

Lorraine Nygaard-Ishizaki reported to the Committee that, if interested, the Environmental Advisory Committee can have as many tables at Buccaneer Days as they wish. The Committee discussed ideas for a booth. Lorraine Nygaard-Ishizaki and Mark Salter will coordinate. It was requested that any resource materials be forwarded to Ms. Nygaard-Ishizaki.

(6) Climate Change – Nothing to report.

(7) Solid Waste

The Director of Engineering and Public Works reported that all municipalities within the Capital Region have requested that the CRD determine a date for the implementation of separate collection of compostable materials. The suggested target date is 2010.

The Committee discussed how to reduce the amount of solid waste collected in Esquimalt. A Committee member requested information on the cost associated with the collection of solid waste by the municipality. The Director of Engineering and Public Works will report back on this item at the next meeting.

(8) Promoting Successes of Committee

Eileen Palmer suggested that an aerial photograph be utilized to map the Committees projects and past successes. Ms. Palmer will meet with the Director of Engineering and Public Works to discuss acquiring a map.

**8. REPORT FROM STAFF LIASION**

Nothing to report.

**9. COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS / REPORTS**

Lorraine Nygaard-Ishizaki circulated the draft letter to be sent to the City of Victoria; Re: Condition of Cycling Lane on Esquimalt Road. Committee members provided final input. Ms. Nygaard-Ishizaki will complete final revisions and forward to the Recording Secretary for distribution.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

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Tara Hastings, Chair

This      day of                      , 2008