



Saxe Point street mural

Active transportation projects

Esquimalt Road Phase I

New work is taking place on Esquimalt Road and nearby roadways:

- New curb, gutter, sidewalk and ramps at various intersections to improve accessibility and safety
- New continuous sidewalk and driveway style access across Macaulay Street at Esquimalt Road
- New protected uni-directional bike lanes from Lampson Street to Dominion Road
- Removal of on-street parking between Lampson Street to Do-

minion Road

- New Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) multi-use crosswalks at Macaulay Street, 848 Esquimalt and at Dunsmuir Road
- Traffic signal upgrades at Lampson Street and Head Street including new signal timing at Lampson Street and Esquimalt Road
- New protected bi-directional bike lane connector on Esquimalt Road from Dunsmuir to Dominion Road
- Lighting upgrades at select intersections

Craigflower Road

- New RRFB crosswalks at Aral, Dellwood, Garthland, Foreshaw, 1100 blk mid-block and Arcadia
- The project is funded in part by a \$500,000 BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant.

Phase II of the project has a focus on the section of Esquimalt Road from Joffre Street to Canteen Road.

Expect more engagement on this phase in the Fall, excluding Admirals to Fraser

Learn about the projects at engagingsquimalt.ca

Gorge Waterway saw 760kgs of trash removed by hard-working volunteers

Earlier this June, some dedicated volunteers made a big impact on one of the region's most unique areas.

To celebrate Oceans Week, volunteers from the "Trash Panda Brigade"—a group of local Paddle Canada instructors (SUP, kayak and canoe) who routinely do ocean cleanups around the South Island—went to the Gorge Waterway for a beach cleanup. The volunteers, ranging in age from kids to adults, pulled 760 kgs or 1,675 lbs of trash in approximately two hours. This included 23 tires, two of which were massive truck or tractor tires, a wrought iron garden bench, construction materials including traffic

cones, signs, plumbing and pipe, a broken bicycle, countless bottles and broken glass, a stereo, two school chairs and a grocery cart.

A bin sponsored by Tillicum Centre allowed volunteers to collect the discarded items. Bin owner Island Junk Solutions confirmed that approximately 90 per cent of the trash collected is now in the recycling stream and diverted from the landfill. Importantly, it is also no longer in the Upper Gorge Waterway!

A massive thank to you all those who participated in donating time and resources to improve an important place in our community.



TOWNSHIP CONTACTS

Emergency 9-1-1

Esquimalt Municipal Hall

1229 Esquimalt Road
Esquimalt, BC V9A 3P1

Municipal Hall reception	250-414-7100
Building Inspections	250-414-7103
Bylaw Enforcement	250-414-7161
Corporate Services	250-414-7177
Development Services	250-414-7103
Engineering/Public Works	250-414-7108
Finance	250-414-7100
Parks and Recreation	250-412-8500

Esquimalt Municipal Archives

103-1249 Esquimalt Rd
Esquimalt, BC V9A 3P2 250-412-8540
Tues (1-4:30 p.m.);
Wed/ Thurs (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

Esquimalt Recreation Centre

527 Fraser Street
Esquimalt, BC V9A 6H6 250-412-8500

Archie Browning Sports Centre

1151 Esquimalt Road
Esquimalt, BC V9A 3N6 250-412-8510

Public library—Esquimalt branch

501 Park Place 250-940-4875

Fire Rescue Services

#101-1151 Esquimalt Road 250-414-7126

Police Department

1229 Esquimalt Road 250-995-7500

The Esquimalt Current is published three times a year by the Township of Esquimalt and distributed to 8,000 homes and local businesses.

If you have a community event you would like included in The Current, call 250-414-7122 or email communications@esquimalt.ca.

Sign up for email notification at esquimalt.ca to receive this newsletter by email and for updates on Township news, events and more.

We are committed to environmental sustainability. This newsletter is printed on 100% post-consumer recycled paper.



TownshipofEsquimalt



EsquimaltBC



EsquimaltBC

ETAG is back!

What is ETAG?

Esquimalt Together Against Graffiti (ETAG) is a partnership between the Township of Esquimalt and VicPD that works with community volunteers to reduce graffiti in our community. Cleaning up graffiti promptly sends a message that tagging is not welcome in the area. Graffiti-style murals that have received permission from the owner and/or the township are not considered tagging.

The program works in two ways:

1. Members of the public are encouraged to report graffiti on public property—buildings, hydro poles, utility boxes, etc.
2. Trained volunteers will clean up the graffiti with materials provided by the township.

VicPD and township staff support volunteers with training, materials and resources. While all instances of graffiti and vandalism are reported to VicPD, the program focusses on public property only.

Regardless if tagging is on public or private property, graffiti is a crime. Regular reporting helps VicPD document graffiti as part of their investigations and to identify the culprits. Find links to report graffiti at esquimalt.ca/ETAG



On July 17, approximately 20 community members came out to help kick off the revamped program.

Volunteers cleaned up graffiti on the side of Esquimalt's Wholesale Club alongside members of council, township staff and VicPD.

Council meeting schedule

Council meetings

Sept 8; Sept 29; Oct 6; Oct 27

Committee of the Whole meetings

Sept 15; Sept 29 (5:45PM Special COTW); Oct 20

* Unless otherwise noted, council meetings take place at 7 p.m. and Committee of the Whole at 6 p.m. in the Municipal Council Chambers at 1229 Esquimalt Road. Please check the website or call 250-414-7157 to confirm meeting times.

Esquimalt Municipal Hall and Esquimalt Archives closed on statutory holidays. Summer council recess is August 1 to 31.

Don't forget to sign up for our council meeting notifications and our news & events emails. Stay informed on all things Esquimalt by going to esquimalt.ca/subscribe.

We acknowledge that we are gathered on Lekwungen territory. Council is committed to building strong and enduring relationships with the neighbouring Songhees Nation and Kosapsum Nation.

Public feedback opportunities

Official Community Plan recalibration: new Provincial requirements mean that we will be reviewing limited sections of our OCP. Want to learn more and share your thoughts on the changes? Details are at engagingesquimalt.ca with feedback open until August 31.

Gorge Flood Adaptation: Municipalities along the Gorge Waterway and Portage Inlet are working together on a coastal flood adaptation strategy and want to hear from you. We want to understand why the Gorge is important to you, to help guide planning for current flood risks and future sea level rise.

Complete the survey, add a pin to the map or join us at an event to share your favourite places and experiences with the Gorge. The survey is at engage.victoria.ca/gorge-flooding and is open until September 30.

Emergency preparedness: How are you and your family prepared for an emergency? What works well and where are the barriers? The responses will help us ensure our emergency communications is reaching residents effectively. Details coming later this summer!

Esquimalt community check-in survey: coming later in summer, this survey will ask you about living in Esquimalt, thoughts on services, how you prefer to engage with the township and more.

This survey will be available online but we are mailing information to 1,600 random households to gather statistically significant data. [If you receive a survey package to your home, please share your thoughts with us.](#) This survey will cover a broad range of topics and will be use when planning projects and priorities.



New street art at Saxe Point

The mural was the result of a call for artists. Applicants were asked to design something that reflected the theme of “Nature in the Township,” capturing the essence of indigenous flowers, local animals, and landscapes, or exploring the interplay between urban and natural environments.

The location at the Saxe Point Park entrance is part a traffic-calming design meant to slow cars as they enter the park. Go check it out!



Be alerted about significant weather warnings, errant cougar sightings, large fire or traffic incidents and other emergency situations with our handy app.

Go to esquimalt.ca/alert to subscribe—choose what you want to year about (just garbage reminders? No problem!) and how you want to be informed (text, app, email or call).



A message from ESQUIMALT FIRE RESCUE SERVICES

Training and Readiness

Training never stops at EFRS. Over the past month, our crews have completed advanced chainsaw operations, ICS 400 (Incident Command), and participated in live ship-board firefighting exercises with our partners at CFB Esquimalt. These sessions sharpen technical skills and ensure we are always ready to respond with professionalism and confidence.

Safety Message from the Fire Chief – Lithium-Ion Battery Hazards

As lithium-ion batteries become more common in devices, tools, e-bikes, and scooters, so do the fire risks associated with them. Overheating, overcharging, and using incompatible chargers can lead to serious fires and injuries.

“We’re seeing more fire calls involving battery-powered devices, especially when they’re left charging unattended or stored improperly. Please take a moment to review these NFPA safety tips and share them with friends and family.”

– Fire Chief Matt Furlot

Upcoming events in Esquimalt

Weekly this summer:

Esquimalt Farmers Market

Join us at Memorial Park on Thursdays and Gorge Park on Mondays. Look forward to an evening of fresh flavors, local artistry, food trucks and live music! From 4:30 PM to 7:30 PM, explore an incredible selection of farm-fresh produce, hand-made crafts, and mouthwatering eats—all from amazing local vendors. For more information check out esquimaltmarket.com/

Memorial Park Music Fest

Until August 26 (Tuesdays)

Bring a blanket or chair, pop by a food truck or visit one of Esquimalt's local restaurants as you enjoy this free family-friendly event. Check townshiparts.org for the full line-up.

Stories in the Park

Thursdays in July & August; 10-11AM

Join Esquimalt's Recreation staff at Saxe Point Park for story time in the park. These stories are intended for children ages 2-5, but all are welcome. We will be reading stories from Canadian authors followed by a themed activity. Take part in our summer stories passport. Each week you attend you will receive a sticker!

OUTDOOR SUMMER CINEMA IS BACK!

Aug 6–Big Hero 6 (Bullen Park)

Aug 13– Encanto (Gorge Park)

Aug 20– The Emperor's New Groove (Bullen Park)

Aug 27– Enchanted (Gorge Park)

Movies start at sunset

Our popular summer movie series is back! Bring a camping chair and/or a blanket and enjoy an outdoor movie experience! Each week we'll be joined by a local food truck to cater to all your snack needs.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Branch Out Social-Invasive Plant Removal

Fri, Aug 8; 10AM to noon

Join us in Saxe Point Park to help us remove invasive plants! During this social the parks team will teach you about the invasive species in our public parks and how you can help us manage them! Grab a buddy and help us protect this beautiful environment. Interested in continuing with invasive plant removal? We will also set you up to do self directed volunteer work throughout the year! Light snacks and beverages will be provided.

Family Friendly Play Time!

Mon, Aug 11; 11AM-12:30PM at Memorial Park

Join us at the park for some fun outdoor activities. We will have lawn games, light sports equipment, etc. Come spend time with us in the fresh air!

Ribfest

Sept 5-7

Bullen Park

Ribfest is a three-day event packed with fun for people of all ages and abilities. Our Mission is To host a fun, family event and raise charitable money for Esquimalt. This epic celebration of flavor and fun supports local charities so everyone wins! Don't miss out on the tastiest, most rockin' ribfest in history. More at EsquimaltRibfest.com

Mayor's Open Door

Sept 12; 9-11AM

Council Chambers

Chat with Mayor Desjardins at our open door event! Stop by the

municipal hall to discuss what's important to you. No appointment necessary, first come, first served.

Esquimalt Lantern Festival

Sept 26; 5:30-9:30PM

Esquimalt Gorge Park

Bring a lantern, dress up, and join us in the park to experience a unique, magical evening unlike anything else in the township. There will be music by local musicians, handmade lanterns, large-scale puppets, and interactive art installations throughout the park. Come and celebrate all things weird and wonderful!

Esquimalt Story Festival

Sept 27; 10:30AM-1PM

at Esquimalt Town Square

Help us celebrate the 20th year of Esquimalt's Story Festival with another awesome line-up of great story tellers. The Lion's club will be serving a by-donation lunch, sponsored by the generous Country Grocer. All donations go to help fund the Macaulay literacy program.

Social Saturdays–Pub Quiz with Benji Duke

Sept 27; 6:30-10:30PM

Join Esquimalt Recreation and Quiz Master Benji Duke for Pub Quiz Night in the Sports Centre Lounge. Benji Duke is Victoria's Quiz Master general. He breaks the mold of everyday trivia nights and provides an evening of excitement and high energy with great showmanship, engaging visuals and a soundtrack that keeps the audience rocking. This isn't your typical trivia night, this is Benji's Quiz! This is a 19+ event.

View our up-to-date online calendar at esquimalt.ca/events or by QR code.

