



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

Municipal Hall, 1229 Esquimalt Road, Esquimalt, B.C. V9A 3P1
Website: www.esquimalt.ca Email: info@esquimalt.ca

Voice: (250) 414-7100
Fax: (250) 414-7111

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

At the Regular meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Esquimalt held on June 22nd, 2015, Council duly adopted the following resolution:

DECLARATION OF THE RIGHT TO A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

WHEREAS the Township of Esquimalt understands that people are part of the environment, and that a healthy environment is inextricably linked to the well-being of our community;

AND WHEREAS the Township of Esquimalt's Official Community Plan (2007) provides a strong policy foundation to pursue actions and initiatives that contribute toward a healthy environment;

NOW THEREFORE the Township of Esquimalt declares that:

1. Council believes that the citizens of Esquimalt should have the right to live in a healthy environment, including the right to:
 - Breathe clean air;
 - Drink and access clean water;
 - Eat safe and healthy food;
 - Access nature;
 - Know about pollutants and contaminants released into the local environment; and
 - Participate in decision-making that will affect the environment.
2. Within its jurisdiction, the Township of Esquimalt has certain authority to respect, protect, fulfill and promote these rights.
3. Where threats of serious or irreversible damage to human health or the environment exist, the Township of Esquimalt may consider measures within its jurisdiction and authority to prevent the degradation of the environment and protect the health of its citizens.
4. The Township of Esquimalt may consider the sustainability and environmental implications in its decision making processes. When evaluating proposed actions and alternatives, the Township of Esquimalt may consider impacts to human health and the environment.
5. When reviewing the Official Community Plan, the Township of Esquimalt may specify objectives, targets, timelines and actions, within its jurisdiction, to promote a healthy environment under section 1, including priority actions to:

- a) consider whether infrastructure and development projects of the Township of Esquimalt and private sector respect the objective of protecting the environment, including air quality;
 - b) address climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and implementing adaptation measures;
 - c) responsibly increase density in accordance with growth and servicing strategies that respect the objective of a healthy environment;
 - d) prioritize walking, cycling and public transit as preferred modes of transportation;
 - e) promote the availability of safe foods;
 - f) reduce solid waste and promote recycling, re-use and composting; and
 - g) establish and maintain accessible green spaces in all neighbourhoods and protect and conserve nature in public open spaces.
6. The Township of Esquimalt may review these objectives, targets, timelines and actions in conjunction with the Official Community Plan review, and evaluate progress towards fulfilling this declaration.
7. The Township of Esquimalt may consult with residents as part of this process

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Certified correct:



Anja Nurvo
Corporate Officer
October 7, 2015