# ESQUIMALT Current Community Newsletter Fall 2013



# Admirals Road Open House Scheduled for November 21<sup>st</sup>

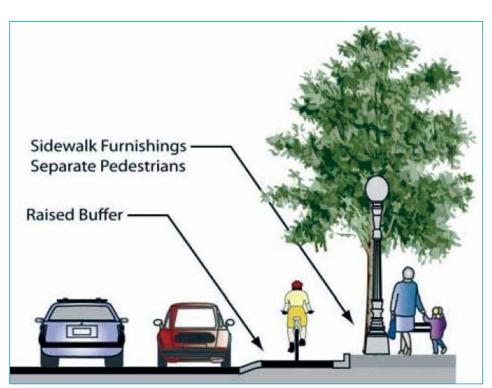
he Township's Engineering Department is moving ahead with the second design phase of the Admirals Corridor Improvement Project.

Public comments on the project were received through an open house held at Municipal Hall on June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013, and through one-on-one opportunities offered to the public during the month of July. The majority of responses (81%) expressed support for the project. "As a result of this valuable feedback, and through some fine tuning, we have a more complete design we would like to share with the public," said Engineering Manager Will Wieler.

The new design will be presented at a second open house at Municipal Hall on Thursday November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013 between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. The public is invited to review the design and provide more input into the final corridor plan at that time. Engineering staff will be on hand to answer questions.

While the project has mandatory components in order to comply with funding requirements—such as bike lanes, lane modifications and roadway repairs—there are design elements that can be modified based on public input.

"The public definitely has a say on the final look of the corridor," said Wieler. "Within our budget, we are doing the best we can to provide a safe and efficient corridor for all users, and we



An innovative feature being considered for the Admirals Road Project is a raised buffer for bike lanes.

value ideas from the community in finalizing the project design."

Among the innovations being considered for the corridor are raised buffers for sections of bike lanes, changing street lighting to energy efficient LED technology from standard high pressure sodium, and possibly relocating overhead electrical to underground between Esquimalt Road and Woodway Road.

Construction is expected to begin in the late spring of 2014.

Improvements to Admirals Road in Esquimalt will enhance safety and access for all modes of transportation. The project is proceeding thanks to a \$2.8 million contribution from the Government of Canada through the Gas Tax Fund for municipal infrastructure priorities.





## Mayor's Message: From Strategy to Implementation

As this is the last Current community newsletter of 2013, I want residents, businesses and our many partners to know that Council

is working hard to ensure continued success in 2014.

This year began with a boost from a very successful centennial celebration in 2012 that created momentum for change and reinvigoration. Our focus in 2013 has been on strategic direction for such priorities as the Esquimalt Village Project, waste resource management (please see story below), multi-modal transportation (Admirals Road update, see page 1) and a new Economic Development Strategy. I invite you to review our strategic priorities document, which is posted at www.esquimalt.ca, and provide your input on Council priorities and the Township's operational strategies.

Guided by your continued feedback, 2014 will be a year of working with our community partners to implement our strategies, to building our future, and to continue improving our community.

Please see page 4 for the many ways you can stay in touch with the Township.

Sincerely,

Barbara Desjardins, Mayor

# Garbage Collection Changes Coming in 2014

In early 2014, the Township of Esquimalt will be changing the way it collects garbage in two important ways. Firstly, in addition to garbage, kitchen scraps will be picked up by Public Works crews. This means that residents will be required to sort kitchen scraps from their garbage using supplied bins.

Secondly, crews will be picking up material from the curbside, not the backyard, using specialized semiautomatic trucks capable of collecting both waste streams. This means that homeowners will need to locate bins at the curbside by 7 a.m. on pickup days.



Residents will be provided with specialized bins—freeof-charge—by the Township: two large 121 litre bins

for waste (grey bin with grey lid) and kitchen scraps (grey bin with green lid), as well as a smaller under-the-counter tote for collecting kitchen scraps inside the home.

The Township will take delivery of the new trucks—which replace vehicles that are at the end of their operational lives—in early 2014. The new bins have also been ordered by the Township and are expected to be delivered at the same time.

Two public information sessions were held last summer on June 19<sup>th</sup> and July 4<sup>th</sup> to provide information updates. **If you missed these sessions, a third information session will be scheduled before the end of the year.** Residents are urged to attend to find out more about the new waste management system. Public Works staff will be on hand to answer questions.

Township Waste Management information is available online at www.esquimalt.ca/2bins

# Gina Griffith Hired as Township HR Manager

Gina Griffith started in her new role as the Township's Manager of Human Resources effective July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Originally from Victoria, Gina began her career in human resources over



Gina Griffith

ten years ago with the BC Government in Victoria, then moved to Kamloops where she worked for six years. Gina comes to the Township from the City of Calgary, where she was working in a specialist position as Labour Relations Advisor before returning home to be closer to family.

Gina takes over from Pat Mulcahy, who retired in July after five years of service to the Township. Welcome aboard Gina and best of luck in retirement Pat!

## Centennial Book Recognized by Heritage BC

Author Sherri Robinson and the Esquimalt Centennial Committee have received the Award of Honour from Heritage BC for the centennial legacy book *Esquimalt Centennial 1912-2012*. The book chronicles Esquimalt, its characters, culture and extraordinary history through fascinating archival photographs and superb story telling. Kathryn Molloy, executive director of Heritage BC, will present the award at the November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Council Meeting at Municipal Hall.

#### Esquimalt Centennial, 1912 to 2012 is available

at local bookstores including Munro's Books, Bolen Books and Russell Books, as well as Esquimalt Municipal Hall (1229 Esquimalt Road). Price: \$30, including taxes. Get this timeless book while supplies last!



# **Park and Facility Upgrades**

The Township is undergoing several upgrades this fall, including a refurbishment of Memorial Park and comprehensive renovations to the Esquimalt Recreation Centre.

#### Roomier, Safer and More Attractive Recreation Centre

Work at the Recreation Centre includes a new entry vestibule, reception area, enhancements to the atrium, installation of new flooring and the addition of a multipurpose room.

Visitors to the Centre in the coming months will see improved lighting, and an upgraded atrium more suited to public gatherings. The pool-side viewing area is being converted into a multi-purpose room with folding doors so that atrium space can be increased for large public meetings.

The kitchen area will be refitted to allow the addition of new cooking and craft programs, and new flooring, lighting and counters will be added to the adjacent Senior's Room.

"We are looking forward to the completion of this improvement project," said Manager of Parks and Facilities Rick Daykin. "We have had to make some big adjustments during construction and we thank our patrons for their patience."

The renovation project is expected to be completed by December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013.

#### Memorial Park: Rich History, Modern Refurbishments

Memorial Park will be open for Remembrance Day on November 11<sup>th</sup> with several new additions. In addition to drainage work, landscaping and improved lighting, the park upgrade includes a new central walkway to the cenotaph with



pavers matching the shoulder entryways, a symbolic poppy paver design (above), and a heritage-themed entranceway with pillars reconstructed to match the shoulder entries.

"This upgrade improves the appearance of the park while respecting its historic status," said Daykin. "It also enhances the park's greenspace and protects the root systems of existing trees."

The park, established in 1924 to commemorate soldiers killed in World War I, was designated an heritage site in 1995, the first such designation in the Township. Remembrance Day ceremonies are held at the cenotaph every year. (See community event calendar on page 4.)

### **Centennial Walkway Update**

As part of the Memorial Park upgrade, Phase II centennial walkway dedication pavers— a total of 32 inscribed pavers—have been

installed. Do you wish to honour a family member, friend, organization or pioneer with a paving stone? Phase III of the paver project is now underway with a tentative installation of spring 2014.



For more information, visit www.esquimalt.ca/2012 or call 250-414-7101.

# Licence Renewal Reminder

At the end of December 2013, the Township will be mailing out renewal notices for 2014 business and dog licences.

Business owners are encouraged to renew their business licences by January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014. After that date an additional licence fee of \$25.00 will be applied. Has there been a change in your business this year? If so, please contact Municipal Hall at 250-414-7157 so we can update our records. Failure to renew a business licence is an offence under the Township's Business Bylaw No. 2482, which provides for fines ranging from \$500.00 to \$2,000.00.

In Esquimalt, all dogs over the age of four months must be licensed. Dog licences ensure owner accountability, and provide identification for your dog. Licences go on sale each year at the end of December and are valid from the date of issue until December 31<sup>st</sup> the following year. A discount of \$5.00 applies to payments on dog licences received by January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014. Pay by mail or in person at Municipal Hall.

For more information on business and dog licences, go to www.esquimalt.ca.



Municipal Hall is a pet-friendly facility. If you'd like, bring your well-behaved buddy with you when renewing your dog licence.



Winter/Spring Active Living Guide Available Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup>.

# Fall/Winter Community Calendar

**Oct 31** Lions Halloween Bonfire A community favourite. Enjoy the bonfire while sipping hot chocolate and enjoying a hot dog. 6–9 p.m. at Archie Browning Sports Centre, rear parking lot. Call 250-412-8500 for more information.

**Nov 11** Remembrance Day Service at Esquimalt Memorial Park A service will be held at Memorial Park , 1200 Esquimalt Road at 11 a.m. After the ceremony, the Royal Canadian Legion invites the community to an open house at Branch #172, 622 Admirals Road.

## **Nov 16** National Children's Day

Activities will include kindergym, face painting, crafts, and science show from 10 a.m.–1 p.m. followed by a Coast Capital FREE Swim from 12:30–2:30 p.m. *More information: 250-412-8500*.

#### **Nov 23** Emergency Preparedness

**Session** Learn what to do in the event of the Big One. 10 *a.m. to noon. Free registration. Book through the Recreation Centre at 250-412-8500.* 

#### **Nov 23** Esquimalt Creative Crafters and Knitters Christmas Sale

Find unique, hand-crafted items for family and friends at this annual event. Your purchase raises money for seniors programming in Esquimalt. 9 a.m.– 1:30 p.m. More info: 250-412-8500

### **Dec 3** Celebration of Lights

This free event is a community celebration supported by volunteers, Esquimalt's business community and the Township. The event includes a parade, light up and refreshments. For detailed event and volunteer info go to www.celebrationoflights.ca. 6–8 p.m. Esquimalt Plaza.

**Dec 13** Senior's Christmas Lunch Enjoy time with friends, a traditional turkey dinner and a Christmas carol sing-along. *Pre-registration at 250-412-*8500. *Noon–1:30 p.m.* \$14/person. **Dec 14** Christmas Tales - Songs and Stories from the First Christmas Christmas drinks & treats provided. Family oriented event sponsored by Esquimalt Ministerial. 2:30–4:30 p.m., Recreation Centre, Pioneer A&B room.

Jan 1, 2014 New Year's Day Levee New format! Free swim and skate along with Council meet and greet. See www.esquimalt.ca for more information.

Jan 4, 2014 Esquimalt Recreation Open House Check out the upgraded facility and participate in FREE program demonstrations. www.esquimalt.ca

# **Meeting Schedule\***

**Council Meetings** October 21, 2013 November 4, 2013 November 18, 2013 December 2, 2013 December 16, 2013

## Committee of the Whole

October 28, 2013

November 25, 2013

December 9, 2013

Unless otherwise noted, Council Meetings take place at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Council Chambers at 1229 Esquimalt Road. Please check the website or call 250-414-7135 to confirm meeting times.

\* The 2014 schedule of Council and Committee of the Whole Meetings will be posted to www.esquimalt.ca in December 2013.

#### Municipal Hall Closed for Statutory Holidays:

Remembrance Day - November 11, 2013 Christmas Day - December 25, 2013 Boxing Day - December 26, 2013 New Year's Day - January 1, 2014 Family Day - February 10, 2014

# Township Contacts

Emergency	9-1-1
Municipal Hall (Reception)	414-7100
Finance	414-7100
Development & Engineering	414-7108
Public Works	414-7104
Building Inspections	414-7108
Bylaw Enforcement	414-7161
Police Department	995-7500
Fire Department	414-7126
Parks & Recreation	412-8500
Sports Centre	412-8510
Library	414-7198
Archives	412-8540

**Municipal Hall** 

1229 Esquimalt Road Esquimalt, BC V9A 3P1

#### Archives

1149-A Esquimalt Road (civic) 1229 Esquimalt Road (mail) Esquimalt, BC V9A 3P1

> **Recreation Centre** 527 Fraser Street Esquimalt, BC V9A 6H6

Archie Browning Sports Centre 1151 Esquimalt Road Esquimalt, BC V9A 3N6

> **Esquimalt Branch Library** 1231 Esquimalt Road (behind Municipal Hall)

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The Esquimalt Current is a tri-annual newsletter published by the Township of Esquimalt and distributed to 8,700 homes and local businesses.

#### We welcome your feedback.

Contact Ritchie Morrison, Communications Coordinator, at 250-414-7122 or ritchie.morrison@esquimalt.ca. Sign up for e-mail notification at www.esquimalt.ca. for updates on Township news, events and more.

The Township of Esquimalt is committed to environmental sustainability. This newsletter is printed on 100% post-consumer recycled paper.



