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Adventure Park Set to Open in 2017

The Esquimalt Adventure Park on Fraser Street, which will feature two separate playgrounds for children, water features, and pour-in-place rubber surfacing for safety and wheelchair accessibility, will be opening in the spring of 2017.

“Weather and air temperature will dictate the precise completion date,” said Parks and Facilities Manager Rick Daykin. “We are pleased with the progress that Story Construction has made with all of the underground utilities, which was the difficult part of the project.”

Tree and shrub planting will require a temperature of at least five degrees Celsius and the specialized rubber surfacing and concrete setting also needs warmer temperatures for installation.

Additional features in the park—which also integrates the existing outdoor fitness park — will include a spray park, a washroom/change room facility, picnic areas, landscaped gardens and a rain garden to filtrate the water back into the groundwater system.

The Township thanks the Esquimalt Lions and Tire Stewardship BC for their generous support of the Esquimalt Adventure Park. A grand opening of the park is planned for May 2017.

For more information on the Esquimalt Adventure Park, please visit:
<https://www.esquimalt.ca/parks-recreation>



Rendering of entrance to Esquimalt Adventure Park on Fraser Street.

Esquimalt Road Urban



A set of design guidelines will be developed in the coming months to help beautify and revitalize Esquimalt Road, the Township’s historic and central corridor. The contract for the project was awarded in October 2016 to Urban Forum Associates.

A team of specialists with expertise in urban design, engineering, economics and public engagement will be working with staff on the project. When completed, the guidelines will focus on ways to enhance the corridor for both residents and visitors.

The community will be invited to provide input through online opportunities, as well as an open house in the spring of 2017 when draft guidelines will be presented. Property owners, businesses, local residents and First Nations will all be consulted as part of the six-month project.

The guidelines will be incorporated into the Official Community Plan and will aid in decision making regarding corridor infrastructure and development for years to come.

Stay up-to-date on the Esquimalt Road Urban Design Guidelines project at:

www.esquimalt.ca/roaddesign

Creating an Age-Friendly Community ▶▶▶

Esquimalt, like many other communities, is preparing for what is being dubbed by city planners as the “Silver Tsunami.” Many baby boomers are reaching 65 years of age this year, and over the next 10 to 20 years will be reaching 80. What this means for Esquimalt is that the proportion of its population over the age of 65 will rise from 16% in 2011 to 28% by 2038. This significant shift in population distribution has communities asking themselves, are we age-friendly? To answer this question the Township undertook an age-friendly assessment to see where it stands in supporting older adults to live active, socially engaged, and independent lives.

The assessment involved partnering with local experts—community groups and agencies who serve seniors in Esquimalt—and discovering the needs and concerns of older adults and their

caregivers. More than 300 individuals participated in the assessment and associated survey.

The survey revealed a number of concerns by older adults. For instance, safe pedestrian routes were highlighted, including the need for improved traffic signals, shaded rest areas and public washrooms. The Township appears to be a highly walkable community, however, with 33% of all trips within the Township taken on foot.

To make ageing in home a reality, survey respondents felt that support would be required for light housekeeping, light yard work, and minor home renovations. Most residents also stated that they need to travel outside the municipality to access the services of a family doctor or specialist.

The assessment generated a number of

age-friendly goals for the Township to follow. These goals include improving accessibility, expanding the stock of adaptable housing, improving access to health care services, and recognizing the contributions that older adults bring to the community.

The assessment resulted in a total of 48 recommendations on how the Township and community partners could make Esquimalt a more age-friendly community, which are being considered by staff as they update Esquimalt’s Official Community Plan.

The final age-friendly report was approved by Esquimalt Council in August, 2016.

The assessment was funded by the Union of BC Municipalities’ Seniors’ Housing & Support Initiative. Read the complete project report at www.esquimalt.ca.

New Software Upgrade at Parks and Recreation

New Recreation Management Software is being implemented at the Parks and Recreation Department. The department will begin transitioning to the new system December 1st.

As part of the transition, all pass holders will be issued new facility access cards. Please allow a few extra minutes during one of your regular facility visits in December to have your photo taken and be issued a new card.

Winter/spring program registration will also open December 1st and program registrations will be processed using the new system. Although best efforts will be made to migrate your account and ensure a seamless registration in the new system, your patience is appreciated as team members verify your information or create a new account for you and/or your family.

Find out more about the recreation software upgrade at www.esquimalt.ca/parks-recreation



Mark Harper New Public Works Manager



The Township welcomed a new Public Works Manager on October 31, 2016. Mark Harper comes to the Township from the District of Saanich where he was the Chief Surveyor.

Before this he worked for both the Capital Regional District and Saanich as an Operations Manager responsible for water and wastewater systems.

Harper has a strong background in civil construction and design, construction management and municipal operations. He brings an excellent combination of leadership, management and technical ability with extensive experience in regional and local government as well as private industry.

The Township Public Works Department ensures that existing infrastructure—roads, sidewalks, sewers, drains and buildings—is maintained and operated in an effective manner and oversees improvements to existing infrastructure.

A Walkable Community

According to our recent age-friendly assessment, 33% of all trips taken within Esquimalt are by foot. By comparison the average for the core area is 7%. Whether walking or cycling, the Township is adding to its network of sidewalks and bike lanes every year. The Township Sidewalk Master Plan aims to provide at least one sidewalk along all streets and prioritizes new sidewalk projects.

On your next walk, learn more about Township history and geography with a walking tour brochure, or download our Explore Esquimalt app at iTunes.

Find out more about our walking tours and app at www.esquimalt.ca/explore.



Feature Developments in Esquimalt

519 Foster Street

This four-unit townhouse development has been issued with a development permit and building permit and is currently under construction.

616 Lampson Street

A development permit application was approved by Council on November 7, 2016 for this 12-unit townhouse development.

846 Viewfield Road

A \$1 million dollar upgrade is underway at the Wholesale Club in Esquimalt's Industrial Park, including new signage and extensive interior renovations.

826 Esquimalt Road

Demolition is complete at the site of this planned 30-unit apartment building. The developer will be submitting a building permit application to the Township in 2016.

English Inn

A public hearing was held on the English Inn property on October 24, 2016. The zoning bylaw amendment was adopted by Council and the Township is currently processing the development permit, development variance permit and the heritage alteration permit on



Rendering of market space in Esquimalt Town Square

this expansion of Esquimalt's renowned boutique hotel.

Esquimalt Town Square

The Township has received the development permit application for this major revitalization of the Town Square property. The project will go to the Design Review Committee in November 2016. The Township is currently working to obtain a Certificate of Compliance from the Ministry of Environment for environmental mitigation work to be completed on the site.

Red Barn Market

A building permit is pending for this new addition to Esquimalt's core. The business is a retail partnership between Red Barn Markets and the Songhees Nation and is expected to open in the spring of 2017.

Tudor Liquor Store

Construction is well underway on this project—featuring a design of glass walls and wood framing—at the corner of Admirals and Esquimalt Roads, former site of the Tudor House Pub.

West Bay Triangle Lands

Final adoption for rezoning of the West Bay Triangle Lands is expected in late 2016. A set of design guidelines were developed for West Bay in 2015 that provide design direction for development in the neighbourhood.



Rendering of the Red Barn Market on Esquimalt Road.

Archives Expanding Online Collection

The Esquimalt Archives is preparing to upload more historical images and make them available to the public online. In addition to historical photographs, textual material from the Archives collection will also be included to assist in the telling of our community's rich history. The project goal is to bring to life on the Internet historical images of Esquimalt from the past 150 years.

Support for the archives digitization project was received from the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre at the University of British Columbia.

Access our digital archives at www.esquimalt.ca/archives

Official Community Plan: By The Numbers

Over the last year residents were invited to provide input into the Official Community Plan (OCP) Review through a kick-off survey, our Looking Forward Forum and Survey, and through engagement with local youth.

We received a total of 2,444 comments. The pie chart below shows the percentage of comments made in seven different OCP topic areas.



Additional OCP public input opportunities include a Housing Forum in early 2017. Subscribe to e-mail notifications to receive updates via your e-mail at : www.esquimalt.ca/municipal-hall/contacts/email-subscriptions ▶▶▶

Community Calendar

All event & meeting details available at www.esquimalt.ca/events

Township Classics at the English Inn

November 27, 7 p.m.

Featuring Brahms Piano Quartet Opus 25. Doors open at 6:30. For more information visit www.townshiparts.org or e-mail townshiparts@gmail.com.

Celebration of Lights

December 4, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The event includes entertainment and refreshments, a parade, light up of Esquimalt Plaza, Memorial Park, and Municipal Hall/Library. For more information please visit www.esquimaltcelebrationoflights.ca

Christmas Food Drive

December 5-16

Please consider donating to the Township/ CUPE Employees Christmas Food Drive. Pickup is coordinated through garbage pickup days in your neighbourhood. Watch for our mailer or learn more at www.esquimalt.ca/news.

Living Christmas Tree Village

December 8-26

Experience the magic of the holidays in our Third Annual Living Christmas Tree Village. Dozens of trees decorated by local business and community groups will fill the Recreation Centre and Sports Centre. Vote for your favourite!

Seniors Christmas Lunch

December 9, noon - 1:30 p.m.

Celebrate the season with us at the Esquimalt Recreation Centre! Enjoy time with friends, a traditional turkey dinner, entertainment and a Christmas carol sing-along. \$17/person.

Lion's Skate with Santa

December 17, 2:30 - 4 p.m.

Santa is coming to Archie Browning Sports Centre! Join Santa and special guest on the ice for games and Christmas fun! The Lions Club of Esquimalt will be providing hot chocolate and hot dogs for skaters! Admission is \$2 + a non-perishable food item.

Township Classics at the English Inn

December 18, 7 p.m.

Featuring special guest Janie Woods-Morris. Doors open at 6:30. For more information visit www.townshiparts.org or e-mail townshiparts@gmail.com.



BC CLIMATE ACTION
COMMUNITY 2015

New Year's Levee

January 1, 2017, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Ring in the New Year with free admission to the pool and wellness centre at the Recreation Centre, and public skating at the Archie Browning Sports Centre. Meet & Greet with Mayor and Council 1:00-2:30 p.m. in the atrium of the Esquimalt Recreation Centre.

Esquimalt Recreation Centre Open House

January 7, 2017, 9 a.m. to noon

Choose from dozens of FREE demos, meet our fabulous instructors, enjoy a yummy pancake breakfast & enter to win awesome prizes.

2017 Canadian Junior Curling Championships

January 21-29

Come on out to the Archie Browning Sports Centre to see the next generation of Canada's curling stars. Visit www.curling.ca for more information.

Township Classics at the English Inn

January 29, 2017, 7 p.m.

Featuring special guest Faure Piano Trio. Doors open at 6:30. For more information visit www.townshiparts.org or e-mail townshiparts@gmail.com.

Council Meeting Schedule

Council Meetings

November 21, 2016
December 5, 2016
December 19, 2016
January 9, 2017
January 23, 2017
February 6, 2017

Committee of the Whole Meetings

November 14, 2016
December 12, 2016
January 16, 2017
February 20, 2017

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.

Municipal Hall Closed:

Boxing Day - Mon. Dec. 26, 2016
Christmas Day Stat - Tues. Dec. 27, 2016
New Year's Day Stat - Mon. Jan. 2, 2017
Family Day - Mon. Feb 13, 2017

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 8,000 homes and local businesses.

Questions or comments on The Current? Reach us at communications@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.

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