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Centennial Excitement is Building with Six Months to go Until 2012

by Janet Jones, Esquimalt Centennial Committee Chair

It is now only six months to the start of the celebrations of Esquimalt's 100th birthday.

The Esquimalt Centennial Celebrations display table at the Buccaneer Days weekend was very popular with residents. It was a great opportunity to create awareness of our milestone year and to showcase our centennial promotional items, which have been produced as a means to promote the centennial and to raise funds to help pay for centennial activities. At the event many of you told us that, yes, you do know that it is the Esquimalt Centennial next year. Some of you told us about your family's history in the community and others agreed next year was the perfect year for a family reunion in Esquimalt.

Our volunteers make a valuable contribution to the centennial by giving their time for such things as manning the display booth at events. They are also providing new ideas and perspectives on how to promote our centennial. At Buccaneer Days we had several people sign up as volunteers. Thank-you! You too can get involved and sign up as a volunteer either at an event or on our website. Your help now and during the Centennial Celebration 2012 would be very much appreciated.

Please check out our website at www.esquimaltcentennial2012.ca for updated



Esquimalt Centennial Chair Janet Jones, left, with Esquimalt Mayor Barb Desjardins, attend the centennial display booth at Buccaneer Days.

information on centennial events and projects. We encourage Esquimalt businesses to sponsor and support such events.

And finally, to kick off our centennial we've got something big planned for October 8, 2011. See the event calendar on page 4 for more details!



www.esquimaltcentennial2012.ca

Mayor's Message: Stay in Touch with Municipal Hall

Spring has turned to summer and we can look forward to getting out and about in the community, enjoying our waterways and parks, or just relaxing in the back yard. There are many ways for you —our residents—to stay informed and provide input into municipal matters this summer and all year long. Aside from our Township website, www.esquimalt.ca, we have dedicated websites for tourism (www.myesquimalt.ca), sewage treatment (www.thewrongplan.ca) and our upcoming centennial (www.esquimaltcentennial2012.ca).

Throughout the year there are also opportunities for you to provide input at Council meetings, open houses and other public forums, such as the recent Mayor's Open Door Forum held on July 7th.

If you are unable to find the information you are looking for on our websites, or can't make it to Municipal Hall to participate in public meetings, you can also reach me at 250-414-7100 or mayor@esquimalt.ca.

Have a great summer.

Mayor Barb Desjardins



Esquimalt Spearheads Plastic Bag Free Initiative

The Township of Esquimalt has launched an initiative to make itself a plastic bag free community. The plastic bag free campaign is being developed by a group of Royal Roads University students in Environmental Science as part of their course studies. "This is a unique initiative because it involves going out into the community and gathering information directly from residents," said Sustainability Coordinator Marlene Lagoa. "Once a clear picture of consumption habits is gained, a campaign to reduce plastic bag usage will be developed."

Plastic bags have become a major source of pollution in our landfills and in the ocean and require high energy outputs to manufacture and recycle. "This is not about imposing fines or bans," said Lagoa. "The aim is to have residents and businesses voluntarily reduce single plastic bag usage by selecting reusable options."

Esquimalt's Environmental Advisory Committee analyzed the issue and sent recommendations to Council in the fall of 2009. The Township resolved to implement a voluntary ban by December 31, 2011.

Aside from collecting information in the field, Royal Roads students have developed an online survey. Next steps include designing a recognition program for participating businesses and providing a final report with recommendations to the Township in the fall of 2011.

For more information on the campaign and to participate in the plastic bag survey, go to www.esquimalt.ca/plasticbagfree. Contact Marlene Lagoa, Sustainability Coordinator, at 250-414-7114.



Species at Risk Survey at Saxe Point



Consulting biologist Matt Fairbarns surveys the occurrence of Macoun's Meadow-foam at Saxe Point Park

A Macoun's Meadow-foam survey was undertaken in Saxe Point in May to determine the local population size and vigour of this plant species. Macoun's Meadow-foam—a small, white to yellowish-flowered annual herb found in open areas or light open forest—is considered to be a species at risk due to a declining occurrence in the Province of BC. Four populations of the plant known from 1988 have been lost due to human activities associated with residential and tourism development.

The project was led by biologists Todd Kohler and Chris Junck of the Garry Oak Ecosystems Recovery Team, with field work completed by biologist Matt Fairbarns.

The biologists mapped the occurrence of the plant in Saxe Point using a hand-held GPS unit, identifying threats and habitat requirements for the species. Information gathered will also be of value to the Township to help with site planning and management. The project was funded by Parks Canada and the Habitat Stewardship Program of the Government of Canada.

Heritage Recognition Certificates Presented to Homeowners

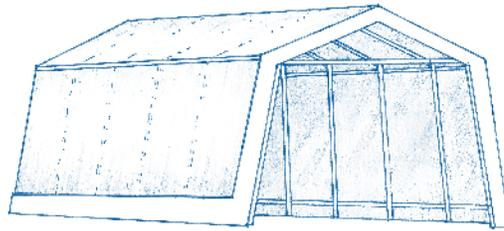
On Monday, May 9th, Her Worship, Mayor Barbara Desjardins, presented Heritage Recognition Certificates to the owners of the following properties: 475 Head St., 481 Head St., 153 Lyall St., and 948 Old Esquimalt Rd. (shown below)



The certificates recognize the efforts that these Esquimalt owners have made to preserve and enhance the heritage qualities of their older properties. They represent a few of the many homes in Esquimalt that add heritage value to our community.

To view other heritage quality homes and sites, consider taking one of Esquimalt's self-guided walking tours (brochures available at Municipal Hall). Also consider nominating a home that you believe to be worthy of recognition. For more information on Heritage Recognition Certificates, nominating homes, and heritage preservation efforts in your community, please go to www.esquimalt.ca/cultureHeritage/.

Provide your input: Temporary Accessory Structures and Storage Containers



The Township of Esquimalt is looking for input from residents as to whether temporary tent-like structures (often used to protect cars, boats and trailers) as well as metal storage containers should be permitted and if so, whether they should be regulated in the same way as other accessory buildings such as garages, garden sheds, and workshops are.

The zoning bylaw requires that accessory buildings be sited at least 1.5 metres (5 ft.) from side and rear property lines and that they not be located within front yards. However, temporary accessory structures and cargo containers are being installed throughout the municipality in locations where a regular accessory building would not be allowed and where a building permit would not be issued unless a variance was obtained.

If you're interested in providing your views on these types of structures, please visit our website at www.esquimalt.ca to complete a short survey which includes space for your comments. If you have questions about these structures, please contact Development Services at 250-414-7108.

Centennial News Briefs

Merchandise Offered For Sale

Centennial merchandise is now available for purchase at the Esquimalt Recreation Centre. Pins (\$5), hats (\$15) and vests (\$45) — all with the centennial logo — are a fantastic way of promoting the centennial and showing your pride in being an Esquimalt resident. The centennial banner, which will be hung throughout Esquimalt boulevards this coming fall, is also available for purchase at \$100.00. Tea anyone? Murchie's has produced a special blend of green and black teas touched with the refreshing taste of citrus. A package of 10 teabags with the Esquimalt Township crest has been especially created for the Esquimalt Centennial 2012.



The packages sell for \$5 and are ideal for birthday, anniversary and housewarming gifts.

All prices include the necessary taxes and all proceeds go towards centennial community celebrations.

Memorial Walkway Update

According to Centennial Committee Vice Chair Bruce Devitt, people are getting excited about the Memorial Walkway Project, which provides residents and businesses an opportunity to inscribe a personal dedication on a paving stone to be set into the walkway at Memorial Park. "Some 140 people have purchased an inscribed paver so far," said Devitt. "This is almost 25% of the way towards our first target of 600 pavers." Devitt added that inscriptions can honour a departed loved one, a family member, friend, community pioneer, a business, or a community organization or sports team.

Application forms for purchasing paving stones at either \$100 or \$200 are available

online at www.esquimalt.ca or at the Esquimalt Recreation Centre. All funds raised go to the Centennial Project. A tax receipt will be issued for your donation.



Building Memories Project: A Snapshot in Time

It's often been said that every house has a story to tell—about the people who built them, of the times in which they lived and of the character of a community as a whole at any given time.

With Esquimalt's centennial just around the corner in 2012, Municipal Archives plans to embark on a photo inventory of all residences and businesses in the Township. The *Building Memories Project* will tell a story for future generations, and provide a historical "snapshot" of the residences in our community at this point in time. This photographic record will serve as a valuable research tool and will assist Archives in its efforts to inform the public about the history of the community. The inventory will also become part of the Esquimalt 2012 Centennial legacy.

"We want residents to know that the images we're acquiring are for research and historical purposes only," said Municipal Archivist Gregory Evans, adding that the images will become a secure part of Archives' permanent collection.

Archives volunteer Bill Trayner will be traversing Esquimalt neighbourhoods with his camera starting this summer and hopes to complete the job by the end of 2012.

For more information on the Building Memories Project, please call Greg Evans, Municipal Archivist at 250-412-8540.

Beginning July 5, 2011 and going through to September 2, 2011, Municipal Hall will be on its summer schedule, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily.

Community Calendar

July 4 - Sept 5 Fun Factor Public Swims. Monday to Friday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Come join the fun! Esquimalt Recreation Centre, 527 Fraser St. For more information, call 250-412-8505.

July 9 Community Recycling Depot. Recycle items not allowed in curbside blue boxes — soft and hard plastics, Styrofoam, milk and drink cartons, and electronics. Drop-off fees apply. For more information, call 250-893-3851.

Sept 3 Esquimalt Recreation Centre Open House and Demo Day. Prizes. Free Demo's. Discounts. Interested? Then mark your calendar for Saturday, September 3 from 9:30-11:30am to be a part of our Open House Event. Whether it's swim lessons, fitness class, art, cooking or other interests, have your questions answered, experience some program samplers, enter to win prizes, and receive special program discounts valid only September 3. Stay tuned to esquimalt.ca for complete event details.

Sept 14 Emergency Social Services Information Night. Esquimalt Emergency Social Services is looking for new volunteers to join our team. We are residents of Esquimalt who care about helping our community and our neighbours in times of emergencies or disaster. Council Chambers, Municipal Hall, 1229 Esquimalt Road, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. For more information email esquimaltess@esq-eoc.com or leave a message for Keith Davies at 250-412-8543.

Sept 24 Esquimalt 5K Fun and Fit Walk. Grab your friends, family, classmates and neighbours and join us! Walk starts at 9:00 a.m. For more information, prices, and registration go to www.esquimalt.ca/recreation or call 250-412-8500.

Oct 8 Fire Department Open House. Featuring Sparky the Fire Dog, face painting, free hot dogs and coffee, tour of fire trucks and live demonstrations. 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Esquimalt Fire Hall, 500 Park Place. For more information, please call 250-414-7120.

Oct 8 Esquimalt Centennial Celebration 2012 Official Launch. Come out and get an early start on the Township's Centennial 2012 celebrations at our festive kick-off event! Featuring an official proclamation from the Mayor, music, displays, startup of the countdown clock and much, much more. For more information, please call 250-414-7122 or visit www.esquimaltcentennial2012.ca.

Meeting Schedule

Council Meetings

Council summer recess July 18 - Aug. 12
August 15, 2011
September 19, 2011
September 26, 2011
October 3, 2011
October 17, 2011

Committee of the Whole

July 11, 2011
September 12, 2011
October 24, 2011

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 for Statutory Holidays:

BC Day - Monday, August 1st, 2011
Labour Day - Monday, September 5th, 2011
Thanksgiving - Monday, October 10th 2011

Contacts

Emergency	9-1-1
Municipal Hall (Reception)	414-7100
Administration	414-7101
Finance	414-7100
Development & Engineering	414-7108
Public Works	414-7104
Building Inspections	414-7108
Bylaw Enforcement	414-7108
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
1229 Esquimalt Road
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)

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

We welcome your feedback.

Contact Ritchie Morrison, Communications Coordinator, at 250-414-7122 or ritchie.morrison@esquimalt.ca. Would you like to sign up for automatic updating of news and events in Esquimalt? Visit our website at www.esquimalt.ca.

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

