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Official Community Plan Review Kicks Off

The Township launched its Official Community Plan (OCP) review process on October 23rd, 2015, with an online survey for the public to provide input on key priority areas for community development.

The online survey, available until November 30, 2015 at www.esquimalt.ca, will assist the Township's Development Services Department with planning future community engagement opportunities by identifying areas of particular interest to the public.

"The objective of this plan is to reflect the collective vision of the community heading into the future," said Mayor Barbara Desjardins. "I encourage residents, businesses and community

visitors to provide input so that their vision becomes a part of the document."

The OCP is the principal guiding document for all municipal initiatives and activities. The Esquimalt OCP review, a Council strategic priority, will be a multi-phase project over the next two years leading to the adoption of a new Official Community Plan in 2017. The plan's goals, objectives and policies will promote the long-term economic, environmental, social and cultural well-being of the community.

General topics and themes of the OCP include land use, transportation, heritage, parks and recreation, arts and culture, and the environment.

In addition to the survey, the Township has created a resource library portal for the public to find out more about the OCP process and community planning. The resource library, along with the project scope and timeline are available at www.esquimalt.ca/communityplan. The public can also sign up for project updates through an e-mail notification feature on the website home page.

Findings from the survey will be available for the public to review in January 2016 and community engagement opportunities will be scheduled throughout the two-year process.

www.esquimalt.ca/communityplan



Mayor's Message

We have much news to share this fall. It is gratifying to see so many critical community initiatives and projects moving ahead. We have issued a Request for Proposals to find a partner to develop the Esquimalt Village Project. We have completed a public input program for the West Bay Neighbourhood Design Guidelines. As you can see in the story above, our Official Community Plan Review has kicked off with an online survey to gather your input.

The innovative Admirals Road Corridor Improvement Project means safe and efficient travel for those driving, on bicycle, or walking in our community. Other recent infrastructure improvements include Lampson Street and Fairview Road. Many recreational and commuting cyclists are taking advantage of the new E&N Rail Trail to visit and travel through the community.

We will be hosting the 2016 Cyclone Taylor Cup, B.C.'s Junior "B" championship, and the 2017 Canadian Junior Curling Championships at the Archie Browning Sports Centre. (Please have a look at our events calendar on page four to see upcoming events.) We have new playground equipment in four municipal parks to promote family fitness and fun, and Council will be looking at a new park on Fraser Street in 2016. Hold on to your hats! We're moving fast and we have much to look forward to in the coming months.

If you have any questions or comments on these initiatives, or anything else of community interest, please join me at my Open Door, scheduled on the first Friday of each month.

Mayor Barbara Desjardins

Esquimalt Village Project Moving Ahead

On October 16, 2015, the Township of Esquimalt issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for development of the Esquimalt Village Project (EVP).

The EVP is envisioned to be a lively and sustainable town centre, incorporating a mix of uses including retail, residential and office space, inviting open spaces for the public, and a new education facility and library. Formerly the site of the Public Works Yard and original Municipal Hall, it is about 87,000 square feet (0.8 ha) in size and is located adjacent to Municipal Hall at 1229 Esquimalt Road.

"This is a milestone for our community," said Mayor Barbara Desjardins.

"Residents told us in the 2011 municipal election and through our Economic Development Strategy that the development of the EVP lands was a priority. We have laid the groundwork to find a partner to develop a new village concept in the core of our community – it's very exciting to be moving forward."

In May of this year the Township issued a Request for Expressions of Interest for the project. Results from this process indicated that there was sufficient interest from the development community to proceed to a Request for Proposals.



The Township is currently completing detailed site investigations to determine the degree to which contaminants are present within the property, the former location of the Township's Municipal Works Yard. Once this work is completed a remediation plan will be prepared for the site, leading to an Approval-in-Principle from the Ministry of Environment to proceed with remediation. The site has also undergone a geotechnical analysis, an archaeological assessment, and a survey to consolidate the site boundary.

Earlier this year the EVP lands were identified as a technically feasible location for a wastewater treatment facility by the Westside Wastewater

Treatment & Resource Recovery Committee. The Township has notified the Committee that the site is being removed from further consideration for this purpose.

The deadline for submissions to the RFP is December 10th, 2015. At that time Council will thoroughly review and consider all of the proposals and choose a partner that best responds to the needs of the community. Once a selection is made, a comprehensive engagement process will be developed to give the public a variety of ways to provide their input into shaping the final design.

**For more information, please contact:
Bill Brown, Director of Development Services,
Tel: 250-414-7146**

Stay Up-To-Date on Westside Wastewater Treatment

Westside Solutions (the Westside Wastewater Treatment and Resource Recovery Select Committee) has been working since late 2014 to develop options for wastewater treatment and resource recovery. Thank you to residents who have taken the time to provide input during 2015.

Further public consultation will be sought during the period mid-November to January 15, 2016 on a variety of

solution sets featuring options for one, two, four or seven site configurations.

A report incorporating all public feedback and technical analysis will be provided to the CRD's Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee for their consideration on January 27th, 2016 and a final solution set will be determined at that time.

Your input will continue to be important as plans progress. Determining where

and how to treat our wastewater is one of the most important decisions facing our region. Please watch for Westside Solutions news updates in a variety of media in the coming months, and stay up-to-date on this critical project at:

www.westsidesolutions.ca



Admirals Road: A Corridor for Everyone

What began many years ago as a trail linking the 900 acre Craigflower Farm to the “Admiral’s House,” a large house situated on Maplebank Road, has been transformed into a modern and safe multi-modal corridor thanks to the Admirals Road Corridor Improvement Project.

“We’re looking at the end of November 2015 for substantial completion if the weather cooperates,” said Engineering Manager Will Wieler. “I want to thank commuters and residents for their patience throughout the project.”

Construction began in May 2015 with a \$2.8 million contribution from the Government of Canada through the Gas Tax Fund transfer for municipal infrastructure priorities. Before construction began the Township’s Engineering Department solicited public input into the design of the corridor through open houses and one-on-one meetings with interested members of the public.

Cyclists, many of whom took advantage of a bike detour around the project throughout the summer, can now enjoy a designated bike lane with a safety buffer along the corridor, with the option of transitioning onto the E&N Rail Trail at Colville or Maplebank. Additional features of the project include the addition of two-way left turn lanes, median islands, sidewalk improvements, and underground work including the installation of stormwater treatment devices and the separation of combined manholes for storm and sanitary collection systems.



Admirals Road includes designated bike lanes with buffer strips between cyclists and motorists.

News in brief

Modifying your Boulevard Requires a Permit

Did you know that in order to change any of the landscaping on the boulevard in front of your residence you require a Boulevard Alteration Permit? Like most municipalities, the boulevard—the space between a residential property line and the curb—is designated municipal property in Esquimalt. Boulevards often have utilities running beneath them that crews occasionally need to access. They also need to be maintained to a minimum standard for traffic and pedestrian safety. Should you wish to modify the plantings or landscape in any way on the boulevard, please contact Engineering and Public Works at 250-414-7108.

Multi-Phased Website Upgrade Planned

Over the next three months the Township will be making changes to its website including a new content management system and phase one of a multi-phased design upgrade. Phase one of the design upgrade will include improvements in navigation and design, cross browser compatibility across all popular mobile devices, and some new features to help you stay in touch with us. The upgraded site will be launched in February 2016.

Christmas Drive-in Movies at Archie Browning

Drive-in movies will again be held at the rear parking lot of Archie Browning Sports Centre during the Christmas season. Admission is free with the donation of a non-perishable food item. Here’s our festive line-up this year, weather dependent. All movies start at 6:30 p.m.

Rise of the Guardians: Friday Nov. 27th

Home Alone: Friday, Dec. 4th

A Christmas Story: Friday, Dec. 18th

For more information contact Vicki Klyne at 250-412-8511

Four New Playgrounds in Township Parks

New playground equipment has been added to four Esquimalt parks: Lugin, Paradise, Memorial and Esquimalt’s Gorge Park. The \$170,000 park upgrade includes modern equipment developed by Landscape Structures, Inc. and supplied

and installed by Habitat Systems. The new equipment replaces outdated playground structures. Features of the new playground equipment include engineered wood fibre ground surfacing for improved safety and innovative and colourful designs.



Esquimalt Gorge Park

Community Calendar

Event details at www.esquimalt.ca/events

National Childrens' Day

November 21, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Esquimalt Recreation Centre

Families are invited to celebrate National Childrens' Day with Esquimalt Recreation on Saturday November 21.

Esquimalt Arts and Craft Fair

November 28, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Esquimalt Recreation Centre

Find unique gifts for everyone on your list!

Township Classics at the English Inn: Fauré

November 29, doors at 6:30 p.m., concert at 7 p.m.

Township Classics is proud to bring you the second season of passionate performances at the English Inn. November 29 featuring the music of Fauré.

www.townshiparts.org

Live Christmas Tree Village

December 6-26

Experience the magic of holidays in our living Christmas Tree Village. Dozens of trees decorated by local businesses and community groups will fill the Recreation Centre and Sports Centre.

More info: Vicki Klyne at 250-412-8511

Esquimalt's Celebration of Lights

December 6, parade kicks off at 6 p.m.

Enjoy a wonderful parade of lights down Esquimalt Road to the plaza and an after-parade party full of free music, hot dogs and hot chocolate (by donation).

More info: Vicki Klyne at 250-412-8511

Seniors' Christmas Lunch

December 11, noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Esquimalt Recreation Centre

Enjoy time with friends, entertainment, a traditional turkey dinner and a Christmas carol sing-along.

Township Classics at the English Inn: Mozart

December 27, doors at 6:30 p.m., concert at 7 p.m.

www.townshiparts.org

New Year's Day Levée

January 1, 2016

Join Mayor and Council for a meet and greet at the Esquimalt Recreation Centre. See details at www.esquimalt.ca. For more information, please contact Rachel Dumas at 250-414-7157.

Parks and Rec Open House

January 9, 2016, 8:30 a.m. to noon at the Esquimalt Recreation Centre

Choose from dozens of free demos meet our fabulous instructors, enjoy a yummy pancake breakfast (fundraiser for our future splash park) & enter to win awesome prizes.

Township Classics at the English Inn: Night of

Spanish Music

January 31, doors at 6:30 p.m., concert at 7 p.m.

www.townshiparts.org

Family Day Celebration

February 6, 2016, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Esquimalt Recreation Centre

Our doors are open for families to enjoy a ton of fun! From face painting to carnival games to free Kindergym, there is something for everyone!

Branch Out! Invasive Species Pull & Native Planting

February 20, 2016 9:45 a.m. to noon at Highrock Park

Esquimalt is branching out to protect our urban forest. Throughout the year, numerous opportunities are available for the public to work alongside staff to remove invasive species, and plant native species and trees. Events are hosted in conjunction with the Greater Victoria Green Team.



The 2016 Esquimalt 5K will be held on April 9th. Mark your calendars!

Meeting Schedule

Council Meetings

November 16, 2015

December 7, 2015

December 21, 2015

January 4, 2016

January 18, 2016

Committee of the Whole Meetings

December 14, 2015

January 11, 2016

February 15, 2016

March 14, 2016

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:

Remembrance Day - Wednesday November 11, 2015

Christmas Day - Friday December 25, 2015

Boxing Day Stat - Monday December 28, 2015

New Year's Day - Friday January 1, 2016

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.



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