

Esquimalt Town Square Construction Begins

After some ten years of planning, studies, and public input, Esquimalt Town Square (ETS) construction is underway. Relocation of existing infrastructure started in late February and site remediation began in early March. It is expected that the developer, Aragon Properties, will begin construction in April.

The development follows a concept plan designed by *D'AMBROSIO architecture + urbanism* and will feature civic, residential and commercial uses. It will include a public square and a through-block art walk, as well as the proposed relocation of the Esquimalt Branch of the Greater Victoria Public Library.

Sustainable features of the development include alternative management methods for rainwater and energy, bicycle and pedestrian-friendly spaces with easy access to transit, and green building concepts in all buildings and

infrastructure. The two heritage Garry oak trees adjacent to Municipal Hall will be maintained and will become a part of the new plaza area along Esquimalt Road.

All parking lots south of Municipal Hall have been closed until further notice to allow for construction activities to proceed safely and efficiently. Visitors to the library and Municipal Hall are encouraged to use the rear parking lot at the Archie Browning Sports Centre for multi-hour parking, and parking spaces available along Esquimalt Road and at the parking lot west of Memorial Park for limited time parking. Handicapped parking is available in front of Municipal Hall and in the Memorial Park lot.

Project updates, schedule, FAQ, live webcam and background information available at:

www.esquimalt.ca/townsquare.

Construction Advisory



During ETS construction, residents and visitors are advised that:

- Access to the site will be restricted to construction workers and contractors.
- All municipal facilities will remain open and operating as usual during construction.
- Events that normally take place in the Town Square will be moved to other venues including Memorial Park, Bullen Park, or the plaza area at Archie Browning Sports Centre.
- The Municipal Hall electric vehicle charging station has been moved to Memorial Park parking lot and will be available for use again in the spring of 2017.
- Access to the library will be through Municipal Hall, or via the sidewalk west of the Hall.



Tax incentives available for Esquimalt Road Beautification

As part of the ongoing renewal of Esquimalt Road, the Township established a Revitalization Tax Exemption (RTE) Bylaw in 2015 as an incentive for property owners to beautify the corridor while also supporting heritage conservation.

The bylaw provides partial property tax relief to approved properties for new construction and improvements and applies to commercial, mixed use and multifamily buildings (with four or more units).

The revitalization area includes properties located along the Esquimalt Road corridor between Dominion Road and Canteen Road. The initiative is part of Esquimalt's Economic Development

Strategy, which identified a number of strategies and actions for promoting economic growth and creating a welcoming climate for businesses and property owners.

Council considered the input of property owners, the public and municipal staff before developing the program. Applications for the Revitalization Tax Exemption must be in writing and are available on the Township website.

Find out if you are eligible to apply and learn more about the RTE program and application process at esquimalt.ca. The information—including a map of the corridor—is available in the Municipal Services section of the website, under Taxes and Grants.

Bring on the Sun



If you've wandered past the new Esquimalt Adventure Park on Fraser Street lately, you will likely have seen this large smiling face in the centre of the park. What is it? It's a mega soaker! On hot summer days it fills with water, tips over, and pours the water off a deflector and on to waiting children looking to cool down. This is only one of many fun features that will be available at the Esquimalt Adventure Park.

Watch for the date of the park's grand opening at www.esquimalt.ca.

McLoughlin Point Wastewater Treatment Plant Construction

Both the Zoning Amendment Bylaw and the Development Permit for the McLoughlin Point Wastewater Treatment Plant have been approved by Esquimalt Council and construction of the tertiary treatment plant is expected to get underway in April, 2017. Once built the plant will be operated by the CRD. The project also includes upgrades to the Macaulay Point pump station, located nearby.

From October 2016 until January 2017 the Township was involved in discussions with the CRD Core Area Wastewater

Treatment Project Board on community amenities associated with locating the plant at McLoughlin Point.

As a result of these discussions, the CRD is making a one-time contribution of \$17 million to the Township to be used for capital projects in waterfront parks (\$7 million), recreation facilities (\$5 million) and public safety facilities (\$5 million). These funds are to be spent within approximately five years.

At a January 23, 2017 public open house, staff presented the proposed community amenities associated with

locating the plant at McLoughlin Point. The Township will be reviewing this input, as well as input from upcoming public engagement opportunities, before making any final decisions on capital projects.

Harbour Resource Partners will build the plant, along with associated infrastructure, at a total projected cost of \$765 million. The project will be completed by November 20, 2020.

For more information on McLoughlin Point, watch for updates at www.esquimalt.ca, or visit www.crd.bc.ca/wastewater



Official Community Plan: Public Input Invited

Housing Workshop

As part of its Official Community Plan (OCP) Review, the Township will be hosting a Housing Workshop this spring.

Interested residents can join developers, housing professionals, elected officials and staff for discussions around housing in Esquimalt.

In advance of the workshop, participants will be provided with information on the housing tools and strategies available to BC local governments. Input received at the workshop will be considered by staff in the development of new housing policies for the updated OCP, which is expected to be completed in late 2017. Advance registration is required.

OCP Open House

An open house will be held in spring 2017 for the public to provide input on new policies that are being proposed for the updated Official Community Plan (OCP).

In drafting the proposed policies, Township staff gave consideration to the public input received to date as well as incorporating new

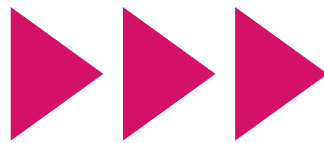
legislative requirements, best practices in community planning, and recommendations from recent studies—including the recent Age-friendly Assessment and Esquimalt Road Urban Design Guidelines.

Policies covered by the OCP are comprehensive and include land use, housing, economic development, transportation, the environment, and recreation.

The open house is the latest OCP review public input opportunity. During 2015 and 2016 many residents provided input through two surveys, and the May 2016 Looking Forward Forum.

For those unable to attend the open house, information will be posted to the Township website with the opportunity to submit input in writing.

Dates for upcoming public input events will be posted to esquimalt.ca/communityplan in the spring of 2017.



Service Changes to Electric Vehicle Charging Station

With construction of Esquimalt Town Square underway, the electric vehicle charging station located at Municipal Hall was closed on March 6, 2017 and relocated to the parking lot west of Memorial Park on Esquimalt Road. It will re-open once electrical and communication services are in place for its operation.

In addition, due to the increasing demand for the electric vehicle charging station, a user fee of \$1.00 per hour will come into effect beginning July 1, 2017.

All user fees collected will be used to fund sustainability initiatives through the Township's Sustainability Reserve Fund. Payment can be made by downloading the *FLO* mobile app available for Apple and Android phones at the iTunes store.

**For more information, please contact:
Marlene Lagoa, Community Development
Coordinator
Tel: 250-414-7114**

Esquimalt Road Urban Design Guidelines

The Township recently retained a consulting team to prepare Urban Design Guidelines for Esquimalt Road, from Canteen Road in the west to Dominion Road in the east. This work forms a key part of the Township's Economic Development Strategy and the Official Community Plan review process.

Goals for the project include:

- Enhancing the perception and experience of Esquimalt Road as the heart of downtown Esquimalt;
- Establishing a clear, geographically defined identity;
- Responding to changing patterns of land use, and encouraging new development;
- Providing design guidance to future developments;

- Addressing the need for uniform design guidelines for both the street and new buildings; and,
- Enhancing the public realm.

The consulting team members working on the project have expertise in urban planning, landscape architecture, civil engineering, land economics and architectural design and illustration.

An open house was held on January 18, 2017 to receive early input into the guidelines. An online survey was also available for those who could not attend. A second public open house to collect input on the draft guidelines will be held in late April, 2017 in Council Chambers, Esquimalt Municipal Hall.

Learn more at www.esquimalt.ca/roaddesign



Community Calendar

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

Esquimalt Photo Club Exhibit

March 2 - April 15, 2017

An exhibition of photos provided by the Esquimalt Photography Club at the Esquimalt Recreation Centre.

International Day of Forests

March 21, 2017, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

A Branch Out! Invasive Species Pull & Native Planting event at Esquimalt Gorge Park.

Esquimalt Farmers Market - Indoors!

March 30 and April 27, 2017, 4:30 p.m.

This spring, enjoy the market *indoors* at the Esquimalt Recreation Centre.

Esquimalt's Gigantic Garage Sale

April 1, 2017, 9 a.m. to noon

Swap and shop with other community members at the Archie Browning Sports Centre.

Spring Thaw

April 1, 2017, 2:30 to 4 p.m.

Sponsored by Coast Capital Savings, Spring Thaw is the last free skate of the season at Archie Browning Sports Centre.

Wonderful Words - Exploring Poetry

April 1 - 30, 2017

Esquimalt Recreation's first time celebrating April as National Poetry Month. Check our website for event details.

Esquimalt 5K and Kid's 1K Fun Run

April 8, 2017

Are you ready for the most scenic 5K in the region? Sign up today by calling 250-412-8500.

Lions Gorge Park Easter Egg Hunt

April 16, 2017, noon to 3 p.m.

The Esquimalt Lions are again proud to present their annual Easter Egg Hunt at Gorge Park. Free.

Esquimalt Celebrates Earth Day

April 19, 2017

We look forward to hosting the biggest Branch Out event of the year at Highrock Park.

Volunteer Week

April 24 - 28

This week we recognize the invaluable contributions of our community volunteers, who donate so much of their time and energy to making Esquimalt a great place to live, work and learn.

National Emergency Preparedness Week

May 7 - 13, 2017

Esquimalt's Emergency Program will host various opportunities through the week. Event information will be available at esquimalt.ca

Buccaneer Days

May 11 - 14, 2017

Get your eye patch and sword ready - it's pirate time!! More info: esquimaltbuccaneerdays.ca.

Esquimalt Farmers Market - Outdoors!

May 25 - September 14, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The outdoor market runs weekly, Thursdays 4:30-7:30 p.m. rain or shine at a new location: Memorial Park, 1212 Esquimalt Road.

World Ocean's Day Festival

June 3, 2017

Have you been to the Gorge Waterway Discovery Centre? Come out for the World Ocean's Day Festival at Esquimalt Gorge Park to learn about protecting your local waterways and celebrate the ocean's diversity and importance to our ecosystems.

Memorial Park Music Fest

Six consecutive Tuesdays starting June 13, 2017

2017 line up: The Soul Shakers, Maureen Washington, Bobby Dazzler, Montgomery County, Virtual Elvis, Bijou de Bayou.

Esquimalt Annual Neighbourhood Block Party

June 10, 2017, 1 to 4 p.m.

Building community while having fun: join Esquimalt Recreation and your neighbours for an outdoor party on Fraser Street in front of the Recreation Centre.

Council Meeting Schedule

Council Meetings

March 20, 2017
April 3, 2017
April 24, 2017
May 1, 2017
May 15, 2017
June 12, 2017

Committee of the Whole Meetings

April 10, 2017
May 8, 2017
June 19, 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:

Good Friday - April 14, 2017
Easter Sunday Stat - April 17, 2017
Victoria Day - May 22, 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.

If you have an event you would like to include in The Current, please call 250-414-7122 or e-mail communications@esquimalt.ca. Sign up for e-mail notification at www.esquimalt.ca to receive this newsletter by e-mail, and 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.

