

# ESQUIMALT CURRENT

The Township of Esquimalt's Community Newsletter

Fall/Winter 2007

## Archie Browning Reunion a Success

ON SEPTEMBER 15TH, Esquimalt hosted the first-ever Archie Browning Sports Centre Reunion. The reunion was an all-day celebration designed to highlight the many services that the Centre has provided to the community over the years.

Morning events included a pancake breakfast, followed by a public skate, which was attended by 125 people. The evening dinner-dance was well-received, with 200 people in attendance.

The highlight of the day was an Alumni hockey game, which pitted Canucks Alumni against Victoria/Esquimalt Minor Hockey coaches. Over 500 fans had a chance to watch both teams show-off their impressive hockey skills. The players provided some comic moments, which



**Archie Browning Alumni hockey game**

included the Minor Hockey bench getting doused with cold water by the Canucks Alumni team.

The Canucks prevailed with a final score of Canucks 11: Minor Hockey 6. Fans had a chance to meet their favourite players during a program signing with the Alumni team after the game.

## New Truck, Equipment for Fire Department

IN AUGUST, ESQUIMALT Fire Rescue's new fire engine was delivered. This engine, which has been designed to incorporate all of the normal fire fighting equipment that an engine carries, as well as the gear required for confined space rescue and auto extrication, will replace the 1981 International Pumper.

- The engine is equipped with:
- truck-mounted lights, portable halogen tripod lights, and a top-mounted light tower to provide enhanced scene-lighting capability;
  - a 200-foot heavy-duty extension cord with junction box on a retractable reel;
  - hydraulic lines for the jaws of life connected onto two, 100-

foot retractable reels for quick deployment;

- a state of the art mobile data terminal with wireless capability that will enable the crew to access information ranging from pre-incident plans to the municipal mapping system from the scene of an emergency.

Another recent acquisition was a new self-contained breathing apparatus, which was delivered in August to replace the existing equipment, which is 20-25 years old. This apparatus will allow fire fighters to enter toxic environments using a safe source of breathing air to conduct fire operations and rescues. The new equipment is fully compatible with the neighbouring fire departments in Victoria and

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



Saanich and it is already in service.

Esquimalt's Emergency Program is providing a series of free public workshops this fall on individual and family emergency preparedness, light urban search and rescue, disaster first aid, and fire extinguisher use.

For more information about training and emergency programs, visit [www.esquimalt.ca/emerg](http://www.esquimalt.ca/emerg)

## Fireworks Bylaw Adopted

Esquimalt's new fireworks bylaw forbids the possession, sale, and discharge of fireworks in the municipality. The only exception to this ban is if a special permit is issued by the Fire Chief. The bylaw can be downloaded at: [www.esquimalt.ca/bylaws](http://www.esquimalt.ca/bylaws).



IN JUNE, OUR consulting team of Hotson Bakker Boniface Haden and Landeca held two Open Houses which were attended by over 175 residents, representing a broad cross-section of the community. Attendees were able to discuss the project with consultants and staff and provide their comments directly or by returning a survey form. For

those who weren't able to attend the Open Houses, feedback forms were available at civic facilities, the library, and online.

Over the summer, the project team began talking with stakeholders, such as the Chamber of Commerce, Esquimalt business owners, and the Department of National Defence Base Commander. Staff and consultants have also been busy researching various issues related to this project.

Norm Hotson and Jennifer Kay of Landeca will be presenting their findings, including a summary of public input received to date and the next steps for the project to Council

at the Committee of the Whole Meeting on October 22nd, at 5:30pm. We are also in the process of revising the municipal webpage to provide current information on the Esquimalt Village Project as it evolves and to keep the community advised of future meetings and workshops.

In early September, Suzanne Samborski resigned her position as Director of Community Development and Sustainability. Barbara Snyder is now the municipal contact for the Esquimalt Village Project.

For more information, phone Barbara Snyder at 414-7148, email [bsnyder@esquimalt.ca](mailto:bsnyder@esquimalt.ca), or visit [www.esquimalt.ca/esquimaltvillageproject](http://www.esquimalt.ca/esquimaltvillageproject).

## Tuning-In To Esquimalt's Noise Bylaw

ESQUIMALT HAS PROPOSED adopting a new noise control bylaw to replace the current bylaw, which was adopted in 1982 and was last amended in 1998. The bylaw specifies maximum allowable noise limits for three different zones:

- A quiet residential zone;
- An intermediate zone, which includes all areas that are zoned commercial, institutional, or for public use; and
- An activity zone, which includes all areas that are zoned industrial;

Noise levels will be measured at the point of reception (i.e. where the noise is heard by a complainant and not where it originates) and acceptable noise levels will have daytime and nighttime limits.

The bylaw prohibits specific types of noise, such as: shouting using a megaphone; playing music at such a volume as to disturb quiet, peace, and enjoyment; harbouring animals that emit noises in a persistent matter; operating motor vehicles without mufflers; production of loud amplified sound emanating from a motor vehicle; idling of truck or bus engines for more than three minutes.

The bylaw also defines: a daytime period; times when power equipment can be used; and allowable hours for construction.

For more information about the proposed noise bylaw, please visit [www.esquimalt.ca/bylaws](http://www.esquimalt.ca/bylaws) or contact Gilbert Cote at 414-7147 or Darryl Woodley at 414-7150.



## Parks Update

*Esquimalt loves its trees, and so will you!*

Check out the Active Living Guide for free workshops to find out why. **Native Trees, Native Plants** (November 3, 9:30 to 11:30 am) takes a closer look at



Esquimalt's original ecosystem, and answers the question "What's native? What's not?" in your neighbourhood.

*What's planned for Esquimalt Gorge Park?*

We're working on the preliminary design of a new active zone for the park, as well as improvements to the parking lot. Find out more at our **Open House** on Saturday, October 20, from 11 am to 2 pm at the Municipal Hall. See the draft designs, hear from staff and consultants, and tell us what you think.

## "Spring Awakening" a Success

IN APRIL, THE Cultural Advisory Committee held a "Spring Awakening" for the local arts community to allow artists, musicians, performers, heritage enthusiasts, and others interested in arts and culture to meet



the Cultural Advisory Committee members and to build new networks within the arts community.

Approximately 30 people attended and generated ideas for promoting arts, culture, and heritage activities in Esquimalt.

The Committee will be following up on those ideas and is looking for volunteers to assist with planning events for 2008.

If you would like to get involved or have suggestions for future activities, please contact Deborah Liske at 414-7136.

THE TOWNSHIP HAS engaged CitySpaces Consulting to undertake a review of the RD-3 (Single Family/ Two Family Residential) Zone. This zoning currently permits single detached residences, the conversion of existing single residences to two family residences (duplexes), or the demolition of single detached homes and their replacement with duplexes.

CitySpaces assisted in preparation of the Official Community Plan (OCP) adopted in March 2007. During the OCP consultation process, a number of residents raised concerns about change in the character of their neighbourhoods as a result of new duplex construction.

Implementation of the Official Community Plan includes a

commitment to “*work with residents and property owners to develop a strategy to provide alternatives to duplexes, to strengthen the design guidelines regarding two-unit and infill housing, and to identify possible changes to the Zoning Bylaw.*”

Residents have also come to Council on several occasions, both before and following adoption of the OCP, with their concerns and offers of assistance.

The consulting team and Township staff are inviting interested residents to get involved. We want to know your views and ideas. Do you own or live in a duplex? Are there duplexes in your neighbourhood ... attractive ones? ... not so attractive ones? How is the character of your neighbourhood changing... for the



better?... for the worse? How can we maintain a housing mix that will allow for people of all ages and incomes to stay in Esquimalt, while maintaining the beauty and liveability of our community?

These questions and more will be discussed at two community workshops:

**Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>**, 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm, Gorge Vale Golf Club, 1005 Craigflower; or

**Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup>**, 2:30 pm to 5:00 pm, Esquimalt Recreation Centre, Craigflower Room, 527 Fraser Street.

A questionnaire is available from the Development Services Department or at: [www.esquimalt.ca](http://www.esquimalt.ca). To share your thoughts, phone Brenda McBain at CitySpaces Consulting 383-0304, ext. 25 or email: [duplex@cityspaces.ca](mailto:duplex@cityspaces.ca).

## Sewer Rehabilitation UPDATE

SINCE 2005, \$3.2 MILLION has been spent for sewer upgrades as part of a comprehensive \$6.75 million sanitary sewer rehabilitation program

The following are updates about the three main components of the program:

**1. Sewer relining**– Relining of 30% of the 50 km of sanitary sewers in Esquimalt is underway. All of the sewer mains that are cracked or damaged will be relined. Severe cases will require excavation. The third and final contract for this work was recently awarded to Insituform Technologies.

Excavation for major repairs will be carried out in the fall of 2007 and sewer relining is scheduled for January to March 2008.

**2. Separation of combination manholes**– Reconstruction of combination manholes to provide separate manholes for storm drain and sanitary sewers is also underway. There are 172 manholes constructed about 40 to 50 years ago, where the

sanitary and storm drain pipes are going through a combination manhole.



The initial phase of this manhole separation program is 60% complete and includes 24 manholes in the Gorge Waterway area. The second phase, which includes 33 manholes in the area south of Esquimalt Road, will be initiated in the fall.

### 3. Pumping station upgrades

–This program is about 85% done and work is completed at nine of the 11 pumping stations. Work at the two remaining stations located on Grafton Street and Constance Street will be carried out this fall. The municipality has purchased a portable generator to power the sewage pumping stations in case of a power outage.

For more information, please contact Gilbert Coté, Director of Engineering and Public Works by phone 414-7147 or email: [gcote@esquimalt.ca](mailto:gcote@esquimalt.ca).

## CUPE Bargaining Completed

THE TOWNSHIP OF Esquimalt was pleased to be one of the first municipalities in the region to sign a collective agreement with CUPE employees in July.

The Township and CUPE Local 333 employees completed collective bargaining and renewed an expired collective agreement on July 22, 2007. The new contract covers approximately 250 inside and outside employees in the Municipal Hall, Public Works, and Parks and Recreation Departments.

The contract runs from January 1, 2007 and expires December 31, 2010 and includes a 12% wage increase for municipal employees over the next four years.

## Call-out for Volunteers

Each year the Esquimalt Municipal Council appoints residents to serve as members on various advisory **Committees and Commissions**. For more information, visit [www.esquimalt.ca](http://www.esquimalt.ca) or phone Donna Dupas, Municipal Clerk, at 414-7135.

## October

**27** Casper's Carnival: A family-friendly Halloween Party featuring games, contests, and prizes. Recreation Centre, 6 pm to 8 pm, \$3. Registration required: 412-8500.

**31** Lions Halloween Bonfire: Enjoy a giant bonfire, hot dogs, hot chocolate, and an all-ages costume contest. Sports Centre Parking Lot, 6:30 pm to 9 pm.

## November

**4** Free LIFE Swim, sponsored by Coast Capital Savings. Recreation Centre, 12 pm to 1:30 pm.

**4 & 5** Light Urban Search and Rescue: Learn how to conduct a search, provide first aid, and remove victims from disaster sites. Two nights, Sports Centre, 7 pm to 9 pm, FREE. Register by phone (412-8543) or email: emergencyprepare@shaw.ca

**17** Coast Capital FREE Skate. Sports Centre, 3:30 pm to 5 pm.

**21** Underwater World of the Gorge: A workshop presented by the Gorge Waterway Initiative. Burnside-Gorge Community Centre, 7 pm, FREE. For more information contact: 360-3051.

## December

**3-16** Pool Closure. Annual maintenance. Dates inclusive.

**4** Christmas Celebration of Lights: Watch a parade and the light-up of the Esquimalt Plaza, Memorial Park, and Municipal Hall. Behind Archie Browning Sports Centre, 3 pm to 9 pm, FREE.

**16** Lion's Skate with Santa: Join Santa for skating, games, and fun. The Lion's Club will provide lunch for all skaters. Sports Centre, 1 pm to 2:30 pm, \$2 and donation of a non-perishable food item for the Food Bank.

## January

**1** New Year's Levee: Meet Esquimalt Mayor and Council. Council Chambers, 1 pm, FREE.

**1** Polar Bear Plunge: Enjoy chilly challenges, ice obstacle courses, and frosty fun and games. Recreation Centre, 1:30 pm to 4 pm, \$2.

**27** Free LIFE Swim, sponsored by Coast Capital Savings. Recreation Centre, 12 pm to 1:30 pm.

## Council Meetings

## Regular Council Meeting

- November 5, 2007
- November 19, 2007
- December 3, 2007
- December 17, 2007
- January 7, 2008
- January 21, 2008
- February 4, 2008
- February 18, 2008

## Committee of the Whole

- October 22, 2007 (Special\*)
- November 13, 2007 (Tuesday)
- December 10, 2007
- January 14, 2008
- February 11, 2008

>> Unless otherwise noted, Council Meetings take place at 7 pm in the Municipal Council Chambers at 1229 Esquimalt Road. \* 5:30 pm start time.

Please check the website or contact the Municipal Clerk at 414-7135 to confirm meeting times.

## Check out our NEW Esquimalt Parks Map!



With a new and improved look, the map pinpoints the locations for 13 parks, 4 greenways and open spaces, 12 waterways and beach accesses, and 3 recreation facilities.

Download the map from the website at [www.esquimalt.ca/parks](http://www.esquimalt.ca/parks) or pick up a copy from the Municipal Hall, Recreation Centre, or Sports Centre.

## 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	995-7654
Fire Department	414-7126
Parks & Recreation	412-8500
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

Esquimalt Branch Library  
1231 Esquimalt Road  
(behind Municipal Hall)

## We welcome your feedback.

Melissa Darou  
Communications Manager  
[mdarou@esquimalt.ca](mailto:mdarou@esquimalt.ca)  
(250) 414-7122

## STATUTORY HOLIDAYS

Municipal Hall Closed:  
November 12, 2007  
December 25 & 26, 2007  
January 1, 2007

## HOLIDAY HOURS

Recreation Centre:  
December 24 & 31, 2007: 5:30 am to 4 pm  
\$2 admission from 1:30 pm to 4 pm  
Municipal Hall:  
December 24 & 31, 2007: 8:30 am to 2 pm



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

