



Township of ESQUIMALT Current

community newsletter: summer 2021

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Alternative Approval Process & the Public Safety Building Project

The response period for the AAP portion of the Public Safety Building Project ran from April 9 to May 10, 2021. The results from the process indicated that electoral approval for long-term borrowing to fund the project had been achieved. On May 17, the Public Safety Building Improvements Loan Authorization Bylaw, 2021, No. 3021, went to council for adoption.

The next steps are to amend the OCP and Zoning Bylaw which will include a public hearing on July 5, 2021. This will be followed by a building permit.

More information—including a building design fly-through video—can be found at [Esquimalt.ca/PublicSafety](https://www.esquimalt.ca/PublicSafety)



Sharing the story of the land

If you've wandered under the Gorge (Tillicum) Bridge, you've likely noticed a bit of a DIY sign that shows some information about the area, including background on the significance of the reversing falls to Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations.

In cooperation with both Nations, staff are working on a new sign that will build on the efforts of the existing sign and help share the stories of significance of the surrounding lands.

Summer Action Plan with VicPD

Sgt. Hollingsworth, Cst. Lastiwka and Insp. Brown will be out and about this summer to promote community safety and increased visibility, particularly in the parks.

You may see them on foot or bike in the day, evenings and weekends. Please say hello!



VicPD officers will be out on foot and bike in Esquimalt.

Online CPR training

Did you know our Esquimalt Fire Department has launched a hands-only CPR training opportunity for individuals, families, and households?

Registrants will book a dedicated time to receive a CPR mannequin and live training session from an Esquimalt Fire Department member. More information about registration at [esquimalt.ca/CPR](https://www.esquimalt.ca/CPR)



Try CPR at home with one of our first aid mannequins

Getting around Esquimalt

Esquimalt has reached the next phase of its first Active Transportation Network Plan (ATNP).

After the first round of community consultation in early 2021, an initial report has been published to share the feedback staff have heard so far. Thank you for your participation in this important process!

The plan's purpose is to:

- identify deficiencies in the pedestrian and cycling network,
- identify gaps in the pedestrian and cycling network,
- develop the vision and goals for the network to address the deficiencies and gaps, and
- create an implementation plan to identify the critical projects needed in the short-term (1-10 years) and the longterm (10+ years) to increase the share of trips completed by an active mode and more broadly reach the greenhouse gas (GHG) targets set out in the Official Community Plan.

As our next steps, we will:

- draft the pedestrian and cycling network maps;
- draft the pedestrian improvement options including a review of crosswalk upgrades, new crossing locations, sidewalk improvements, and missing sidewalk connections;
- draft cross-sections identifying the cycling improvement options for the main corridors (e.g., Esquimalt Road, Lampson Street, Tillicum Road, and Lyall Street); and
- draft the plan vision and goals.

Plans are in place to return to the community in the late summer of 2021 with a second survey that will ask for feedback on the draft options, vision, and goals.

Read the What We Heard Report on our website at [EngagingEsquimalt.ca](https://www.esquimalt.ca/EngagingEsquimalt.ca)

The township conducts its business on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen-speaking peoples and works to be increasingly mindful of its commitment to more inclusive governance with our neighbours.

We are committed to building stronger working relationships with both the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations.

Gorge Park Pavilion taking shape

The Esquimalt Gorge Park Pavilion project is well underway for its inaugural opening in early 2022.

Recreation staff will be engaging the community to help determine what programs and services to offer at the new pavilion. In addition, parks staff will be developing a new Japanese garden and a cherry tree forest to tie the landscape into the new building.

Donation options include trees, lanterns, guide stones, gardens, a torii gate, and a waterfall feature.

Contact Rick Daykin at 250-412-8508 if you are interested in contributing to this new landscape.

Esquimalt's art in public spaces

The public engagement phase of the Art in Public Spaces Plan is underway. Township staff have been seeking public input at the Esquimalt Farmer's Market and through [esquimalt.ca/PublicArt](https://www.esquimalt.ca/PublicArt).

The engagement process also includes the consultation of community stakeholders and special interest groups. Sounding boards are being placed at the Esquimalt Community Arts Hub for further input over the next three weeks. Key themes and draft directions for the plan will be compiled in July, then shared with the public for feedback.

The formation of the draft plan will begin later this summer and the community will have the opportunity to comment on the draft in September. For information on the project or to contribute to our online forum on public art, please visit the website or contact Robbie Young, 250-412-8501.



Township of
ESQUIMALT
ACTIVE
TRANSPORTATION
NETWORK
PLAN

The plan has completed one round of community consultation.

esquimalt.ca/PublicArt' and includes the hashtag '#EsqPublicArt' and the Township of Esquimalt logo."/>

**What's
your
VISION
for ART
in PUBLIC
spaces?**

**PUBLIC
ART
PLAN**

Tell us at [esquimalt.ca/PublicArt](https://www.esquimalt.ca/PublicArt)
#EsqPublicArt

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Recreation updates

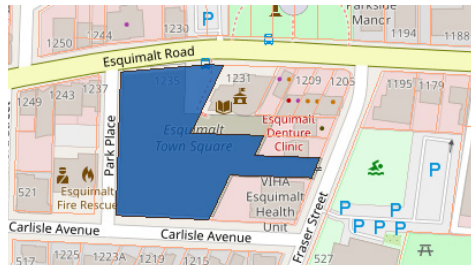
Recreation programs and services continue to operate on a modified schedule at both the Esquimalt Recreation Centre and the Archie Browning Spots Centre. As the phased provincial Restart plan is implemented, more opportunities will be reinstated. **Go to [Esquimalt.ca/Recreation](https://www.esquimalt.ca/Recreation) or call 250-412-8500 for schedule and registration information.**

We've resumed outdoor game play for both kid and adult sports, so you'll see teams back at it in the lacrosse box and on Bullen Field. Also, we are excited to see our summer camps start again as of June 28 and spots are filling fast!

Upcoming developments in Esquimalt

Our development tracker posts active development permit applications and ones completed within the last 6 months.

The interactive tool is on the township website and features permit details like downloadable site plans.



Memorial banner project

A reminder that residents still have an opportunity to take part in our memorial banner program. The banners feature their loved one's name and other information on a remembrance-themed design.

The banners will be displayed along Esquimalt Ave and near CBF Esquimalt in fall 2021. **All applications must be in by July 31, 2021. Find out more at [Esquimalt.ca/Banners](https://www.esquimalt.ca/Banners)**



Detached accessory suite approval

Detached Accessory Dwelling Units (DADUs), or garden suites, are now permitted in Esquimalt in RS-5, RS-6 and RD-4 zones.

As before, AirBnB and similar vacation rentals are not allowed.

For more information about zoning, permits and how to apply, visit [Esquimalt.ca/Housing](https://www.esquimalt.ca/Housing)



Checkout Bag Regulation Bylaw adopted

On June 14, council adopted the Checkout Bag Regulation Bylaw. This bylaw will require retailers to charge for checkout bags in the municipality and will ban most use of plastic checkout bags. It will take effect on August 16, 2021.

To create consistency for retailers and customers, the bylaw mirrors that of City of Victoria, District of Saanich and City of Colwood.

Look for FAQs and updates on [Esquimalt.ca/Bags](https://www.esquimalt.ca/Bags)

You might know the Current is mailed to all homes and businesses in Esquimalt. But did you know that it's available online first?

You can subscribe to receive the Current to your inbox, as well as our other news and information updates. You can even sign up to receive council meeting agendas so you can stay up to date on discussions and important news. Go to [Esquimalt.ca/Subscribe](https://www.esquimalt.ca/Subscribe).

As always, our website and social media accounts are great resources of information.

Council meeting schedule

Council meetings

June 28, July 5 & 12; August 16

Special Committee of the Whole

June 28; July 12

Unless otherwise noted, council meetings take place at 7 p.m. and Committee of the Whole at 6 p.m. in the Municipal Council Chambers at 1229 Esquimalt Road. Please check the website or call 250-414-7157 to confirm meeting times.

Esquimalt Municipal Hall closed:

July 1, August 2, Sept 6 & 30



Trip hazards are on the list of summer repairs

Summer public works

- Road line markings: late June/early July
- Repainting crosswalks
- Design of Constance and Lyall surface projects to occur
- Repair of Westbay storm manhole
- Vegetation removal along curb/sidewalk interface
- Pump station maintenance
- Street sweeping
- Construction of Saxe point force main
- Excavation of various underground pipes (storm and sanitary) for replacement
- Master plan completion for inflow and infiltration program
- Repair of trip hazards
- Pothole repair at various locations
- Road structure repairs at various locations
- Purchase of various fleet units

Township contacts

Emergency 9-1-1

Esquimalt Municipal Hall

1229 Esquimalt Road
Esquimalt, BC V9A 3P1

Municipal hall reception	250-414-7100
Building Inspections	250-414-7103
Bylaw Enforcement	250-414-7161
Corporate Services	250-414-7136
Development Services	250-414-7103
Engineering/Public Works	250-414-7108
Finance	250-414-7100
Parks and Recreation	250-412-8500

Esquimalt Municipal Archives

1149-A Esquimalt Rd (call for hours)
1229 Esquimalt Road (mail)
Esquimalt, BC V9A 3P1 250-412-8540

Esquimalt Recreation Centre

527 Fraser Street
Esquimalt, BC V9A 6H6 250-412-8500

Archie Browning Sports Centre

1151 Esquimalt Road
Esquimalt, BC V9A 3N6 250-412-8510

Public library—Esquimalt branch

1231 Esquimalt Road 250-414-7198

Public Safety Building

2nd Floor, 500 Park Place
Esquimalt, BC V9A 6Z9

Police Department	250-995-7500
Fire Department	250-414-7126

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 Esquimalt community event you would like to include in The Current, please call 250-414-7122 or email communications@esquimalt.ca.

Sign up for email notification at esquimalt.ca to receive this newsletter by email and for updates on Township news, events and more.

We are committed to environmental sustainability. This newsletter is printed on 100 per cent post-consumer recycled paper.

 TownshipofEsquimalt

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Esquimalt is in bloom!



The Parks staff have been hard at work beautifying the township gardens with their annual planting. **Did you know that over 2,000 annuals are planted every spring by the Parks staff?**

Take a stroll through the town core and see the flower beds at Memorial Park and the municipal hall or visit the many other flower beds in our parks throughout the township, you will love it! Enjoy the outdoors and the beauty of the township's many floral displays.

Township welcomes new senior staff

Join us in welcoming Haida Fortier as the new Assistant Fire Chief, taking on the community services portfolio. AC Fortier comes to us as an experienced officer with over a decade of progressive supervision and leadership experience. AC Fortier's career started with the City of North Vancouver in 1997 where she filled various roles from Firefighter, Fire Inspector, Fire Investigator, Captain and Acting Assistant Chief. In 2018 she moved to the District of North Vancouver as their Assistant Fire Chief, Public Safety.

We are happy to announce that Steve Knoke has joined the township as our Director of Parks and Recreation. For the past seven and a half years Steve has been the Manager of Sooke and Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission (SEAPARC) Leisure Complex. He lead and implemented SEAPARC's strategic plan including property expansion, asset management, turf field design and development, fitness expansion design, and provided collaborative leadership to ensure the provision of excellent recreation services.

We welcome Debra Hopkins as our new Manager of Corporate Services. Deb has over 20 years of experience in local government, most recently as the Corporate Officer at the District of Highlands, and prior to that as the Director of Corporate Services for the District of Oak Bay. She started her career at the District of Saanich in 2000 where she had a variety of roles. Deb comes with comprehensive technical knowledge of the statutory duties of the Corporate Officer as set out in the Community Charter. She is an experienced Head of Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy and records manager.

**Apply for your home owner grant before September 1, 2021
to avoid the penalty: gov.bc.ca/HomeOwnerGrant**

* The Province is now entirely responsible for the home owner grant program.

To learn more about the program, call the provincial office at 250-387-0555 or visit their website gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant

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esquimalt.ca