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Lampson-Tillicum Active Transportation project begins

Council awarded the tender for the project in mid-June. The project is the outcome of the Active Transportation Network Plan where both data and public feedback was used to look at ways to improve how people get around Esquimalt.

- New roadway paving in select areas
- Lighting upgrades at intersections
- New curb, gutter, sidewalk and ramps at various intersections to improve accessibility and safety
- New protected uni-directional bike lanes from Esquimalt to Colville
- Removal of on-street parking between Esquimalt Road and Colville Road
- Removal of the traffic signal at Head and

- Old Esquimalt roads
- Signal/lighting upgrades at Lampson and Old Esquimalt roads
- New multi-use crosswalks in key areas
- New protected bi-directional bike lanes from Colville to Transfer street
- New neighbourhood bikeways
- New protected bike lanes on Craigflower from Lampson to Tillicum roads
- Removal of one vehicle travel lane and switching from two lanes in each direction to one lane in each direction with a turning lane between Craigflower and the Gorge Bridge
- Signal phasing/timing improvements at Tillicum and Craigflower intersection

- New protected uni-directional bike lane on west side from Colville to Craigflower
- New protected uni-directional bike lanes from Craigflower to Gorge Bridge
- New protected bi-directional bike lanes from 1075 Tillicum Crossing to Gorge Point Park driveway.

Next steps

The contractor will plan out the phases of work and start in early July. Staff will post significant traffic delays on social media to help keep commuters informed.

Learn more details about this project and the Active Transportation Network Plan at esquimalt.ca/activetransportation

Public Safety Building Project: update

On May 8, 2023, staff along with CORE Project Management appeared before Council to discuss the progress of the Public Safety Building Project. After adjusting for current construction market prices, costs for the project had escalated significantly—an additional \$14 million would be required to complete the building as originally scoped (totalling \$62.2M). Council directed staff to prepare a report with options on how to move forward.

Several options were presented to Council in June. These options included proceeding with the building designed, revising the

project by reducing the scope, or redefining the project entirely, including cancellation. Council voted to scale down the initial plan and focus on building a smaller building on the south end of the lot—leaving the north side available for future plans.

A redefined Public Safety Building project that limits the development of a facility to the southern portion of the property would allow the Township to meet its immediate operational needs while working within budget. A Public Safety Building that houses fire services as well as an Emergency Operations Centre and community/

CRD space would meet the Township's commitments with respect to the CRD McLaughlin Amenity Funds, while also providing an opportunity for the Township to explore development options for the northern portion of the property fronting Esquimalt Road. VicPD's current and near-term needs are being met by the facility on the ground floor of Municipal Hall and will be evaluated as part of a future project.

Staff reports and project information can be found at esquimalt.ca/PublicSafety



Macaulay Point Park

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

103-1249 Esquimalt Rd
Esquimalt, BC V9A 3P2 250-412-8540
Tues (1-4:30 p.m.); Wed/ Thurs (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

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

501 Park Place 250-940-4875

Fire Rescue Services

1151 Esquimalt Road 250-414-7126

Police Department

1229 Esquimalt Road 250-995-7500

The Esquimalt Current is a quarterly newsletter published by the Township of Esquimalt and distributed to 8,000 homes and local businesses.

If you have a community event you would included in The Current, 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% post-consumer recycled paper.

 [TownshipofEsquimalt](https://www.facebook.com/TownshipofEsquimalt)

 [EsquimaltBC](https://twitter.com/EsquimaltBC)

 [EsquimaltBC](https://www.instagram.com/EsquimaltBC)

New faces in Esquimalt

The Township of Esquimalt has added four full time fire fighters to Esquimalt Fire Rescue Services. Council approved the four new positions as part of the 2023 budget.

Three of the fire fighters—Kielan Hrasky, Lucas Hammond and Chris McElroy—have been working in a full-time temporary basis filling in for firefighters off on long-term injuries. Our newest full-time firefighter Alexandria Marshall arrives after several years at the CFB Fire Department and is the Township's first female fire fighter.

The added capacity in the department allows for Esquimalt Fire Rescue Services (EFRS) to continue with existing fire suppression and prevention programs as well as implement a new medic truck response model. With the additional staff, EFRS can now cross-staff a ladder truck, a rescue truck and the medic unit. This new model allows firefighters to respond to medical emergencies more efficiently while reducing carbon emissions.

The new fire fighters were sworn in early June.

The Township has hired Terése Finegan as the Township's first Economic Development Manager. This role manages all aspects of the development and implementation of economic and business development initiatives and acts as the primary contact and expeditor for business retention and attraction. Terése is a Certified Economic Developer and has extensive experience working in B.C. and abroad.

Esquimalt also welcomes new Public Works Manager Ken Gawryluk. Ken moved from the District of Mackenzie in northern B.C. to take this position. In Mackenzie, Ken worked in multiple different roles and his variety of experience will be a great benefit to the team.

The Township is centralizing workplace safety with the addition of an Occupational Health and Safety Manager. The position—still in the hiring phase—will develop and implement the Township's Occupational Health and Safety Program which will provide occupational health and safety, disability management and workplace wellness.

Council meeting schedule

Council meetings

July 10, 17; Aug 14, 28; Sept 11, 25

Committee of the Whole meetings

Aug 21; Sept 25

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 3; August 7; Sept 4; Oct 2

Visit Esquimalt.ca to set up your MyEsquimalt online account where you can:

- Apply for dog and business licences.
- Choose to receive future tax notices & licence renewals electronically.
- Access your tax & licencing details anytime, anywhere.
- Pay your property taxes.

The property tax penalty deadline is July 4, 2023. Visit our website at esquimalt.ca/tax for more options and information on how you can apply for grants, deferments and pay your taxes.

Find out about significant weather warnings, errant cougar sightings, large fire or traffic incidents and other emergency situations with our handy app. Alerts can come via text or voice as well, so you don't need to have a smart phone to take advantage of the service.

Go to esquimalt.ca/alert or call 250-414-7122.





An earth wall that collapsed during construction was subsequently bolstered.

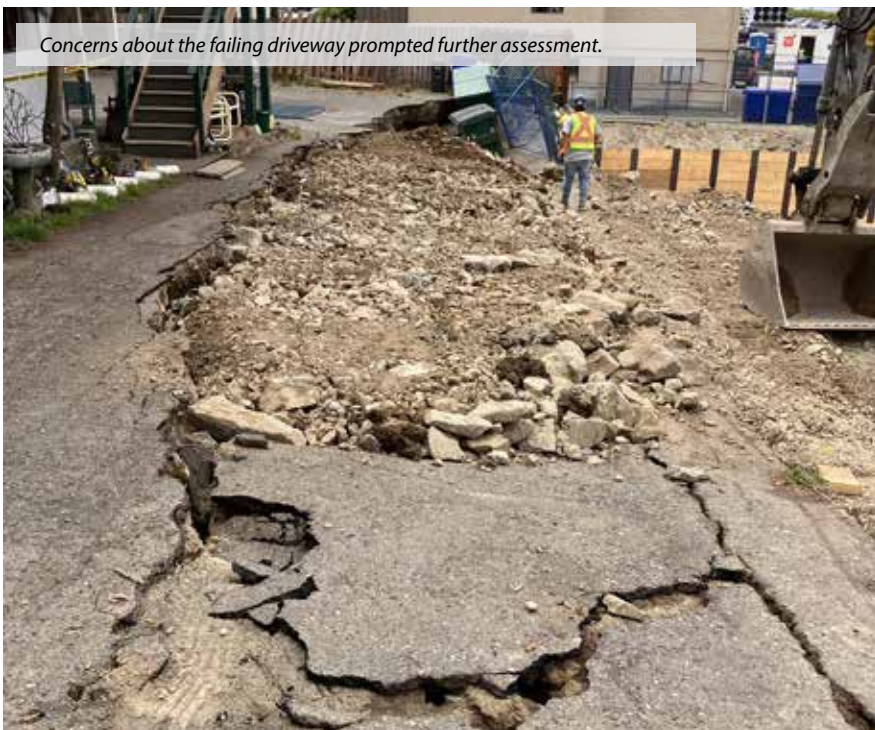
ESS volunteers step up

Esquimalt's Emergency Support Services(ESS) Volunteers respond to various emergencies within our community by supporting affected residents.

Most recently the team was called when collapsed earth at a construction site on Admirals triggered two neighbouring apartments to evacuate. There was concern that the slopes next to the buildings were unstable. Volunteers opened a reception centre and provided emergency support services like lodging and meals.

If you would like to be trained to help residents in our community through Emergency Support Services or in Emergency Radio Communications, visit our website for more information and the application form at Esquimalt.ca/emergency

This is a good reminder that emergencies can happen suddenly and through unexpected ways; having a grab-and-go bag, a plan and a home emergency kit ready will help you and your family in hours and days after an emergency. Learn what you need in your emergency kit and how to put a plan together by visiting Esquimalt.ca/emergency



Concerns about the failing driveway prompted further assessment.

The township conducts its business on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen-speaking peoples. Council is committed to building strong and enduring relationships with our neighbouring First Nations governments, the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations.

Get your hands dirty with Esquimalt Parks

Branch Out—our self-guided invasives species removal program—is back!

All you have to do is sign up for a free, quick orientation of the Community Stewardship boxes in our parks. The training gives you access to tools and information on how to safely and effectively remove English Ivy and Himalayan Blackberry from our parks.

Volunteers are always welcome and appreciated! Information at esquimalt.ca/BranchOutVolunteer



BE FIRE SMART IN OUR PARKS

We have had several small fires in some parks, smoking being the suspected cause.

Luckily we have been able to get to these fires quickly and before too long but the ground is very dry and carelessness with cigarettes could cause devastation in the parks.

Please be fire smart in our parks- this means no smoking and don't leave broken glass that could act as magnifiers for the sun's rays.

If you suspect a fire, please call 9-1-1.

Boulevard maintenance

Plants are growing fast this time of year. This is a reminder to keep your boulevard tidy and sidewalks clear of overhanging branches and grass.

We ♥ events in Esquimalt—see what's coming

Esquimalt Farmers Market- Memorial Park
Thursdays 4:30-7:30 p.m.

Esquimalt Farmers Market- Gorge Park
Mondays 4:30-7:30 p.m.
Now two days a week! Find fresh produce, locally made foods, music, food truck and more at this award-winning local market. Details at esquimaltmarket.com

Bard Across the Bridge: All's Well That Ends Well

June 29-July 15; 6:30M-8:15PM
Esquimalt Gorge Park

Performances of All's Well That Ends Well will take place at the Horticulture Centre of the Pacific and Esquimalt Gorge Park. All tickets are \$25; children 12 years of age and younger are free! vicshakespeare.com/tickets

Memorial Park Music Fest

Tuesdays; 6PM-7:30PM
Memorial Park; 1200 Esquimalt Rd

Bring your lawn chairs, bring your picnics and bring your dancing shoes! This free event is great for all ages. Food trucks will be serving a variety of snacks, drinks & meals.

July 4 Dockside Drive
July 11 Cold Sweat
July 18 The Kingmixers
July 25 Daniel Cook and the Radiators
Aug 1 Take Cover
Aug 8 Demographix
Aug 15 BackBeat
Aug 22 LateShift

Summer Stories in the Park

July 7, 14, 21 & 28; Aug 4, 11, 18 & 25
10AM-11:30AM; **various parks**

Join Esquimalt's Parks and Recreation staff for story time in the park. These stories are intended for children ages 3-6, but all are welcome. These stories will focus on environmental education and will be followed by a nature walk in the park. Parent or caregiver supervision is required. Help your little ones gain an appreciation for nature, reading, and Esquimalt's beautiful parks. Check details at esquimalt.ca/events

Chalk Party with TCAC
July 14

Esquimalt Town Square;
1235 Esquimalt Rd
Township Community Arts Council (TCAC) presents Scott Gillies & other professional chalk artists who will create imaginative 3D artworks all around the square. Drop by to see the creation of magical Vancouver Island birds.



2023 Esquimalt Urban Arts Tour
July 29; 10AM-4PM

Lace up those shoes, grab a tour map and join in the 2023 Urban Arts Tour!

The Urban Arts Tour is an annual outdoor self-guided tour now in its fourth year, featuring local gardens and artists.

We've paired talented visual artists with some of Esquimalt's most impressive gardens for a unique, family-friendly day of adventure. The tour is free to attend and open to everyone, and requires no registration.



Follow ECAH (Esquimalt Community Arts Hub) on Facebook to stay up-to-date on artist and map announcements. You can also find more details at www.ecah.ca/urban-arts-tour

Outdoor Movie Series

Join us to watch some great movies this summer. The movies will start after sunset.

Bring your own blankets, lawn chairs, and snacks to make this a fun and relaxing event.

August 9 Princess Bride (Bullen Field)
August 18 Fantastic Mr. Fox (Bullen Field)
August 23 Twister (Bullen Field)
August 30 Kubo and the Two Strings (Esquimalt Gorge Park)

Pet-A-Palooza

August 12 (10AM-4PM) & 13 (11AM-4PM)
Bullen Field; 527 Fraser Street

The West Coast's largest outdoor pet festival is coming back! This free and pet-friendly festival is the most fun you'll have with your pet all summer. Bring your pet to sample treats, food, accessories, toys and get hooked up with loads of free swag! Exhibits, dog races, yoga and more: www.petapaloozawest.com/victoria1

Ribfest

September 8-10
Bullen Field; 1151 Esquimalt Rd
Esquimalt Ribfest is a charity event of ribs, music, and craft beer.

Free admission and free kid's activities, and vendors by the Esquimalt Ribfest Society.

Are you interested in supporting your community or simply being involved in a fun event that supports various programs in your city? This three-day event is packed with fun for people of all ages. YOU are the key to the success of this event. Come to lend us a hand and have some fun!
www.esquimaltribfest.com/volunteer

NEW - Digital guide for summer 2023

Plan your recreation fun! You can browse, register & pay for programs online with no wait. Check out all our summer programming today!



Splash of Lights!

September 15; 6:40PM
Esquimalt Gorge Park; 1070 Tillicum Rd

The magic of lantern-fest returns to Gorge Park. Save the date!

Esquimalt Story Fest 2023

September 23; 10:30AM-1PM
Esquimalt Town Square; 1235 Esquimalt Rd

Help us celebrate the 18th year of Esquimalt's Story Festival with another awesome line-up of great story tellers. Lunch, provided through a generous donation from Country Grocer, from 11am onwards. Donations are gratefully accepted and go to help fund the Macaulay literacy program. We hope your family will join us in celebrating.

See our calendar at esquimalt.ca/events



Scan for more events

Township of
ESQUIMALT