

In this issue: **2** Events for all **3** Accessibility Plan **4** Community branding

Speed reduction

The Township has passed a bylaw to reduce speed limits on major roads to 40km/hr and other roads to 30km/hr.

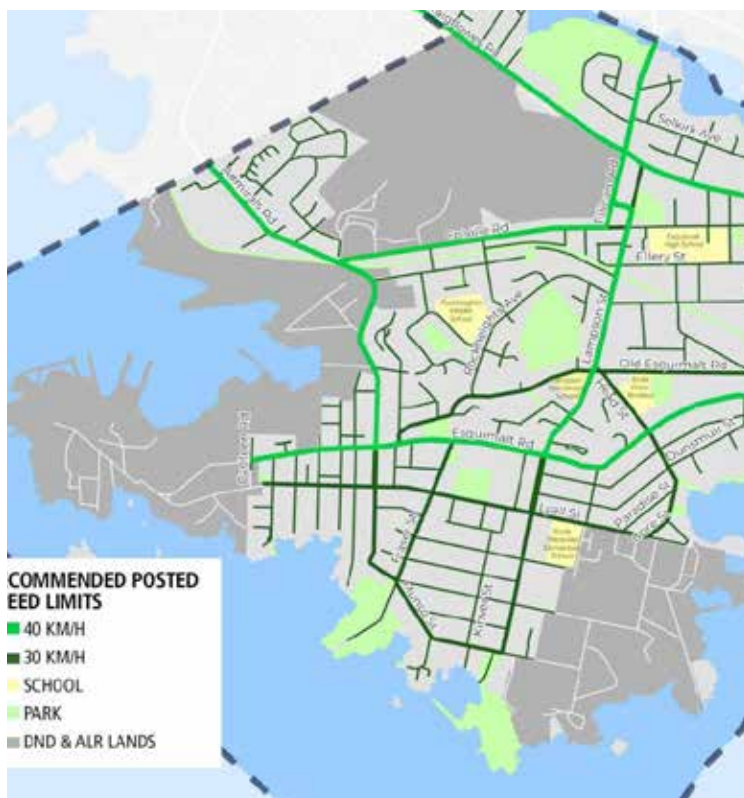
Staff will be installing new speed limit signs through early summer starting with gateways & major roads.

Why are we doing this?

Speed reduction in key areas was identified on our Active Transportation Network Plan.

Speeds are a major factor in creating a pedestrian and bike friendly environment and reductions to speed limits on township roads can lower vehicle operating speeds, improve road safety and improve neighbourhood livability with some exceptions as shown in the below map.

Find out about our active transportation network plan projects at esquimalt.ca/ActiveTransportation



Volunteer fair a hit

On April 18, more than 30 local volunteer organizations gathered at the Esquimalt Recreation Centre to meet community members and share their passion.

The goal was to help community groups recruit volunteers and raise awareness of their work. The groups either are based in Esquimalt or service members of the Esquimalt community.

The afternoon was a success: more than 180 attendees had the opportunity to meet a wide range of community groups and mingle with like-minded people in a fun and lively atmosphere. Groups include everyone from Esquimalt's Ribfest to Big Brothers Big Sisters Victoria.

If you're interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities with the Township of Esquimalt or local service groups, go to esquimalt.ca/volunteer.

(Top) Mayor Desjardins addresses attendees to welcome to the fair; (Below) Exhibitors, volunteers & guests mingle and enjoy refreshments.



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	250-414-7177
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 published three times a year 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)

Upcoming events in Esquimalt

Esquimalt Farmers Market— Memorial Park

Thursdays 4:30-7:30PM
esquimaltmarket.com

Esquimalt Farmers Market— Gorge Park

Mondays starting June 17; 4:30-7:30PM



Esquimalt Buccaneer Days 2024

BBQ: May 10 at 12-130PM

Main: May 10— 3-9PM

May 11—7:30AM to 11PM

May 12—9AM to 6PM

Bullen Field

AHOY all you buccaneers! Join us for Buccaneer Days: a non-profit/community groups fundraising event! This fun community & family event with something for all ages. Music, midway, skydivers and more! Full details at www.esquimaltbuccaneerdays.ca

Mayor's Open Door

May 16; 9-11AM

Esquimalt Municipal Hall

Drop in and have a 15-minute one-on-one with Mayor Desjardins. First come, first served!

Lion's Bottle Drive

May 25; 9AM

Archie Browning parking lot

Join this bottle drive to raise funds for Camp Shawnigan.

Fort Macaulay Interpretive Event

May 25; 9:30AM-2:30PM

Macaulay Point Park

The Eighth Annual Fort Macaulay Historic Interpretation Event will take place at Macaulay Point Park. The buildings and gun

emplacements at the historic site will all be numbered and indexed to a handout with brief historical references to each. The interpretive tour will take place at 10:30 a.m. led by local historian, Jack Bates.

Neighborhood Party

June 8; 11AM-2PM

Esquimalt Rec Centre; 527 Fraser St

Esquimalt Recreation is ready to kick off the summer season with a huge party and we want you to bring your neighbors and join us! Esquimalt is working hard on building a strong, resilient community and it has been proven that communities that celebrate together are safer and more enjoyable to live in.

Navy Run Esquimalt

June 22

It's the Navy Run's 18th annual race! The Navy Run - 10K, 5K, and Kids Fun Run is a family-oriented, inclusive community event and is hoping to run both an in person and virtual race this year. This event is open to everyone whether you are part of the DND community or not. Come out and get to know your Navy. navyrunesquimalt.com

Trackside Paint Jam

June 22; 10AM-5PM

Hereward Road

We're doing it again for another year! Join us at the 4th annual Trackside Paint Jam on Saturday June 22 along the Trackside Art Gallery. The event is organized by ECAH - Esquimalt Community Arts Hub.

Urban Arts Tour

July 6; 10AM-4PM

Meet at Esquimalt Municipal Hall

Lace up those shoes, pump up those bike tires and join in the 2024 Urban Arts Tour! The Urban Arts Tour is an annual outdoor self-guided tour now in its 5th 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.

See our calendar at esquimalt.ca/events for full details.

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

View our
up-to-date
online
calendar





The Gorge Waterway Nature House is open for the season!

Come visit this hub of all-ages nature education located in Esquimalt Gorge Park and learn about our beautiful local ecosystems. The Nature House is operated by the Gorge Waterway Action Society, a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of the Gorge Waterway. The Nature House offers:

- a touch tank with live marine animals from our coast;
- displays that provide hands-on learning about local ecosystems;
- a “Kid Zone” with books, colouring activities, and games; and
- a small concession and gift shop.

Open: weekends, 10-3 | Get in touch:

gorge.ca / [@gorgewaterwaynaturehouse](https://twitter.com/gorgewaterwaynaturehouse) / gorgewaterway@gmail.com



Colwood, Esquimalt, Highlands, Langford, Metchosin, Sooke, and View Royal have partnered to form the Capital West Accessibility Advisory Committee.

The committee is tasked with preparing a joint Accessibility Plan to identify, remove, and prevent barriers to individuals in or interacting with the partner municipalities. The Plan will be informed, in part, by surveys as well as partially by facilitated public engagement sessions. Questions? Go to accessibility@esquimalt.ca

Stay tuned to Esquimalt social media or subscribe to our e-news for updates on this ongoing project (esquimalt.ca/subscribe).



Deer on alert

Between May and July, most does give birth to one or two fawns. And like any mother, she has a strong instinct to protect her young from harm.

You may not see yourself as a threat. But from the doe’s point of view, you might be. Especially if you have a dog with you. She may turn toward you and stare directly at you. She may even take a few steps toward you, or follow you for a distance.

It can be unnerving. Is your safety at risk? Will the deer attack your dog? What should you do? **Our friends at the Urban Wildlife Stewardship Society have some tips at www.UWSS.ca.**

Property tax online info

Are you looking for property account information? Find it now online!

MyEsquimalt is an online payment platform that will allow you to access your township accounts 24 hours a day.

Sign up to receive an electronic property tax notice (e-billing) and review your accounts.

Find it through www.esquimalt.ca

Public notice survey

The Township of Esquimalt Council is considering modernizing the way it distributes Statutory Public Notices in order to maximize the number of residents it reaches and has requested community feedback via a survey.

Community participation in processes that require statutory notices is a key part of a local government’s democratic system.

Statutory notices are required for matters such as public hearings; rezoning and official community plan applications; tax sale and permissive tax exemptions; land disposition and highway closures; Council’s annual meeting schedule; procedure bylaw, and various election-related notifications. These notices help ensure that the community is aware of and has the opportunity for input into Township decisions.

NEXT STEPS: A summary report will be presented to Council in late spring 2024

Esquimalt community brand

Draft results expected this summer

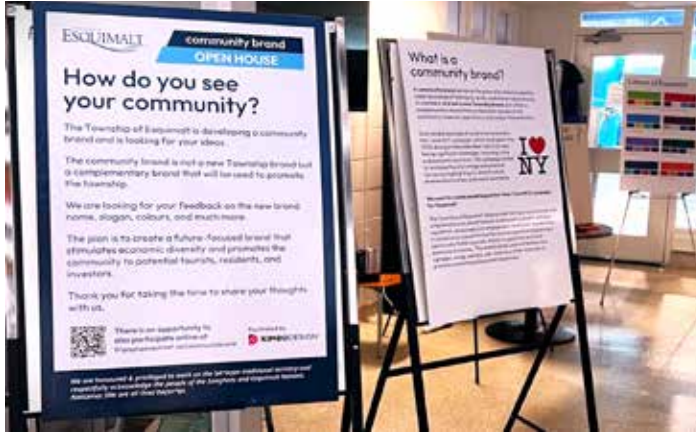
About the project

The plan is to create a future-focused brand that stimulates economic diversity and promotes the community to potential tourists, residents, and/or investors.

We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated in our Community Brand Survey. Your valuable feedback has been

instrumental in shaping the future of our township's brand identity.

Using your insights, our consultants will work on refining the brand concepts to create something truly representative of Esquimalt's spirit and values in late spring. EngagingEsquimalt.ca/CommunityBrand



NEW WEBSITE

Esquimalt.ca has received a face lift. The new website has increased accessibility features, an embedded language translator, new layouts and an updated menu.

You can take advantage of our online services through MyEsquimalt, report a problem or make a bylaw complaint in a simple form and access our interactive maps for development and park information.

Have feedback? Let us know at communications@esquimalt.ca

Be alerted about significant weather warnings, errant cougar sightings, large fire or traffic incidents and other emergency situations with our handy app.



Go to esquimalt.ca/alert to subscribe—choose what you want to year about (just garbage reminders? No problem!) and how you want to be informed (text, app, email or call).



at the Esquimalt Municipal Hall
1229 Esquimalt Road in the Mayor's Office
For more information, please contact:
Sue Anne Carter, Executive Assistant, Office of the Mayor and CAO
250-414-7101 | sue.anna.carter@esquimalt.ca

Township of
ESQUIMALT

MAYOR'S OPEN DOOR
2024 DATES

Thursdays - in the Mayor's Office
**May 16, July 18,
September 12, November 14**

from **9:00am - 11:00am**

Stop by the Municipal Hall to chat about what's important to you. Bring your questions, comments, kudos or concerns and sit down with Mayor Desjardins and have a discussion about your Esquimalt.
No appointment necessary. First come, first served.

Council meeting schedule

Council meetings

June 3; June 24; July 8

Committee of the Whole meetings

May 13; May 27 (5:45PM Special COTW); Jun 17; July 15

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:

May 20; July 1

CONSTRUCTION NOISE BYLAW CHANGES

Permitted hours for construction-related noise in the Township of Esquimalt are changing providing the adoption of a new bylaw later in May. The changes will be:

- Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7p.m.;
- Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and
- Sundays and statutory holidays (Federal & Provincial) prohibited
- Questions? Contact us.

