

April 2, 2025

Reference: 185339

Her Worship Barbara Desjardins Mayor of the Township of Esquimalt 1229 Esquimalt Road Esquimalt BC V9A 3P1 Email: <u>barb.desjardins@esquimalt.ca</u>

Dear Mayor Desjardins:

Thank you for the submission of the Township of Esquimalt's six-month housing targets progress report. I am pleased to acknowledge receipt of the report.

I would like to commend you on the exemplary progress the Township is making toward satisfying housing needs in your community. By delivering 224 net-new units, or 276 per cent of the first annual target, at the six-month point, the Township is on track to exceed its year-one target.

I am pleased that, in addition to making strong progress in terms of net-new units, the Township is also advancing a variety of policy initiatives. By fulfilling provincial requirements through adoption of Small-Scale Multi-Unit Housing zoning and completing the interim Housing Needs Report, as well as commencing land use capacity analysis for alignment with Bill 44, the Township is putting key pieces in place to ensure continued progress. I specifically look forward to learning more about the policies and initiatives related to the proposed Regional Household Affordability and Prosperity Project between Esquimalt, Colwood, Victoria, Saanich, Langford, and Oak Bay.

I encourage the Township of Esquimalt to continue making great strides to advance diverse housing supply and look forward to receiving Esquimalt's first annual progress report in mid-August 2025.

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Office of the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs Website: www.gov.bc.ca/housing Mailing Address: PO Box 9074 Stn Prov Govt Victoria BC V8W 9E9 Phone: 236 478-3970 Location: Parliament Buildings Victoria BC V8V 1X4 Email: HMA.Minister@gov.bc.ca Her Worship Barbara Desjardins Page 2 of 2

## Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

<sup>7</sup>Ravi Kahlon Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs

CC: Dan Horan, Chief Administrative Officer Bill Brown, Director of Development Services Deb Hopkins, Director of Corporate Services Housing Targets Branch, Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs