



February 17, 2015

Dear Mayor Desjardins,

I am writing to apprise you of the actions taken by Victoria City Council towards a governance review.

On behalf of Council, I have written to Minister Coralee Oakes requesting the Provincial government undertake a study on regional governance, based on the enclosed guidelines. I have also requested a meeting with Minister Oakes to discuss these recommendations.

We are proposing the enclosed document to guide this study, to effectively evaluate the various models to achieve good municipal governance, to follow sound methods to assess the merits of each, and to ensure inclusion of all interested parties and agencies, including members of the public. These guidelines are a slightly amended version of those sent to all of us by the Amalgamation Yes group.

Residents of our region have made it clear that there is a real and widespread interest in a governance review. There is a strong mandate from the residents of Greater Victoria to evaluate the current model and others to achieve good municipal governance. I encourage you to consider writing a similar request to Minister Oakes.

I look forward to working with you on this important issue and to bringing the best possible governance to our region.

Sincerely,

Lisa Helps
Victoria Mayor

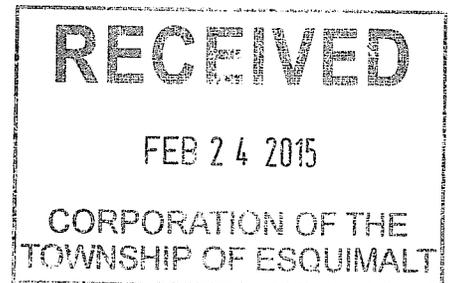
CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT		
For Information:		
<input type="checkbox"/> CAO	<input type="checkbox"/> Mayor/Council	
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RECEIVED: FEB 26 2015		
Referred: _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> For Action	<input type="checkbox"/> For Response	<input type="checkbox"/> COTW
<input type="checkbox"/> For Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Council Agenda	<input type="checkbox"/> IC

Encl.

Cc.

Mayor Richard Atwell
Mayor Alice Finall
Mayor Carol Hamilton
Mayor Nils Jensen
Mayor Steve Price

Mayor John Ranns
Mayor David Screech
Mayor Maja Tait
Mayor Kenneth Williams
Mayor Ryan Windsor
Mayor Stewart Young



Guidelines for Study on Amalgamation

- 1) The study team must report to the Minister and must be instructed to carry out its task in a timely manner.
- 2) The study must be inclusive and engage all the municipal agencies in the Capital Region and the First Nations.
- 3) The study must examine the existing municipal structure (including the CRD) in the Capital Region and recommend changes to achieve good municipal governance across the region, including participation, accountability, efficiency and effectiveness.
- 4) The study process must include opportunities for the public to interface with the study team during the preparation of the report.
- 5) The study must consider more than one option for municipal boundaries in the Capital Region.
- 6) When evaluating each option, consideration must be given to providing consideration of residential, commercial, urban, and rural interests.
- 7) The study must evaluate the economic, social, environmental and cultural merits of each option.
- 8) The study must include a plan for public meetings to discuss the recommendations of the report.
- 9) The study must prescribe timelines for implementation of the study.
- 10) The study must identify implementation issues that need to be resolved.