



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

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NOTICE OF MOTION

Request for Notice of Motion, Pursuant to Sections 37 and 38, Council Procedure Bylaw No. 2715, 2009.

INTRODUCED: Council Meeting – November 16, 2015

FROM: Councillor Susan Low

SUBJECT: Social Planning Committee – Draft Terms of Reference

WHEREAS: Esquimalt is home to residents with a diverse range of socioeconomic and demographic backgrounds, who face varying levels of challenge or success with affordability, inclusion, well-being, and prosperity; AND

WHEREAS: Municipal governments have numerous tools or strategies that can be used to address the challenges and needs of our community in the areas of health (mental and physical), housing, social inclusion, and economic opportunities; AND

WHEREAS: Our Strategic Priorities 2015-2019 include the desire to enhance the health and liveability of our community, which is the intent of social planning activities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That Council directs staff to develop a draft Terms of Reference for a Social Planning Committee, and suggested work plan objectives relating to the 2015-2019 Strategic Priorities, to allow Council to determine whether it wishes to launch this Committee in 2016.

BACKGROUND:

Social planning is a PROCESS that helps communities identify strengths and weaknesses and determine ways to improve the quality of life in the community.

Social planning activities include, but are not limited to:

- using research to understand a community's demographic and social profiles;
- defining service needs in the community;
- facilitate and support community discussions regarding needs;
- analyze government policy and its impacts on the community;
- make recommendations for policy development or changes to respond to social needs.

Social planning usually looks at the whole needs of the community, while ensuring that the needs of marginalized populations are understood and met within the broader picture.

The motion calls for staff to develop a Terms of Reference which would fit into Esquimalt's unique community needs and assets. The Committee members would likely be looking at our OCP, zoning/housing, budget, recreation programming, social program grants, transportation issues, seniors' needs, etc. from a lens of how the Township meets the health/well-being/social needs of the community.

Recruitment for this Committee would look for people with expertise/experience in social research, policy analysis, community service delivery, and a diversity of demographic profiles. We could consider seeking out participation from specific stakeholder agencies in addition to individuals.