

Jessica Nichol

From: Deborah Liske
Sent: February-05-21 08:44
To: Jessica Nichol
Subject: FW: UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration *MAIL LOG*

Mail log

Deborah Liske

Office Administrator of Corporate Services
Tel: 1-250-414-7136

For the latest on the Township's response to COVID-19, please visit esquimalt.ca/covid19

From: Jodi Graham <Jodi.Graham@esquimalt.ca>
Sent: February-04-21 12:23 PM
To: Deborah Liske <deborah.liske@esquimalt.ca>
Subject: FW: UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration *MAIL LOG*

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT		
For Information:		
<input type="checkbox"/> CAO	<input type="checkbox"/> Mayor/Council	
<input type="checkbox"/>		
RECEIVED: FEB 05 2021		
Referred: <i>Rachel</i>		
<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

Hi Deb – for mail log please.

Thanks,
jodi

Jodi Graham

Executive Assistant | Office of the Mayor & CAO
Tel: 1-250-414-7101

For the latest on the Township's response to COVID-19, please visit esquimalt.ca/covid19

Nancy Shackelford <nshack@uvic.ca>
Sent: February-04-21 12:19 PM
To: Jodi Graham <Jodi.Graham@esquimalt.ca>
Subject: UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration

Hello Mayor Desjardins and Council,

I am a Professor at the University of Victoria in the School of Environmental Studies. I teach and research restoration ecology primarily, and my position requires community work and outreach at almost every point. I work regularly with City of Victoria, District of Saanich, and the Gulf Islands consulting on management plans, working with students, and interfacing with volunteer groups.

This year, the United Nations has launched the Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. Part of my role is to help raise awareness in the community of the Decade and restoration more generally. I am working with conservancies, parks managers, and volunteers to get the word out and use this opportunity to continue building our local restoration capacity. The Mayor of Saanich has just formally supported the Decade (see below), and we are hoping that other regional leaders will do the same.

Would you and your office be willing to issue a statement in support of ecological restoration and the UN's Decade? I am happy to chat through what it means regionally, how deeply invested our community members are in these kinds of

efforts already, and how heightening public perceptions of this work can benefit both the public and our natural ecosystems.



Thank you for your time and consideration,

Nancy Shackelford
Assistant Professor, School of Environmental Studies
Academic Director, Restoration of Natural Systems Program
University of Victoria
www.restorationscience.net
(778) 922 1752

News release

For immediate release

February 3, 2021

Saanich supports UN's Decade on Ecosystem Restoration

Saanich, BC – Mayor Fred Haynes has signed a [Proclamation](#) demonstrating Saanich's support and participation in the [United Nations \(UN\) Decade on Ecosystem Restoration](#) 2021 to 2030.

"We are thrilled to participate in this global initiative that will increase public literacy on the importance of environmental stewardship," said Mayor Fred Haynes. "The coming decade will build on our momentum, in partnership with the community, to help heal natural areas and enhance biodiversity. Every action, big or small, will also help us mitigate the effects of climate change."

For the first year, Saanich Parks will build awareness and connect with residents about what ecosystem restoration is and how they can get involved in park stewardship. Saanich Parks already has a strong [Pulling Together Volunteer Program](#) that focuses on ecosystem restoration, but is currently operating in a limited way with COVID-19 protocols. When provincial health orders allow, community events will resume to further engage residents to learn, participate in and celebrate stewardship in Saanich Parks.

There will be great opportunities in the years ahead for Saanich residents to learn about and care for parks. The broad goal is to work together with community members to continue to restore and sustain natural park environments for future generations. This will include activities to learn about and connect with local ecosystems to the hands-on work of restoring degraded ecosystems in Saanich Parks. Saanich Parks hopes that many residents will be engaged in these fun, healthy activities that positively contribute to the community and the environment.

The UN Decade provides a good opportunity to demonstrate and highlight Saanich's commitment to environmental stewardship as recognized in Saanich's Official Community Plan; Climate Plan; Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan; and the Older Adults Strategy.

"Saanich Parks is a leader in community stewardship and invasive species management which are both important aspects of ecosystem restoration," said Parks, Trails and Recreation Committee Chair and Councillor Judy Brownoff. "We have strong existing partnerships with community groups such as Peninsula Streams, and many 'friends of parks' groups. We are committed to restoring natural areas and biodiversity within our parks to benefit the long term health of our community."

More information on related events and initiatives will be shared as it becomes available at Saanich.ca.

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