

## Deborah Liske

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**From:** Corporate Services  
**Subject:** Discussion Points - Monday April 18 Council Meeting

**From:** Jim Knock [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** April-17-22 9:17 PM  
**To:** Corporate Services <Corporate.Services@esquimalt.ca>  
**Subject:** Discussion Points - Monday April 18 Council Meeting

Dear Esquimalt Mayor and Councillors

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT	
RECEIVED:	April 19, 2022
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I hope to present the following ideas for your consideration at the above meeting. I appreciate the opportunity to speak to you at that time about a topic that I believe is very important to every citizen in the Esquimalt Community. This is only an outline of the issues I would like to present during the 2 minutes of speaking time allocated to my presentation.

### BC Energy Step Codes

# The BC government web site outlines the issue:

*All authorities having jurisdiction over the BC Building Code—including local governments—can choose to require or incentivize builders to meet one or more steps of the BC Energy Step Code as an alternative to the code's prescriptive requirements.*

*For governments, the BC Energy Step Code offers assurance that new buildings are performing as billed. Meanwhile, on the other side of the counter, builders have a more flexible option to comply with the energy-efficiency provisions of the provincial legislation. The new standard empowers builders to pursue innovative, creative, cost-effective solutions—and allows them to incorporate leading-edge technologies as they come available.*

*Local governments can choose to require or incentivize a given step of the BC Energy Step Code in new construction. In addition, beyond the regulatory context, builders and developers can adopt a given step to use across all of their projects, if they wish.*

Basically, the building code exists to:

- Address deficiencies in building design
- Induce the adoption of better technologies
- Facilitate and reward forward thinking compliance to improved technologies and outcomes

- Enhance the knowledge of the building industry and client/consumer users of their services

Currently there is an immediate concern about the impact of housing upon Global Climate Change but the long term benefits of the most cost effective forms of construction and minimizing energy consumption to achieve optimal performance of the 'building envelope'. This is more than a 'single trick pony'.

## LCES bylaws

### **Low Carbon Energy System Bylaws**

*BC local governments can effectively require that new buildings use electricity only, instead of oil or methane ("natural gas") for heating.*

- *The legal mechanism is to enable building at lower steps of the BC Energy Step Code if a low carbon energy system is installed.*

Basically, the Bylaws would:

- Eventually eliminate a common hydrocarbon energy source
- Require the transition to more efficient heating/cooling technologies
- Eliminate a low cost energy source for structural heating

All of these points are available online in much greater detail but as community leaders, I would hope that each councillor will research and consider all the issues associated with each option to ensure that Esquimalt choses to implement the best short and long term option in both cases.

**Jim Knock**

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