



**CORPORATION OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT**  
**Minutes - Draft**

Municipal Hall  
1229 Esquimalt Road  
Esquimalt, B.C. V9A 3P1

**Local Grant Committee**

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Monday, January 20, 2025

5:15 PM

Esquimalt Council Chambers

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**Present:** 3 - Councillor Jacob Helliwell  
Councillor Duncan Cavens  
Councillor Tim Morrison

**Staff:** Ian Irvine, Director of Financial Services & IT  
Terése Finegan, Manager of Economic Development  
Victoria McKean, Committee Coordinator/Recording Secretary

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Councillor Helliwell called the meeting to order at 5:15 PM.

Councillor Helliwell was elected chair by acclamation.

**2. LATE ITEMS**

There were no late items.

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by Councillor Cavens, seconded by Councillor Morrison: That the agenda be approved as circulated. Carried Unanimously.

**4. MINUTES**

1) [25-011](#) Minutes of the Local Grant Committee Meeting held September 9, 2024

Moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor Cavens: That the minutes of the Local Grant Committee meeting held on September 9, 2024 be adopted as circulated. Carried Unanimously.

**5. STAFF REPORTS**

1) [25-010](#) Local Grant Applications

Committee comments included the following:

- It can be difficult to allocate funds and compare different initiatives, consistency is important when evaluating the various applications.
- Funding decisions are subjective and are difficult to make.
- This is a difficult financial year for Esquimalt and a choice not to allocate funding to an application is not a commentary on the importance or validity of the causes and initiatives represented by the applications.
- Sensitivity to challenges within Esquimalt's current budget, specifically with

respect to the proposed tax increase Council is considering, is understandable but the small amount of funding being requested would have a large impact to these groups and may not have a large impact on Council's concerns regarding the current budget concerns.

- Appreciation for the effort made to submit these applications was expressed.

- It was expressed that difficult financial decisions must be made, and the larger context of the current budget process must be considered when making decisions.

Moved by Councillor Helliwell, seconded by Councillor Morrison: That it be recommended to Council that no funds be allocated to the local grant applications received from the Compost Education Centre, FED Urban Agriculture Society, Lifecycles Project Society, Maritime Museum of BC Society, Theatre Al Dente Society, VI Senior Lacrosse League, Victoria Brain Injury Society, Victoria Community Food Hub Society, Victoria Jazz Society, and the Victoria Shakespeare Society.

Moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor Cavens: That the main motion be amended to exclude the application received from the Theatre Al Dente Society. CARRIED. Councillor Helliwell opposed.

MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED: That it be recommended to Council that no funds be allocated to the local grant applications received from the Compost Education Centre, FED Urban Agriculture Society, Lifecycles Project Society, Maritime Museum of BC Society, VI Senior Lacrosse League, Victoria Brain Injury Society, Victoria Community Food Hub Society, Victoria Jazz Society, and the Victoria Shakespeare Society. CARRIED. Councillor Cavens opposed.

Moved by Councillor Cavens, seconded by Councillor Morrison: That it be recommended to Council that a grant of \$3,400 be awarded to the Theatre Al Dente Society. Carried Unanimously.

## 6. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Cavens, seconded by Councillor Morrison: That the meeting be adjourned at 5:52 PM. Carried Unanimously.

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COUNCILLOR JACOB HELLIWELL, CHAIR  
LOCAL GRANT COMMITTEE  
THIS TH DAY OF , 2025

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VICTORIA MCKEAN  
RECORDING SECRETARY  
CERTIFIED CORRECT