



# **CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT**

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## **MAYOR'S AND COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Report from: Mayor Barbara Desjardins

Subject: Request for Leave of Absence from April 7 to May 23, 2017

Council Agenda: March 20, 2017

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### Recommendation

That Council grant Mayor Barbara Desjardins Leave of Absence (without remuneration) from her duties as Mayor of the Township of Esquimalt, effective for the period April 7, 2017 until May 23, 2017.

### Background

As you are aware, I have secured the nomination as the BC Liberal candidate for the riding of Esquimalt-Metchosin in the upcoming provincial election. The election will be held on May 9<sup>th</sup>.

The Election Act of BC contains the following provisions:

- a candidate's employer must grant a leave without pay upon request
- the leave ends the day after the declaration of results
- the declaration of results is to take place upon the conclusion of the final count
- the final count must not take place before the 13<sup>th</sup> day after general voting day.

Accordingly, I am requesting that the leave end 14 days following the general voting day. In the event there is a judicial recount or if the declaration of final results is delayed for any reason, I may request an extension of the leave until the final determination of election results.

It would be appropriate for me to take a leave so that I can focus my attention on the provincial campaign and avoid any potential perceptions of bias, conflicts of interest or divided loyalties.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Desjardins, Mayor