



1229 Esquimalt Road
Esquimalt BC V9A 3P1
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www.esquimalt.ca

DELEGATION

APPLICATION TO APPEAR AS A DELEGATION BEFORE COUNCIL

An individual or a delegation may address Council on the subject of an Agenda item, each limited to **5 minutes**.
(See back for excerpt of the Council Procedure Bylaw)

Please submit the completed application **by Noon on Wednesday prior to the preferred Council meeting**, by: (1) email to corporate.services@esquimalt.ca, (2), mail or hand deliver to Municipal Hall, address above, or (3) fax to 250-414-7111. For further information, contact the Corporate Officer at 250-414-7135 or corporate.services@esquimalt.ca.

Name(s): Don Prittie and Lisa Geddes

Organization (if applicable): Boating BC Association

Daytime Phone No.:

Email: lisa@boatingbc.ca

Preferred Date of Council meeting: May 28, 2018
May 2018 - given the time sensitivities, the sooner the better
(Staff will telephone or email to confirm the meeting date once it is scheduled.)

Reasons for Wishing to Appear as a Delegation (Please Specify): Please see attached letter.

Will you be presenting a Petition to Council? ____ Yes ____x__ No

May 1, 2018

Date of Application

Lisa Geddes
Signature

Date Received:

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Presented to Council:

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT		
For Information:		
<input type="checkbox"/> CAO	<input type="checkbox"/> Mayor/Council	
<input type="checkbox"/>		
RECEIVED: MAY 01 2018		
Referred: <u>Anja</u>		
<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

APPLICANT ☒ CONTACTED
DATE: May 7/18
INITIALS: JA



BOATING

May 1, 2018

Mayor & Council
Township of Esquimalt Municipal Hall
1229 Esquimalt Road
Esquimalt, BC V9A 3P1

Re: Access to waterways in British Columbia

Dear Mayor & Council,

On behalf of Boating BC, I am writing to share information and request your support to protect what is left of access points to waterways across British Columbia. Boating BC has been the voice of recreational boating in B.C. since 1957 and is comprised of over 300 member businesses from all sectors of our industry. Our mandate is to remove barriers for boaters and businesses while ensuring our waterways are both safe and accessible.

In British Columbia, recreational boating accounts for nearly \$2.2 billion of the province's annual revenue and supports nearly 17,000 jobs provincewide. With 27,000 km of coastline and thousands of lakes and rivers, British Columbia is most definitively a maritime destination, and recreational boating remains an important part of the culture and economy in many communities.

Over the past 10 years, as waterfront property prices have risen exponentially, we have seen an ongoing decline of boating access infrastructure. Marinas and public boat launches are being removed to make way for real estate developments and other community amenities, and where there are existing marinas, lease rates are increasing at nearly the same rate as land values. As a result, there are fewer and fewer safe public access points for domestic and visiting boaters to access waterways. The net effect of this trend is a decline in economic spin-off opportunities for local communities and, in some cases, an increase in safety risks as boaters are forced to travel longer distances to reach boat launches and go through dangerous waterways to reach their boating destination.

By way of example, the District of West Vancouver closed the Ambleside boat launch in October, 2016 without explanation or an alternative access point. Since that time, boaters have been forced to launch in alternative communities – as far away as Sunset Marina, Cates Park or Vanier Park – and travel, unnecessarily, across shipping lanes or the more dangerous waters of Point Atkinson in order to enjoy the waters and fishing off of Ambleside.

In Nanaimo, the Nanaimo Port Authority, which manages leases on behalf of the federal government, applied methodology resulting in foreshore lease rate increases between 60 and 125 per cent along Newcastle Channel. Such substantial increases would be extremely difficult for any business to absorb, and pose a significant threat to the affected marina operators.

These are just two of the many examples in relation to a concerning trend being played out across our province.

We are writing today to request the opportunity to present more about our industry to Council and the need to protect our public access to waterways. We would also like to ask Council to consider putting forward a motion at this fall's UBCM asking all municipalities across BC to do an inventory of current boating

Because BC is better on a boat!

For more information, please contact: info@boatingbc.ca or call 1-800-663-6663 or visit www.boatingbc.ca or facebookboatingbc.ca

infrastructure within their municipal boundaries, protect existing public boat launches in their community planning and to consider adding more access points moving forward.

Unlike many other boating destinations in Canada and around the world, boating in B.C. is a year-round activity. Countless numbers of jobs are directly and indirectly related to the marine industry and there exists a strong connection between the tourism sector and ours.

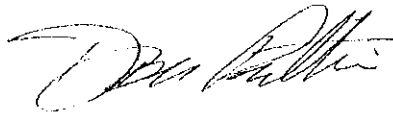
Ensuring British Columbians and visitors have easy access to our waterways is critical for B.C. in order to prevent erosion of the industry, to continue to maintain recreational boating as a strong economic staple, and to uphold our maritime culture and boating lifestyle, which is central to who we are.

Understanding the timing and deadlines to put a motion forward to the UBCM, we would appreciate the opportunity to present to Council during the month of May.

To discuss this issue further, or to explore potential dates, kindly contact Lisa Geddes, our Executive Director, at lisa@boatingbc.ca or 604.339.9660 – or myself at 250.893.0055.

We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Don Prittie
President
Boating BC Association

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