



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

NOTICE OF MOTION

From: Councillor Ken Armour
Introduced: Council Meeting - August 19, 2019
Subject: Council Transparency

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council consider actions, as part of Strategic Planning for 2020, to increase Esquimalt Council transparency.

BACKGROUND:

Transparency is important because it allows Esquimalt taxpayers to see clearly how Council is spending tax money and gives our citizens the ability to hold their elected officials accountable.

Various jurisdictions, including the Capital Regional District, the City of Victoria and the City of Vancouver, have taken actions to increase transparency. Some of these actions have included:

- Establishing an online “dashboard” that allows citizens to track elected officials meeting attendance and how they vote.
- Publishing councillors’ expenses on a quarterly basis.
- Publish a monthly highlights report. This report would summarize progress on issues, activities and Council decision making.
- Providing clear summaries of financial information in the municipality’s annual report and annual financial planning documents.

These actions will require additional staff resources to develop and implement. Considering possible actions as part of the 2020 strategic planning process will enable Council to assess the resources required to increase transparency against other priorities.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Armour