

## Deborah Liske

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**Subject:** FW: 1980 Firefighting Mutual Aid Agreement  
**Attachments:** image001.gif; ATT00001.htm; image002.png; ATT00002.htm; image003.gif; ATT00003.htm; image004.gif; ATT00004.htm; image005.gif; ATT00005.htm; 2020\_09\_04 - Desjardins\_Esquimalt - 1980 Firefighting Mutual Aid Agreement.pdf; ATT00006.htm

**From:** Richard Elliott <RElliott@victoria.ca>  
**Date:** September 4, 2020 at 11:40:48 AM PDT  
**To:** Barb Desjardins <barbara.desjardins@esquimalt.ca>  
**Cc:** Colleen Mycroft <cmycroft@victoria.ca>  
**Subject:** 1980 Firefighting Mutual Aid Agreement

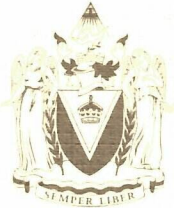
Dear Mayor Desjardins,

Please see the attached letter from Mayor Helps. A hard copy will follow in the mail.

Sincerely,

Grant Diamond (on behalf of Rich Elliott)  
Executive Assistant  
Mayor's Office  
City of Victoria  
1 Centennial Square, Victoria BC V8W 1P6  
T 250.361.0200 F 250.361.0248

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT		
For Information:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CAO	<input type="checkbox"/> Mayor/Council	
<input type="checkbox"/>	FC	
RECEIVED: SEP 04 2020		
Referred: Rachel		
<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



August 31, 2020

Barbara Desjardins, Mayor  
Township of Esquimalt  
1229 Esquimalt Road,  
Esquimalt, BC V9A 3P1  
Via email to: [barbara.desjardins@esquimalt.ca](mailto:barbara.desjardins@esquimalt.ca)

Dear Mayor Desjardins,

On behalf of Victoria City Council, I am writing today to formally inform you that the City of Victoria no longer wishes to participate in the 1980 Firefighting Mutual Aid Agreement and that we are providing notice of 120 days, as opposed to the required 30 (thirty) days to all participants as per Section 7 of the Agreement. We wish to work together to develop a new, more modern and more suitable agreement.

The 1980 Firefighting Mutual Aid Agreement, as established by the City of Victoria, the District of Oak Bay, The District of Saanich and the Township of Esquimalt for the purpose of effective fire response to neighbouring jurisdictions has evolved beyond the perceived original intent of the agreement and has resulted in the potential for disproportionate costs to be borne by the City of Victoria, in the absence of reciprocity and/or effective support. The current framework promotes an out-of-date response model.

With respect to our shared mutual interest in effective fire response across our region, we propose the implementation of a cost recovery strategy for firefighting support and mutual aid response to neighbouring municipalities. We welcome discussion on this matter to develop a strategy more in alignment with the present-day considerations related to firefighting, risk management, and resource planning.

On behalf of Victoria City Council, thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to continued collaboration between our municipalities to deliver effective fire response services in an equitable manner. Please do not hesitate to reach out should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Helps'.

Lisa Helps  
Victoria Mayor

Cc: Fred Haynes, Mayor, District of Saanich  
Kevin Murdoch, Mayor, District of Oak Bay