

John Helms

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Mayor & Council
Township of Esquimalt Mun. Hall
1229 Esquimalt Rd.
Esquimalt, B.C. V9A3P1

April 12, 2021

Dear Mayor Desjardins & Council,
A matter of immediate concern for residents
of Victoria & vicinity!!

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT	
RECEIVED:	April 16, 2021
For Information	☐ CAO ☒ Mayor/Council
Other	☐
Referred to:	☐
For	☐ Action ☐ Response ☐ Report
For Agenda	☒ Council ☐ COTW ☐ IC

Alarm and "red flag" re. Jack Knox's column/ article/news item in Times Colonist, p. A3, Sunday, April 11, 2021!!

Victoria's A.C.T. (Assertive Community Treatment) comprising 4 multi-disciplinary teams:- composed of psychiatric nurses, addiction recovery workers, registered nurses, social workers, etc., to care for 340 "challenged" individuals. These ACT team members at times need assistance from Victoria area police, but now police funding is not available for their use.

Victoria City Council & B.C. Government (Public Safety Ministry), need to step up with necessary funding to provide the Victoria Police Force with probably 6 additional positions to take care of this situation.

Victoria City Hall is failing to recognize this urgent need for increased qualified police personnel to help take care of the growing number of people on the City streets needing special medical assistance due to various health & medical ~~addictions~~ creating dangerous unpredictable behavior.

This growing problem affects all of us living in and around the City of Victoria.

Victoria City councillors in opposition to supplying necessary financial aid for this growing & worsening situation need to do personal hands-on walk-around inspection themselves at various times of day or night to see reality. Then, imagine that it could be their own family members/relatives who need help!!

Then, take action!!

This is a #1 priority!!

Yours sincerely,
John Holmes

copy to: 1) Del Manak, Interior

Police Chief

2) Hon. Mike Farnsworth, Min. of Public Safety &
Sol. Gen. for B.C.