

8. Do you have any suggestions to improve the community vision statement?
(Optional) |

Response
<p>1. Esquimalt is a diverse community & 14. Foster our diversity</p> <p>[Diversity] x 8 DIVERSITY x 5</p> <p>Great statement. Only suggestion would be to strengthen the diversity statement</p> <p>Celebrate diversity</p> <p>Note types of diversity, while affirming diversity is welcomed, and leaving room for diversity that may have been left out, or may emerge in the future.</p> <p>I would like to see something about Esquimalt being intergenerational and that we encourage interactions among/between the various generations. (I would like this to be true.)</p> <p>An <i>inclusive</i> community is important to me and I feel that it would do well to be added alongside "diversity". Inclusion is a positive action that speaks to embracing the diversity of community members.</p> <p>NEGATIVE x 3</p> <p>Remove the word 'diverse' - new age and overused! The last para starts with 'as we achieve the vision' - how long does it take? This has been in the works for over 10-years now.</p> <p>Diversity is not really fostered either. See second sentence (Esquimalt does not enhance responsible economic opportunities. It forced out a shop selling glass smoking devices, even though it didn't sell any material to smoke.). Perhaps it supports ethnic diversity but it clearly favours wealthy residents over the poor.</p> <p>Municipal Council should exercise more acceptance/toleration of diverse individuals/businesses that try to establish themselves here. Regardless of the gender/ethnic/age breakdown of municipal council, you are practicing a white European-colonial-regime-attitude + mindset that is regressive!!</p>
<p>2. A desirable place to live</p> <p>Refer to item 5. Economic Development</p>
<p>3. An integral member of a larger region</p> <p>[Larger Region] x10 REGION x 6</p> <p>We are part of the Greater Victoria urban area and benefit from the amenities from our neighbouring municipalities.</p> <p>Remove: "and an integral member of a larger region."</p>

Inclusive Regional outlook

Embrace Diversity Create a vibrant region Plan and implement projects within the REGION

Esquimalt has a central location within the region, there's a lot of people moving through the community without knowing what there's to do in Esquimalt

"Desirable place to live" - then why is it regarded as undesirable by the Greater Victoria area?"Integral member" - why?

AMALGAMATION x 4

"Integral member of a larger region" should be in an "amalgamated region"

I would like the vision to include a path to amalgamation. The vision should incorporate what we learned from the sewage treatment fiasco and the lack of a coherent transportation plan that addresses climate change. Regional governance is very weak. Decision making is very parochial.

We are open to change that increases options for shared costs and services with other jurisdictions so that programs can be maintained and costs controlled or reduced.

(expanding on the theme of being a integral member of the region) Since Esquimalt is reliant on its neighbouring Municipalities for services particularly retail and policing services, it might be nice to mention this as a strength that we do not want to duplicate services.

4. We encourage meaningful community participation and consultation to provide open and responsible decision-making

[Consultation & Decision Making] x 4

---- we support citizen involvement in community affairs----

This section is boring: "We encourage meaningful community participation and consultation to provide open and responsible decision-making."

Should include the concept modelling by example, community observations + individual pride in our municipality efforts to be responsive to individual needs.

Use more plain language so people are more engaged. For example, the sentence 'We encourage meaningful community participation and consultation to provide open and responsible decision-making' is passive and long-winded. Could read 'Feedback from Esquimalt residents guides our decisions.'

5. We enhance responsible economic opportunities

[Economic Development] x42

WORDING x16

Most of the statement I agree with, yet I am unsure if Esquimalt enhances economic development it is something that we have inherited from our military and ship building heritage. I believe we maintain and encourage economic development and could embrace and encourage our cultural heritage not just build upon it.

I don't know what "enhance responsible economic opportunities" means. Does it mean

promote development responsibly? This could be clarified.

how do we enhance responsible economic opportunities?

"We enhance responsible economic opportunities" should be replaced with "we encourage and promote economic opportunities. Make it a separate sentence.

What does "We enhance economic opportunities" refer too? In what way are they enhanced? Does it mean providing opportunities, or making sure they are responsible. This could be more clear.

The statement is vague and not easily followed. Not really a vision for economic stability or growth which is what we need.

"Enhance economic development for ours and our future community prosperity. We live by the ocean. The ocean is out life line to the world."

It is difficult to say we enhance responsible economic opportunities with the numerous payday loan businesses set up along Esquimalt road .

Need to enhance responsible economic growth.

Instead of "responsible economic opportunities" I would say "sustainable".

Instead of 'We enhance responsible economic opps...', how about, "We diligently and judiciously quickly engage and move to enhance...This sounds more like the governance is alert 24/7 to wring the best possible outcome from district opportunities that present from without or which are conjured from council.

We enhance responsible economic opportunities and growth.

i would like to see "encouragement of innovative and responsible economic opportunities" not just enhancement.

potential for growth

some mention of potential for growth

Esquimalt does not enhance responsible economic opportunities. It forced out a shop selling glass smoking devices, even though it didn't sell any material to smoke.

COMMERCIAL x11

See more restaurants

An area of shops and restaurants and pubs like in cook st village would be an asset to our area

Cafe with live music, restaurant other than fast food, theater.

More diverse shopping and restaurants. (i.e. clothing , pub style restaurant, breakfast style, more live/work buildings).

Esquimalt needs more family oriented restaurants. We have plenty of fast food, greasy, junky style as well as at least 6 other ethnic style restaurants. The Apple Tree is View Royal and since Bill Laing sold the Princess Mary Cafe, the really isn't anywhere to sit and have a good family style meal. I do not patronize Norm & Pam's place they opened in place of Bill's as the prices are outrages! I miss places like Tommy Tuckers, The Foghorn, Boston Pizza, the one that used to be at the shopping center, Burgers Etc., I hate to comment like this but Saltys Fish & Chips taste like Thai food...the kitchens are shared and you can taste

it. We need a restaurant like a Denny or ABC style where FAMILIES can go without costing a whole pay cheque to feed a family if 4. I don't eat Thai, Mexican, Chinese, African, Pizza (which we have 4 here) due to food allergies and no McDonalds, A&W, no greasy Poutine & gravy, no Donairs, there is nothing really good I see there that is a choice health wise. A lot of fat and calories.

We need a community that embraces all of our needs including banking and shopping

I would like to see more family restaurants as well as a hardware store and more banks, we bank at the TD and have to go to VicWest or Sannich to do our banking, the last time we had a TD Bank in Esquimalt was 40 years ago.

Like to see some future office buildings + shops build on the water floating more business is great for tourism.

We need to supply a reason for people to visit Esquimalt (i.e. dining theatre). Everyone has a shopping plaza.

There are so many things mentioned in this statement. I'd feel better prepared to discuss this question if it were broken down into sections. For me, I don't feel Esquimalt is growing at the same pace as its neighbouring townships. To live there means living further from downtown Victoria, so it should offer a similar range of restaurants, coffee shops, arts, and nightlife.

1]encourage high tech industry incubation ---2]-to siphon the tourist -- -cruise ship== industry into this area and where major public spending projects [such as sewer upgrades]are planned use these to lever and foster more .. of 1] and 2]Remember marine science is a strong building block in this areaA1] there are many destination points for tourists in the VICTORIA regiondowntown has many .but others such as BUCHART Chinatown are significant outside the harbour area.--ESQUIMALT...needs one or twoB}an even stronger development focus on cleaning up Esquimalt road ..

EMPLOYMENT x4

We hope to attract creative and innovative individuals.

More emphasis on encouraging and fostering business and employment opportunities in Esquimalt

Esquimalt should be a place where the residents can also work and play. We do not have enough large business or government offices that provide middle and higher incomes.

The vision statement gives little specific reference to working and business aspects."...a desirable place to live, work, visit, and an integral..." may serve to specifically include businesses at the vision level.

LOCAL x6

I would like the statement to specify that we support the development of local businesses, as opposed to national/international chains.

should mention small business and mixed land use.

not looking to wordsmith the vision statement, but capturing the idea of a vibrant, small-business friendly, (sidewalk cafe options, neighbourhood pubs, niche businesses) walkable 'township centre' area is an important concept for me

Clean-up of Head St area - less pawn shops and money marts - more family friendly shops

and eateries, less fast food, availability of locally made & grown products (Island).

If this is meant to be a vision on how the Esquimalt community will\could be it should include it doesn't fully speak to the need for sustainable, community sourced economic development nor does it speak to the need to enhance existing infrastructures and main traffic corridors and eliminate businesses that situate themselves to take advantage of the lower economic demographics of certain areas of Esquimalt such as: McDonalds, the Pawn Shop and the cheque cashing businesses. The addition of the Esquimalt Market in 2015 was an excellent example of a community minded, healthy, financial contributor to the Esquimalt community. More permanent restaurants serving locally sourced food would also be a nice addition to the community.

RESIDENTIAL x3

I feel the council focuses on the business part of the community more than what we already have. Spend more money on the people that already live here. (eg. Beautify in front of an apartment building as opposed to in front of businesses.)

focus on families more than coffees and yuppie stuff

The housing should be affordable but not attract low energy, buildings can look attractive, well-maintained without being expensive (especially rentals) + buildings for businesses. Condos that are too expensive and knock down single dwellings aren't the answer. Need more parks with water features to make spaces more family-utilised. Young + Energized.

OTHER x2

Another town square is needed

See more events

6. Embrace sports, recreation

[Sports, Recreation] x 4

It doesn't speak about access to nature and its coastline and parks.

I chose to live in Esquimalt to be centrally located and have access to a diverse range of outdoor recreational opportunities including active transportation corridors and waterfront parks.

Terminate all plans/commitments to commercialize "Saxe Point Park!"

Promote more of the trails, parks, recreation.

7. The Arts

Refer to item 5. Economic Development

8. The West Coast Lifestyle

[West Coast Lifestyle] x6

NEGATIVE x 6

"West coast lifestyle" sounds too casual for a community vision statement.

West Coast Lifestyle is meaningless

This could be any community on the west coast - it doesn't say what is unique about

Esquimalt - maybe some comment about the navy or military presence should be included? Maybe make some comment about a connection to the ocean?

"West coast lifestyle" - what is this exactly?

Nor do I know what "embrace...the west coast lifestyle" means. Is that code for supporting marijuana grow ops? That phrase could be removed or worded more specifically.

The term "west coast lifestyle" feels out of place. It is a term that has an arbitrary, loose definition and I feel it leans more towards slang.

9. As we achieve the vision, we enhance our quality of life

[Quality of Life] x7

AGE-FRIENDLY x3

I desire a strong family oriented focus.

---there should be some reference to the increasing desirability to family's living here with walkability to every service a person could need and ease of life---highly desirable!

I am one of those Seniors hoping to "age in place" in easy Esquimalt. Therefore, I appreciate activities and amenities within easy access. I am drawn to a "Village" feel. I enjoy the vibrant mix of family and neighbours, the young and the old. Esquimalt feels user-friendly. I like that.

COMMUNITY x2

I think Esquimalt's sense of "community" is much stronger and more important than is reflected in the statement, "revitalize our community". Having lived in other communities in this region, in eastern Canada, and internationally, I think Esquimalt's sense of community is its strongest asset and deserves to be highlighted!

Perhaps add something about supporting our community through shopping locally and being good neighbours to one another. Esquimalt seems more like a small town because of the relationships we build through living here and looking out for one another.

PUBLIC SPACES x2

I would like to add some reference to fostering welcoming public spaces.

I would like to see something in this vision about innovation and creating vibrant places and space for social connection and building strong and thriving neighbourhoods.

10. Enjoy health and safety

[Health and Safety] x5

POLICING x 2

I suggest a volunteer group to walk the beat for safety which can be adopted such as the guardians of New York City.

Increase police presence and or Bring back the Esquimalt Police Department. There is moderate street crime, drug trafficking and property thefts here. Greater police presence would reduce the issues. Do not bring in the RCMP as this would give us less service than we have now. The statistics reported are low as the current police service is not providing a presence great enough to stop or catch the trending problems. It appears we have a

reactive not proactive service focused on reducing street level problems.

SPEEDING x2

Poor management of neighbourhood safety - particularly speeding issues. Much more could and should be done to preserve the integrity of neighbourhoods - not simply shrugging off the burden and impact of growing automobile pressures. There are so many effective infrastructural improvements/measures that have been implemented world-wide that could be researched. In my personal experience trying to effect planned change when having to work/communicate with the chief municipal engineer has been deeply disappointing. There needs to be an advisory committee struck who their recommendations directly back to the mayor and council - who at least seem more open to input.

too much traffic on Esquimalt Road (dangerous to the public) (i.e. congestion)

HOMELESS x2

Something needs to be added about our attributes to street people. Our responsibility towards reasonable housing and day to day help for the needy impinges on all our other goals.

housing for marginalized people economic development

11. Build upon our cultural heritage

[Cultural Heritage] x17

CULTURAL HERITAGE x5

As we do not have one cultural heritage I think it might reflect the many cultural heritages by stating something like: "build upon our diverse cultural heritages"

The phrase "build upon our cultural heritage" sounds a little like physically building on top of culturally or historically significant assets or places. Perhaps "honour our cultural heritage" would be better.

Strive to be a vibrant centre, that serves us in the future as well as honouring our heritage.

Esquimalt also does not build upon its cultural heritage. There is no museum in the township, even though Esquimalt has an interesting history.

Esquimalt has an interesting history that it can embrace and highlight more.

NAVY x2

Does our cultural heritage include our Naval base and Aboriginal history?

---there should be some reference to how lucky or fortunate or privileged we are to be the location for Canada's Western Naval Base.

FIRST NATIONS x10

We need to acknowledge that Esquimalt is the traditional, UNCEEDED territory of the Songhees First Nation. To reference "cultural heritage" is to vague.

specific acknowledgement of the people who lived first on this land.

What type of cultural heritage?Acknowledging the local First Nations as the original

inhabitants of this beautiful place. Care of our natural spaces, nature, could be emphasized more.

Not sure about "build upon our cultural heritage". How does that tie in with "foster diversity"? If we focus on building on what's already here that seems to work against acceptance of new groups coming in. Some specific mention of relationship with First Nations and their traditional lands might be helpful.

Include statements about Esquimalt being on the traditional, unceded territory of the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations.

No mention of First Nations even though we are on unceded territory.

Wonderful statement :), My suggestion that I believe would show leadership and mindfulness; would be to acknowledge who territory Esquimalt is on in the introduction. This will gain respect from first nations, city counsel, local social workers and Universities. I believe a sentence to edify community based partnerships that preform to sustain out comes would be to add a statement of* value to everyone's opinion, equally acknowledged * I believe this would be inspiring and completes the participation model.

Would like to see a reference to First Nations history/culture/future and something about what makes Esquimalt distinct, such as affordability, friendly/welcoming community, Buccaneer Days!

Recognition that there are two First Nations bordering the township - the mutual respect between the two and the unique opportunity for possible future joint ventures, as well as support for each others initiatives.

Cultural diversity including First Nations

12. Revitalize our community

[Revitalize Community] x16

ESQUIMALT ROAD x10

Revitalize the main road

Improve Esquimalt Road (painting, filling empty shops)

Esquimalt Road needs a total revamping to look modern + clean with various shops (i.e. shoe store, clothing store (new))

Please clean-up main artery - Esquimalt Road. If you want to attract business - clean it up.

Revitalize more sections of Esquimalt (for example stretches of Esquimalt Rd between Catherine and Head). Maintain the Farmers Market!

Lets look towards cleaning up Esquimalt Road have our own "Oak Bay Avenue" where people want to shop and sit and have a coffee. It's time to clean up Esquimalt's image and then businesses will come.

Much of Esquimalt's business section looks "run down". Low energy - some sections between the Esquimalt shopping mall and beyond Admiral's Road need sprucing up. The head street / Esquimalt Rd business area look old + run down.

Revitalize the main corridor business community. Enhance business opportunities have upscale restaurants, boutiques. What is the average income per household? Many residents go elsewhere for shopping. Beautification of the old "run down looking

buildings". Better store fronts. Restaurants, cafes, delis, bring out people in the community.

Revitalization is painfully slow. The ride into ESQ from Victoria is depressing. A market that has secondhand junk, a bingo hall, a tavern, a large liquor sign (ugh!). Head St grocer who has fencing as a facade design element. That corner needs paint and removal of old fading advertisting, fencing on buildings 20 feet up? I believe ESQ is a good place to live...it just looks terrible as you enter it from Esq RD.

This statement is quite accurate in those areas ... sports, recreation etc but there needs to be more to make it a closer and walk area to meet neighbours. In that I mean the long overdue area of Esquimalt Road between Admirals and Fraser Street. The shops need to be cleaned up and the whole area more welcoming and street friendly. There are areas there that are very derilect and neglected and would show a huge improvement if Council could do some serious bylaws for owners to clean up shops etc.

GENERAL x6

revitalize our "Seaside Village" community;

Although ESQ has all the features mentioned in the vision statement I feel a cleanup program should be organized.

Perhaps falls under revitalize our community but we need to encourage other businesses and residents to move to Esquimalt. Additionally, we need to expand on our public relations with other communities and get the msg out there that Esquimalt is not the "hood", or the worst place to live, go to school, etc.

I would like to see the local businesses clean up the outside of there buildings and properties, like painting and landscaping, maybe give them a tax brake to for the year to get them motivated to do this.

As a community it is time we work at improving the image of Esquimalt. I grew up in Esquimalt and it offers many things ie location, parks, recreation facilities however when people ask where you live and you tell them you can just see their attitude change. It's time to stop "the other side of the Johnson St bridge." It's time to bring more businesses rather than bingo halls, quick cash stores, pizzas places, etc.

Revitalize our community" - main route through the community is very poor of contested "gloomy looking". Does not reflect "heritage" slogan or the beautiful waterfront housing, parks and foot paths. Interim measures:- colourful banners, tree lined boulevards- storefront theme to reflect pride of merchants- industrial park image- hanging baskets sponsored by businesses and city with help from community groups- better signage to city parks and access to galloping goose trail & walkway into Victoria- develop a scenic route through the community showing access to parks, trails, etc.- initiate a community pride protest to encourage, groups, businesses, individuals to participate in the community enhancement agenda for "beautification".

[Land Use and Development] x9

MORE DEVELOPMENT x 2

Allow more larger housing developments to alleviate some of the tax burden from the single dwelling home owners.

yes get on with development. Build multi-story buildings more commercial street front

upgrades face lifts.

SMALL DEVELOPMENT x 3

Keep crowding, traffic and new construction to a minimum

We enhance existing areas of character as we embrace small scale re-development.

Balanced and diverse, small scale growth please. No buildings over 6 stories. Leave the big towers for other municipalities to build. They store people, but they do not make our community a home. Community, vitality, and health are about people interacting in properly designed human sized settings. Interactions are what makes life valuable individuals community, too often large developments keep people anonymous and apart.

SMALL HOMES x 2

I would like to see Esquimalt follow the initiative taken by the City of Victoria to develop a garden suite policy to facilitate the introduction of detached rental suites on properties where a secondary suite does not already exist. This, in my opinion, would be a great option for property owners looking into generating passive income, as well as for tenants to find affordable housing.

I would like to spend my retirement years in a Grandpa Cottage (new, quiet, small, solar powered, green, financially efficient, low taxes, warm, self contained private and secure) but within walking distance to the ocean and where other healthy seniors congregate to enjoy the few healthy years they have left. If I have money left over, some legacy should be established so that others may want to move into the area ... especially as we are living longer and healthier. Perhaps computer activities for ipad/youtuberwatchers as "experienced matures" that want to give-back, share or expand their knowledge ... (happy hour from 6 to 9 pm) might be offered.

OTHER x 2

low income housing

Improve earthquake survival capability of all infrastructure and buildings. Phase out buildings that are not economically capable of seismic upgrade.

13. Protect our natural environment

[Natural Environment] x9

put more emphasis on environmental protection.

Environmental safety

Include sustainability

More focus on environmental protection and encouragement of sustainability practices would reflect what I feel are priorities of the area (and wider world)

so tired of carbon alarmism, stop undermining property rights.

Perhaps something about 'Climate & Ecological' sensitivity will enhance the content.

Include recycling as part of business taxes. Right now business taxes do not include recycling and I believe this would be a great initiative in supporting recycling as well as attracting other businesses to the community.

- add statement(s) that reflect progressive and promotional role/actions in vision for

fossil fuel-free transportation (eg bikeways, walkways, public transport) and doing our part to mitigate climate change (eg greenways, maintain trees/natural vegetation, encourage alternate energy such as solar, gardens and local food production).- add in our vision creativity in our approach to design and development for beauty, coherence, and functionality that contributes to healthy environment and human livability.

sewage tertiary + well managed + planned

[Transportation] x 7

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION x6

I would mention something about sustainable transportation

A greater focus on sustainability in the vision would be great. Walkable, complete, compact communities that cater to sustainable transport options

I think that community wellness is not highlighted as well as it could be. Walkability of the neighbourhood is a driver for people to move to the area, and should be highlighted.

We need more sidewalks then bicycle paths. People on bikes should have licenses to help pay for the upkeep and building of paths . Our population is aging and in certain areas there are no sidewalks , with age come walking aides and wheelchairs and we are not prepared for this.

change to:....a desirable place to live AND WALK

Improve walking areas (wider)

OTHER x1

move people working on road

OTHER

[Vision Statement Comments] x49

POSITIVE x4

vision statement – impressive

No it's fine

No this is excellent

I can't improve that. :)

NEGATIVE x2

Just words on paper

This vision statement is meaningless bureaucratic bafflegab and includes everything but reliable garbage removal. A vision statement is not needed; we, the citizenry, overdose on vision statements from bombastic political candidates every municipal election.

LENGTH x6

To much in a vision statement

Too long! Condense to 5 lines."As we achieve..." needs work.

it is a little wordy. Perhaps it could be simplified.

I think this vision statement is a bit too long and could be a little bit shorter and more succinct.

Needs to be shorter, specific, meaningful, memorable.

Too long. Needs to be more succinct. A vision statement is the "big dream". It is not a place to include descriptions or rationals. eg a desirable place to live and an integral member of a larger region.

GENERIC x8

I guess for a vision it is ok, I like specifics

Replace pablum with a practical vision. Is there any community in BC this vision statement couldn't belong to?

Suggestion would be to shorten this to a 20-30 word statement that expresses an actual vision. This is kind of an everything for everyone statement and there is very little here to guide sound decision making.

The statement is far too general to provide any direction or guidance for developing a community plan. As it stands, the "Vision" is just some nice words that would apply to any community. Why isn't this apparent to the City management?

The vision statement is so generic that it sounds like a horoscope; it makes sure to include absolutely everything to the point that it becomes generic, not specific. A short, succinct vision would connect more with people, even if it left some of the above points out (like, 75% of them!)

There is nothing in this vision that describes "how" anything is to be done. The "how" is important.

I find Esquimalt nice enough, but unfocused and the vision reflects this. It's quite wordy, too much "everything to everybody". What are responsible economic opportunities? You've also repeated diversity twice.

Seems a little awkward with 'responsible' twice. 'Vision Statements' are one 'feel good' words & they are there.

STRUCTURE x8

- You don't give history/background in a vision statement. The whole first paragraph is pretty much useless. - You could use the second paragraph as a sort of "this is where we want to see our community" and use the first paragraph as a "and this is how we'll get there".

It's good, but perhaps in my opinion too wordy, I like vision statements that are short and succinct, ones with a short anchor statement that can be remembered easily and resonate with all.

It seems too long and tries to build too much in. Many of the items in the 2nd paragraph, for example, should just be natural consequences of what comes in the first paragraph. Many are also ambiguous with many meanings to different people.

The Vision currently sounds like a statement of what is. "If you don't know where you are going, you'll end up someplace else." The "Vision is the dream", the type of statement that answers the questions "where are we going" and "what can we achieve?" ...how ..."Esquimalt" ... will be different because of the change? Think of significant changes in

Esquimalt from 1995 to 2015. What's different here in Esquimalt - what do we have less of, more of, what is the same, what are good changes and not so good. Now think of 2035. What, if anything, do we want different?

What will Esquimalt look like in 2045? The vision is the dream, the type of statement that answers the questions "where are we going" and "what can we achieve?" ...how the world ..."Esquimalt"... will be different because of the change? The Township of Esquimalt is located in the centre of one of the best places in the world - with an incredible location surrounded by water, climate, assets, people, history, 2 major businesses with growing sports & rec, arts and cultural.

I don't find that the vision is well described. You start with the fact that esquimalt is a diverse community, but this is not a vision this is a fact like most of the places in Canada. I would remove the facts and introduce them such as "because..."All together I would focus more on the key points such as Enabling community involvement in the decisions making, communicate to the residents what is happening in Esquimalt and request for their inputs. Develop services and programs to address the diverse population...Health wellness and activities development is great. In terms of economic development it would be great to have a economic development plan, what is the ambition? A new coffee shop that close late a technologic park? I think the economic vision should be something that is more elaborate.

This is not a vision statement. Can't use vision in this sense when describing vision. A vision should be phrased as Esquimalt "will". What you have offered is instead a statement or fact. What do you want to be? versus what you think you already are.

Perhaps show some examples of how the various parts of the community are enhanced as Esquimalt achieves its vision.

MISSING x5

Something describing the small town feel and great community pride that is here

Your vision makes it sound like we all spend our days making decisions. Can't we talk about rainbow kitchen, history, marine research, or other interesting aspects? "The arts" - do we? Change "the vision" to "our vision"

the rights thoughts are there, but there is still that lingering reputation that we do not seem to be able to escape.

i think we are missing the change element. This seems status quo. We need to envision what our future should look like in 30 years if we described it today. Current vision feels like continue as-is is fine. Consider adding. To protect and enhance the Town's livability. For the Township of Esquimalt to be the most appealing, livable, and well-managed community in Canada.

Inclusion of language specific to food security

REVISIONS x15

Make shorter "Esquimalt is a diverse community, we strive to enhance our west coast lifestyle, through enhancing responsible economic responsibilities, embracing sports, culture and the arts.. embrace our cultural heritage and foster our diversity."

To add: "We seek to strengthen connections among our neighbours and foster a sense of belonging and community pride. We help to support those among us in need. We strive toward beautification of our homes, gardens, parks, and streets. We wish to preserve our

small town identity, our "human scale" in new construction, and our sense of being a group that identifies as unique from the rest of Victoria."

"Esquimalt is a diverse thriving community within the Greater Victoria region. We have strong community participation in and support for local festivals, arts and recreation opportunities. As a community we work together to enhance our quality of life, cultural heritage and natural environment."

More plain language: "Esquimalt is a diverse and great community to live in, and an active member of a larger region. We encourage the community's participation in meaningful consultation to help us make open and responsible decisions. We enhance responsible economic opportunities, and embrace sport, recreation, the arts and Esquimalt's west coast lifestyle. As we achieve the vision, we foster our diversity; enhance our quality of life; revitalize our community; enjoy health and safety; build upon our cultural heritage; and protect our natural environment."

"...community participation and consultation to (ensure) open (collaborative and progressive) decision making. We enhance responsible (and innovative) economic (and environmental) opportunities and... As we achieve the vision, we (improve) our quality of life; protect our natural environment and foster our diversity (and resiliency)."

Reword the vision based on the person - not the municipality. "We envision a diverse community which embraces sports, recreation, the arts and the west coast lifestyle. The community is a desirable place to live and do business in. The municipality is an integral member of the capital region and encourages meaningful community participation and consultation to provide open and responsible decision making. To achieve the vision - we will focus on enhancing quality of life, protecting health and safety, building on our cultural heritage, stewarding our natural environment and fostering diversity"

Esquimalt is a fairly well-managed and socially successful municipality that wishes, nonetheless, to sharpen its unique identity and significantly improve its community identity by strengthening its character and its sense of place. Within a ten-year time frame, starting in 2016, the municipality intends to manage the creation of a distinctive, welcoming town centre; and to put policies and incentives in place that will transform and beautify Esquimalt Road (both the public realm and abutting land use) from the Victoria West border to Admirals Road and beyond. We intend as well, within the same time-frame, to prepare and implement a world-class land use vision for our own coastal landholdings and other coastal landholdings over which we may be able to exert influence. Through all of the above, we hope to improve quality of life and the community experience in Esquimalt.

Vision: 1. Maintain Esquimalt so that it is no better or worse in 2045 2. Esquimalt will be the best town in Canada in which to live, raise a family, visit and grow a business. Our town will be renowned for its safe neighborhoods, vibrant economy, excellence and customer service.

The community of Esquimalt is largely well-established and values the region for its close proximity to downtown, parks, ocean and amenities. Our green space is important to us and we insist on the protection of our natural environment, knowing it is truly one of the most valuable assets we have in a community that is often under-appreciated by others. Our growing sport, health, art and cultural reputation is also vital to our on-going resiliency and future success.

Change this sentence to; "We encourage and support responsible economic opportunities

and embrace sports, recreation, the arts, the west coast lifestyle and well being.”

More emphasis on economic opportunities and perhaps some explanation of what a "west coast lifestyle" actually is. We support and stimulate responsible economic opportunities and innovation, and embrace sport, recreation, the arts and west-coast lifestyle balancing nature with everyday urban needs.

Overall it's a pretty good vision statement. I'd like to see some wording changes to make it a bit clearer - i.e. 'responsible' economic opportunities? what does that mean? I'd modify it to be 'equitable and environmentally-responsible' economic opportunities. And what is the 'west coast lifestyle'? That seems a bit meaningless to me.

“Esquimalt is a diverse community with considerable potential for becoming one of the most desirable places to live in the South Vancouver Island. Esquimalt residents appreciate the simple approach to living and communicating “

I hate vision statements. They have a way of obscuring, watering down meaning, due to their interpretative nature. And they only speak to the bureaucracy, they don't reflect the humanity. How's about something more like: We've got an awesome rec centre. Bike lanes on all our major arteries. Some of the best parks on the island. A church. A mosque. Funky old neighborhoods. A pirate parade. People are nice here. Some amazing people live in the area. All kinds of people. Seniors, families, freelance artists. We care about all of these things. The only thing we're really missing is a centralized venue, a theatre [outdoor or indoor]. And let's not go cheap on the trees lining the streets.

Continued promotion of Esquimalt as a wonderful community in which to abode, work and visit to experience our unique diversity, close knit sense of community and uniquely modern festivals and events.

[Miscellaneous]

Stop pretending that Esquimalt can match Victoria or Saanich. Drop this E-Town crap.

1. allow Japanese to develop traditional "tea" servings in the Japanese Gardens
2. enforce by laws for off leash dogs and poops as well as damage to lawns and gardens.
3. all missives to the people that are in charge be answered
4. hire more people for workers in the parks; preferably women
5. there is a need to develop more gatherings similar to Rib Fest

We are a great community lead by idiots who decide to plant flowers in the middle of roads instead of adding another lane.

I paid for my own kleats from babysitting money to play soccer. I caught the bus with my bestfriend grade 8.

Yes, all of the new art put up in Esquimalt is first nation art, I would love to see more European and old Canadian art put up. Remembrance to the pioneers who first settled Esquimalt and the early sailors who made our community what it is.

GOVERNANCE

My main suggestion is that town decision makers (elected and otherwise) live up to the meaning of the above statement. Unfortunately my recent experiences tell me that it is largely a feel-good exercise in generating boiler plate.

The statement is fine if you do it. I have seen city council make myopic decisions that don't reflect Esquimalt's role in the larger region. It is silly to try and imagine Esquimalt as a stand alone entity apart from the city of Victoria. It's greatest value is its proximity to and

access to the amenities of Victoria. Also, I can't see a noticeable impact of Esquimalt creating economic opportunities. But it's a lovely place to live that allows unfettered access to jobs and arts and clubs and gyms and restaurants and art, etc... in Victoria

Despite many previous planning processes, we lack a comprehensive and politically supported vision for our future. creating a coherent vision is the first step in enabling coordination and cooperation between stakeholders, and until such a vision is in place, efforts to remake the area will suffer for a lack of dialogue with a bigger picture of what's possible. A vision is necessary to coordinate the political and financial will that will be necessary for achieving Esquimalt's potential.

I'm unsure what steps are being done to make this vision a reality.

The community vision statement is fine, it is the lack of adherence to it that I take umbrage with. The "Terms of Reference" in some municipal committees have been changed over the years, tightened up and have become just a "blue print" for Volunteers in municipal committees to follow, and support council policy only. This defeats the purpose of community participation as it greatly restricts the input of committee members in offering their knowledge and expertise for the benefit to the Township. It is insulting to force volunteers to adhere to such constricting terms, being treated as if they were municipal staff, which they are clearly not! The Mayor should have known better when she implemented the changing of the Terms of Reference in these committees. Where was the community input for these changes?The optics are bad.

while the vision "say" consultation, and the council appears to listen, my observation that the suggestions being made are not often reflected in the resultant actions. Moreover, there is poor communication between from the council staff to a person with a community-originated suggestion or question.

Building townhouses connecting to the entrance of a park does not protect the natural environment. We the residents do not feel that our consultation was taken seriously by council and there needs to be more input by the public at the end of the agenda items ...not just two minutes when the developers get 20 to 1/2 hour.