

Put all our eggs in amalgamation basket

Re: “Esquimalt eyes eggs equality, with view to sales,” Aug. 30.

The story is one more example of why amalgamation of several Victoria-area municipalities should be on the provincial government’s menu.

So Esquimalt and Victoria have different rules around the sale of eggs produced by backyard chickens. So now Esquimalt is going to have staff investigate, and then report, on its animal management bylaw about whether egg sales should be allowed. Meanwhile, one street over in Victoria, the neighbour can sell their chickens’ eggs at farmers’ markets and to restaurants. Those Victoria chicken owners really know their birds.

Beyond the cost and time spent to have staff come up with an answer palatable to council, the trivial question raises the question: Wouldn’t one rulebook, i.e. municipal bylaws, work in Victoria, Esquimalt, View Royal, Oak Bay and Saanich? Would not one set of rules make living and working in the region more seamless, cost-effective and easier?

Yet some believe that putting all the eggs in one basket is a bad idea.

Shannon Moneo

Sooke