The Change I Want To See

By Valina Zanetti

The Harbour City
could be so much more...
If our emissions are cut off at the core.

If the town had more trees up than down,
and old stores weren't left to create ghost towns.

If we could walk along the harbour at night
without receiving a creepy invite,
and if people learned to not get uptight
when a person who is wearing "revealing" clothes is in sight.

If we could stop prejudice
against folks from across the seas,
and if we can stop judging people by the colour of their skin.
Racism shouldn't be.

If we could see homelessness as
a broken system's greed-
funding could be moved
to help these humans shine and succeed.

If we could see someone and not assume their gender.
We can do it!
Everyone just needs to work together.

If we make these changes in stone,
Nanaimo will be beautiful and kind for when my children are grown.