



# Chiyáxw Child and Family Law Project

## Fact Sheet #3 – January Info Sessions

### Squamish Nation Members’ Recommendations for Change March ‘22 – January ‘23

To reflect Squamish culture, values, and worldview, the Chiyáxw project is engaging members in recommending: how the Chiyáxw (Nation Law) will be defined; the new policies that will be considered and how best Chiyáxw will support Nation children, youth, and families. The project continues to seek member recommendations for change over a two (2) year period from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2024. Over the past 9 months the project team and three Advisory Groups have engaged over 800 members and held over 50 meetings.

### Results of the January 2023 Public Meetings

Public meetings were held on January 19<sup>th</sup> in Squamish Valley (producing 76 recommendations) and January 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Chief Joe Mathias Center in West Vancouver (producing 129 recommendations). The recommendations were grouped into 6 similar response areas. Each of the 6 recommendations will become part of the formation for our Chiyáxw under direction of membership.

### Recommendations by Members (numbers in parentheses indicate # of similar responses at info sessions)

<b>Skwxwú7mesh culture to be the foundation for Chiyáxw (67)</b>
BC government / MCFD involvement in Nation childcare will end.
Chiyáxw will define child safety.
Decisions on safety of a child will always be made by the family.
<b>Continue and expand parenting services (39)</b>
To all Nation families for all age groups; incl. direct, online, and off-reserve family parenting services.
<b>Establish healing centers and healing support services (38)</b>
In Squamish, North Shore, and off-reserve connection (direct services and online).
<b>Create safe homes for children and housing for families &amp; children (26)</b>
Child placements with approved Nation families.
Housing for all ages and types.
<b>Delivery of services and how staff will work with families (25)</b>
Staff to “listen- listen and listen”; develop respectful relations with family, understand the unique parent, youth, child, or family need; then facilitate and assist with supports the family needs.
<b>Services to off-reserve member families (10)</b>
Assign Chiyáxw staff for off-reserve visits and supports, with a 24/7 service support line.
Expand online Chiyáxw to include web resources and virtual communications for all membership.

#### Ways to become engaged.

- Take our survey for Families with children in care or previously in care at [www.squamish.net/chiyaxw](http://www.squamish.net/chiyaxw)
- Request a family meeting.
- Share an experience or story.
- Volunteer to share (video recording).
- Request a nine (9) month engagement report