



Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw
Squamish Nation

January
February
March
April
May
June
July
August
September
October
November
December

2020
Quarterly Report
from Council



Contents

Councillor Joyce Williams Appointed Co-Chair of Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative Society Board: [Page 3](#)

Squamish Nation to Review Impact of Bill 41 and Alignment with the UN Declaration: [Page 3](#)

Siyich'em Reserve/Eagle Viewing Dike Master Plan Approved: [Page 4](#)

Squamish Nation to Explore Temporary Modular Housing: [Page 5](#)

Squamish Nation Trustees Appointment and Development of a Trust Appointment Policy: [Page 5](#)

Community Member Relief Program Phase 2 Update: [Page 6](#)

Special Distribution Update: [Page 8](#)

Mortenson Property to be Added to Stawamus Reserve: [Page 8](#)

Squamish Nation Council Meeting Attendance: [Page 9](#)

Squamish Nation Council Motions and Band Council Resolutions: [Page 10](#)

Councillor Joyce Williams Appointed Co-Chair of Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative Society Board

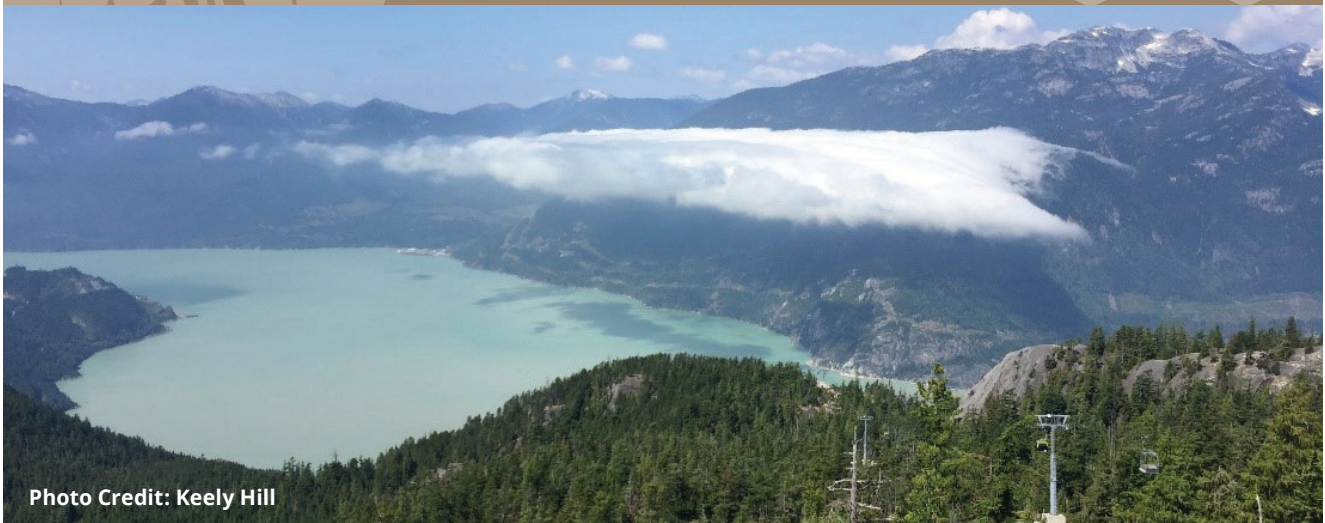


Photo Credit: Keely Hill

On October 1, 2020, Squamish Nation Council confirmed its support for the Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative Society (HSBRIS) bylaw amendment, which required a member of the Squamish Nation to sit as Co-Chair on the HSBRIS Board. Council is pleased to announce the appointment of Councillor Joyce Williams as the Nation’s representative for this role.

In 2019, Council voted in favour of supporting the Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative, pending a technical review by the Rights & Title Committee and Squamish Nation staff. A letter of

support drafted by the Rights & Title Department confirmed that the initiative will not affect the Nation’s rights and title interest in its territory, reconciliation processes, or decisions regarding land and/or resources, and that the Biosphere Region designation is underpinned by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (the UN Declaration).

The Nation is excited to be a part of this important initiative, and looks forward to helping steer it towards success.

Squamish Nation to Review Impact of Bill 41 and Alignment with the UN Declaration

On October 1, 2020, Squamish Nation Council requested that the Rights & Title Department work with legal advisors Miller Titerle + Co to review the opportunities and impact resulting from the provincial government passing legislation to implement the United Nations Declaration of Rights of Indigenous People (the UN Declaration).

In 2019, the Squamish Nation endorsed the *Declaration on the Rights of the Indigenous Peoples Act* (Bill 41), which was introduced by the Province of B.C. the same year. The adoption of Bill 41 will fundamentally change how Nation departments, programs, and staff interact with the provincial government. The work that Council has asked the Rights & Title Department and Miller Titerle + Co to do will provide the Nation with the knowledge needed to make the renewed collaboration and relationship successful.

The UN Declaration emphasizes the Indigenous peoples' rights to live in dignity, to maintain and strengthen Indigenous institutions, cultures and traditions, and to pursue self-determined development, in keeping with Indigenous needs and aspirations. The Squamish Nation supports the UN Declaration being implemented by all levels of government.

Siyich'em Reserve/Eagle Viewing Dike Master Plan Approved



Photo Credit: District of Squamish

On November 12, 2020, Squamish Nation staff and consultants presented Council with the final version of the Siyich'em Reserve/Eagle Viewing Area Dike Master Plan (the Plan). Squamish Nation Council approved the Plan and directed staff to work with the District of Squamish to implement it.

The dike will be constructed on a new alignment northwest from Siyich'em Reserve 30 metres from the active Squamish River bank, and will connect to the existing dike at Fisherman's Park. This will allow the Nation to recapture lost reserve lands.

While the new dike alignment will partially disconnect a large, forested gravel bar island from the Squamish River, some connection will be maintained through a fish-friendly pump station at the outlet of Jimmy Jimmy (Judd) Slough.

As part of a separate ongoing project, the District of Squamish and Squamish Nation are planning to reconnect the upper end of Jimmy Jimmy (Judd) Slough with the Squamish River using a new culvert and gate system to improve water quality and aquatic habitat. More information will be shared with the community as it becomes available.

Squamish Nation to Explore Temporary Modular Housing

On November 12, 2020, Squamish Nation Council directed Nation staff and the Hi'yám Housing Society to explore the development and management of a modular housing project. They have been asked to gather information on potential on-reserve locations, as well as construction and operational funding requirements.

Temporary modular housing can be built quickly and has the potential to provide immediate relief to Nation members who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. This project is aligned with the

Squamish Nation Strategic Plan to work towards every Skwxwú7mesh being housed within a generation (defined as 25 years).

Hi'yám Housing Society and Nation staff will present their initial findings to Council in spring 2021 and more information will be shared with the community after the details have been reviewed. If a project is approved to move forward, the Nation would apply for funding under the federal government's new Rapid Housing Initiative.

Squamish Nation Trustees Appointment and Development of a Trust Appointment Policy

On December 3, 2020, Squamish Nation Council reappointed Bradley Raymond Baker – Tsúnumut, and Kathleen Smith – Súseliya, as Trustees of the Squamish Nation Trust. Their term ends September 30, 2024.

They are two of the four Trustees. Tyler Baker and Chief Leanne Joe – Sxwpilemaat Si'yám are appointed from December 11, 2018 to September 30, 2022. Lisa Peterson is appointed as an alternate for the same period, in the event that one of them is no longer able to be a Trustee.

On December 3, 2020, Council also requested that staff develop a Squamish Nation Trust Appointment Policy to assist in the following:

- Application process;
- Selection process;
- Selection criteria;
- Scoring method;
- Vacancy process;
- Policy review schedules; and
- Any other relevant areas of the Squamish Nation Trust as per the Trust Agreement.

Staff will provide Council with a draft Trust Appointment Policy for consideration in summer 2021 and more information will be shared when available.

The Squamish Nation Trust was established in 2001 as a result of the Kitsilano Court Case settlement. The original settlement of \$92.5 million was given to the Nation through an arm's-length trust fund. Council is responsible for appointing four Trustees on staggered four-year terms. The four Nation Trustees and an Administrative Trustee are responsible for making decisions in the best interest of the Squamish People and managing the investments of the Trust.

Community Member Relief Program Phase 2 Update



Photo Credit: District of Squamish

On December 10, 2020, Squamish Nation Council approved a \$1.2 million needs-based proposal for Phase 2 of the COVID-19 Community Member Relief Program. Phase 2 focuses on the urgent support and enhanced services needed to keep Elders and most vulnerable members, both on and off-reserve, safe during the pandemic. It also prioritizes areas highlighted by membership in the September 2020 COVID-19 Needs Assessment Survey.

The Nation submitted the \$1.2 million funding proposal to Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) in late 2020, which is intended to provide support for all on and off-reserve members in areas such as:

- Support for Elders;
- Food insecurity;
- Educational and other support for children and youth;
- Mental health assistance and emergency response services (homelessness); and
- Preparedness measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The Community Relief Planning Committee (the Committee) has identified projects in the proposal that could begin immediately. If any of those projects are awarded funding through the proposal, the Committee will meet to reallocate the funds to the other projects.

To prepare the budgets for the proposal, the Committee considered multiple factors including:

- How members on and off-reserve accessed the supports in Phase 1;
- How to make projects inclusive to members both on and off-reserve within travel distance; and
- Targeted supports specifically for off-reserve members.

On April 16, 2020, Council approved the Community Member Relief Program developed by the Committee. Through the beginning of 2020 the Nation received approximately \$1.6 million in funding for pandemic relief. The majority (\$1.49 million) came from ISC with the balance

from generous donations. In addition, Council contributed \$245,000 from their budget to assist Member Services with relief funding.

Phase 1 of the Community Member Relief Program allocated \$1.3 million to projects that supported Members both on and off-reserve through:

- Elder support,
- cleaning supplies and masks etc.,
- meal programs,
- wellness check ins,
- community deliveries,
- assistance with utilities and rent,
- food security,
- emergency shelter for those who have to self-isolate and the homeless,
- emergency operations centre management,
- educational and other support for children and youth,
- virtual community healing,
- and tax preparation for Elders and income assistance.

From June through to September 2020, the Committee met bi-weekly to assess the needs of the community and allocate the remaining funds. The Community Member Relief Program has and will continue to provide support during the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure the health, safety, security and economic well-being of Sk̓w̓x̓ wú7mesh people and the effective functioning of the Squamish Nation government.

The Nation continues to provide emergency financial support to members in crisis. Members are encouraged to contact 604-982-7610 and request to speak with an intake officer, if they require assistance.

They can also call the Member Services Department to receive emergency assistance and care while isolating due to COVID-19 at 604-982-7610 during office hours or 604-505-3776 after hours.

Special Distribution Update

On December 17, 2020, Squamish Nation Council passed a motion approving distribution of \$1.3 million to the community. Each member will receive approximately \$320 in February 2021.

This special distribution is a share of the one-time payment Squamish Nation received for back-rent relating to a Department of Environment lease. Council supported this special distribution, as recommended by the Finance & Audit Committee. These additional funds are intended to ease some of the burdens from this particularly challenging year.

Mortenson Property to be Added to Stawamus Reserve

On December 17, 2020, Squamish Nation Council approved the purchase and sale of the Mortenson Property so that it can be added to Stawamus Indian Reserve No. 24 in Squamish Valley. Council Co-chairs, Kristin Rivers – Tiyáltelut, and Joshua Joseph – Skwetsi7meltxw, were authorized to sign the agreement on behalf of Squamish Nation.

The Mortenson Property (about 21.62 acres of land) is held by Squamish Nation Land Holdings Ltd., which is owned and controlled by the Squamish Nation. A second Band Council Resolution on December 17, 2020 approved that the property be added to Stawamus Reserve.



Squamish Nation Council Meeting Attendance

Total meetings with attendance recorded (duly convened)* October to December 2020: 10

Councillor	Present	Absent	Absent Dates**
Askew, Orene	10	0	
Baker, Alroy	1.5	8.5	October 1, 8, 22, 29 November 12, 19, 26 December 10, 17 (0.5)
Baker, Deborah	9	1	November 12 (0.5), 26 (0.5)
Baker, Richie	2	8	October 1 (0.5), 8 (0.5), 22, 29 November 12, 19, 26 December 3 (0.5), 10 (0.5), 17
Campbell, Chief Ian	5.5	4.5	October 1, 29 (0.5) November 12 (0.5), 26 December 10 (0.5), 17
Darbyshire-Joseph, Brandon	6	4	November 26 December 3, 10, 17
George, Carla	6.5	3.5	October 22 (0.5) December 3, 10, 17
Joseph, Joshua	9	1	December 17
Lewis, Chris	9	1	October 8 (0.5) November 26 (0.5)
Lewis, Deanna	8	2	October 22 (0.5), 29 (0.5) November 19
Lewis III, Jacob	9.5	0.5	December 3 (0.5)
Rivers, Dustin	9.5	0.5	November 26 (0.5)
Rivers, Kristen	10	0	
Williams, Joyce	8	2	October 29 November 26
Williams, Wilson	6.5	3.5	October 1, 22 (0.5) November 19 December 3
Wooden, Marcus	8	2	November 26 (0.5) December 3 (0.5), 10

*Does not include committee meetings, meetings off-site, or Council workshops at which a recording secretary was not present.

**Note: A partial meeting absence is recorded when a Councillor is absent for a significant portion of the meeting (i.e., if a Councillor arrives in the morning, leaves at 10:30 am and does not return until 3:00 pm). Partial meeting absences and absences in the morning or afternoon are counted as 0.5.

Squamish Nation Council Motions and Band Council Resolutions

Q4 - October to December 2020

Squamish Nation Members can view the complete isolated motions (containing additional details) online at www.squamish.net/members/records-of-decision-members-only

October

Date	Motion #	Topic
Oct. 1	1	Agenda
	2	Approval and Adoption of the record of decisions (Motions) – September 10, 2020
	3	Howe Sound Biosphere Reserve Nomination
	4	Endorsement of a Legal Review of 50 Key Provincial Statutes (Regulatory Frameworks) to Squamish Nation that are Impacted by the Implementation of Bill 41 & its Alignment with UNDRIP
	5	Expenditure Policy & Purchasing Policy
	6	Senakw Master Agreement – IN CAMERA under s. 1.22 (e) <i>the financial or economic interests of a third party</i> from the Council Governance Policy
Oct. 8	1	Agenda
	2	Approval and Adoption of the record of decisions (Motions) – September 17 and September 24, 2020
	3	Spokesperson Selection
	4	Emergency Response Team
	5	Request to amend the current Sport Fund Policy
	6	Nch'kay Rollover Update – IN CAMERA under s. 1.22(b) <i>employee relations</i> from the Council Governance Policy
	7	Intergovernmental Matter – IN CAMERA under s. 1.22(i) <i>sensitive intergovernmental negotiations or relations</i> from the Council Governance Policy
	8	Governance Policy Matters – IN CAMERA
Oct. 22	1	Agenda
	2	Approval and Adoption of the record of decisions (Motions) – October 1, 2020
	3	Hiyá'ín Housing Society Updates
	4	SN Trust Loan – ATR Loan Refinancing - IN CAMERA under s. 1.22(j) <i>sensitive financial or economic negotiations</i> from the Council Governance Policy
	5	Employment Matter – IN CAMERA under s. 1.22(b) <i>employee relations</i> from the Council Governance Policy

	6	New Brighton Dock - IN CAMERA under s. 1.22(j) <i>sensitive financial or economic negotiations</i> from the Council Governance Policy
Oct. 29	1	Agenda
	2	Metro Vancouver – Update on Cleveland Dam incident
	3	Housing and Capital Projects Update – IN CAMERA under s. 1.22(f) <i>litigation or potential litigation affecting the Squamish Nation</i> from the Council Governance Policy
	4	Senakw Conditions – IN CAMERA under s. 1.22(j) <i>sensitive financial or economic negotiations</i> from the Council Governance Policy
	5	Member Concerns – IN CAMERA under s. 1.22(f) <i>litigation or potential litigation affecting the Squamish Nation</i> from the Council Governance Policy

November

Date	Motion #	Topic
Nov. 12	1	Agenda
	2	Approval and Adoption of the record of decisions (Motions) – October 8 and October 22, 2020
	3	North Shore Sea Level Rise Strategy
	4	Siyich'em Reserve/Eagle View Dike Master Plan
	5	Member Concerns – IN CAMERA under s. 1.22(f) <i>litigation or potential litigation affecting the Squamish Nation</i> from the Council Governance Policy
	6	SN Support for 2020-2021 Rapid Housing Initiative Funding
Nov. 19	1	Agenda
	2	Approval and Adoption of the record of decisions (Motions) – October 29, 2020
	3	Gateway Casinos & Entertainment Ltd Mortgage – IN CAMERA under s. 1.22(e) <i>the financial or economic interests of a third party</i> from the Council Governance Policy
	4	FortisBC Eagle Mountain Application to Amend Environmental Certificate – IN CAMERA under s. 1.22(i) <i>sensitive intergovernmental negotiations or relations</i> from the Council Governance Policy
	5	Acknowledgement of Jordan Olar
Nov. 26	1	Agenda
	2	Approval and Adoption of the record of decisions (Motions) – November 12, 2020
	3	District of Squamish Your Story, Our Community Project
	4	NVSD 44 Annual Report

	5	Appointment of Nch'kay Board Members
	6	Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre - Update

December

Date	Motion #	Topic
Dec. 3	1	Agenda
	2	Approval and Adoption of the record of decisions (Motions) – November 19 and November 26, 2020
	3	Squamish Nation Trust Appointments – IN CAMERA under s. 1.22(a) <i>personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position appointed by Chiefs and Council from the Council Governance Policy</i>
	4	Tenant Assignments – IN CAMERA under s. 1.22(a) <i>personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position appointed by Chiefs and Council from the Council Governance Policy</i>
	5	Respectful Workplace Policy – IN CAMERA under s. 1.22(b) <i>employee relations from the Council Governance Policy</i>
	6	FNCIDA Workshop
Dec. 10	1	Agenda
	2	Community Relief Plan Pt. 2
	3	Employee Matters - IN CAMERA under s. 1.22(b) <i>employee relations from the Council Governance Policy</i>
	4	Member Concerns – IN CAMERA under s. 1.22(g) <i>advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose from the Council Governance Policy</i>
	5	Travel and Trips Policy Review – IN CAMERA under s. 1.22(b) <i>employee relations from the Council Governance Policy</i>
	6	Mandate Letter for Managing Directors
Dec. 17	1	Agenda
	2	Special Distribution Update
	3	Financial Admin By-Law Amendment
	4	FNCIDA Mandate
	5	Update for Managing Directors on pandemic pay – IN CAMERA – under s. 1.22(b) <i>employee relations from the Council Governance Policy</i>
	6	Member Concerns – IN CAMERA under s. 1.22(g) <i>advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose from the Council Governance Policy</i>
	7	ATR RC Update

	8	ATR Loan Renewal – IN CAMERA – under s. 1.22(e) <i>the financial or economic interests of a third party</i> from the Council Governance Policy
	9	2020/2021 Q2 Financial Statement
	10	Support Trades and Training Centre



Stay Up-to-Date With Council’s Work

Are you interested in watching recorded Council meetings?

Squamish Nation members can watch recordings of Council meetings, which are uploaded to the Squamish Nation website within a few days of the meetings. Members can log in to the website and watch the recordings at www.squamish.net/livestream

Want to stay informed about the topics and issues discussed at Council meetings?

Squamish Nation members can access Council Agendas and Isolated Motions (Records of Decisions) on the website. Members can log in to the website and view Council Agendas from November 2018 onwards and Isolated Motions from December 2017 onwards at www.squamish.net/agendas

Are you experiencing issues when attempting to log in to the website?

If you are not able to log in to the website, please email communications@squamish.net for assistance with accessing the Members Only section of the Squamish Nation website. Communications staff will work with the website team to reset your password if you get locked out.



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Squamish Nation



Photo Credit: Regan Hately



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