

Looking Back at 2025: A Year in Review

Reflecting on 2025, the Nation focused on asserting our rights, collaboration and creating new opportunities for Skwxwú7mesh People. Here's a look at the highlights of 2025 as we move forward in our 25-year Uxwumixw 2050: Skwxwú7mesh Generational Plan.

January

Our Climate Legacy Strategy

The Squamish Nation's Climate Legacy Strategy launched and is shared in ceremony with community. The strategy outlines our vision to take meaningful action on climate change within our Aysáych (territory), to ensure a sustainable environment for future generations.

February

Memorable visit from the Duke and Duchess

The Duke and Duchess, Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, visited the Squamish Nation and met many community members at the Language Nest and at a small ceremony at CJMC.

April

MST Nations collaborate on Vancouver Housing

Vancouver City Council approved the ʔəyálməxʷ/Iyálmexw/Jericho Lands Official Development Plan. It's an important step toward developing the Vancouver site for the benefit of MST Nations' (Musqueam, Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh) Members. It marks an important return of Indigenous culture to the site.



March

Supporting Community Wellness with our New Yurt

The Yúsnewas Project, researching and documenting the residential school experiences of our people, team built a yurt to support their work and our community. It's located on Xwemelch'stn (Capilano reserve) and a dedicated place for truth telling, sharing circles, and other wellness support programming.

May

A Major Milestone for the Seńákw Project

The first Seńákw tower was completed in May on the south shore of Vancouver's False Creek. It's anticipated that tower one will begin welcoming residents to this rental community in early 2026. Seńákw took another step forward towards self-sufficiency in August when it restructured its partnership.

Incredible turnout for the Referendum Vote

A substantial number of Members voted for the Election and Referendum Law: a total of 899 people voted, including online and in-person ballots. Election Law changes include an increase to 16 Councillors, vote for all Councillors (remove the regions), only one immediate family member to be on Council, and a 5-minute speaking limit at People's Assembly meetings.



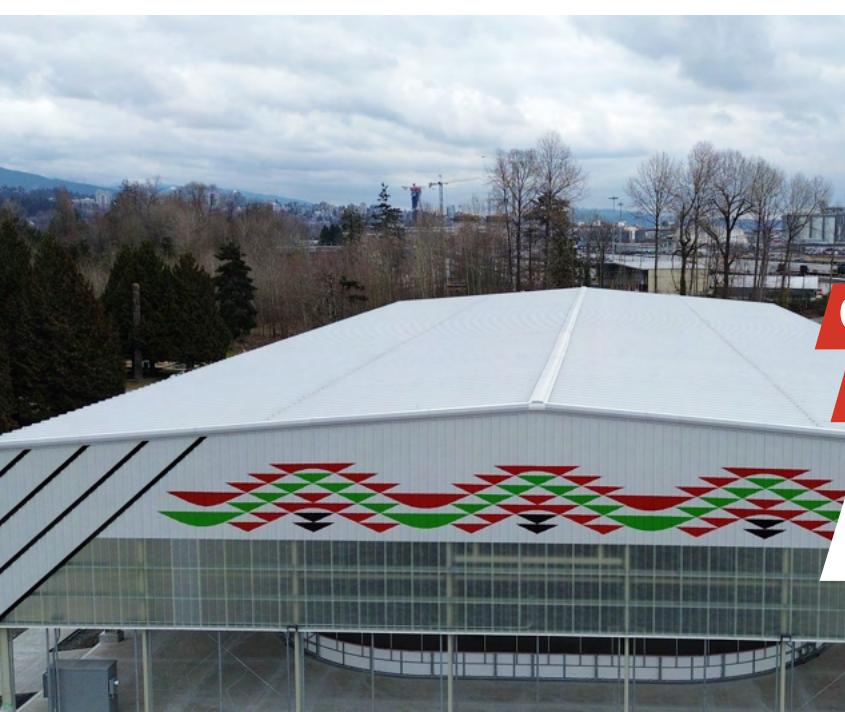
June

Grand Opening of Kw'eshk'w'shétsutáy (Playing Place)

The community celebrated our new recreation facility with a meal, cheering on the North Shore Indians, touring the facility, and recognizing community athletes. Kw'eshk'w'shétsutáy (Playing Place) is a multi-purpose recreation building that will be used for sports, community events, and much more.

Protecting our territory and cultural sites

The Nation signed a historic Land Use Agreement with the Province. The agreement guides forest stewardship and protects thousands of hectares of land including 33 new Siyámi (cultural sites), Sneáiyeh (cultural training areas), areas for fish and wildlife monitoring, and establishing six Special Cultural Management Areas.



July

2025 Housing List and Housing Allocations

We shared a new Housing List, reflecting changes and additions made over the last several years. Anyone who applied to the Housing List by April 2025 can see where their name is on the list. Council approved 15 new allocations of homes this year (2025/2026).

Celebrating 102 years since Amalgamation

On July 23, hundreds of community members gathered to celebrate our Nation's amalgamation and our strength that has grown from our amalgamation.



Get your runners & workout gear ready.

Kw'eshk'w'shétsutáy (Playing Place), the multipurpose recreation building, opened in June 2025 and is owned and run by the Nation.



Supporting Wellness in Community in the New Van

We launched People Services on Wheels (Wellness Van). Staff drive to communities in the North Shore and Squamish Valley providing harm-reduction supplies, emotional and mental health support, traditional medicines, referrals, and comfort items directly to our community members.

August

Asserting our Rights and Collaborating with the District of Squamish

The Squamish Nation and District of Squamish signed a groundbreaking Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), a significant step towards strengthening the relationship. It outlines a shared commitment to collaboration on issues including land stewardship, reconciliation, and joint decision-making.

*We welcomed our new council, chairperson and band manager in an Oath Signing Ceremony October 28.
Photo: Jozi Grant Photography*



September

Nch'kay Purchases North Vancouver's International Plaza

The Nch'kay' Development Corporation purchased the International Plaza located on Xwemelch'stn (Capilano reserve). There are 471 rental homes and over 65,000 square feet of commercial space. Nch'kay' is ensuring the site generates \$4.5 million annually for the Nation through land lease and property tax revenues.

Reporting the Findings from our Residential School Investigation

The Yúusnewas Project team updated community on the investigation into the Residential School experience of Squamish People at St. Paul's Indian Residential School. The presentation included sharing of land survey reports, Residential School records, and interviews with community members. The important work is ongoing.

Record Breaking Turnout for General Election Vote

There were 1,420 Squamish People who voted in the 2025 General Election including in-person and online ballots – representing 44% of the eligible voters. We elected a new chairperson (Sxwíxwtn Wilson Williams), 16 councillors and one band manager for the next four years. By returning to 16 elected councillors, it reflects the origins of our Nation when 16 families amalgamated in 1923.

October

North Shore Elders Centre Expansion

Construction began in October for the expanded North Shore Elders Centre. We are planning to welcome Elders back in the facility in late 2026 or early 2027.



November

Successful Annual General Meeting: Passing 19 Resolutions

We successfully reached a quorum on both days of the Annual General Meeting, including in-person and online attendees. All 19 resolutions passed and will come before Council in 2026.

December

Comprehensive Squamish Valley Community Plan: A Vision for the Future

The Squamish Valley Community Plan (also known as The Valley's Plan) is a 10-year plan for the Squamish Valley. The Plan was built on historical knowledge, decades of engagement, community priorities, and future needs. The first actions in the plan are expected to start in early 2026. It will inform Council's decisions and plans for the future of the Squamish Valley.

2026 Looking Forward

Celebrating and Honouring Community Athletes in January

Community members are invited to an event to honour Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw athletes on January 17 at the Chief Joe Mathias Centre. We'll recognize community athletes, coaches, teams, managers, and those who support our athletes.

Squamish Valley Health Facility Opening in 2026

Seachem Ha7lh skwalwnawtxw (Healthy Hub) on the Siyich'em reserve will begin serving our community members in early 2026. The Healthy Hub is a facility offering primary care services on-reserve in the Squamish Valley.

Our Constitution: First Draft in Spring 2026

During the past two years, project staff collected input from our community about what should be in our Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw Constitution. The Constitution Working Group is developing the first draft of our Constitution in the spring of 2026.