



Squamish Nation Budget Consultations

RESEARCH Co.

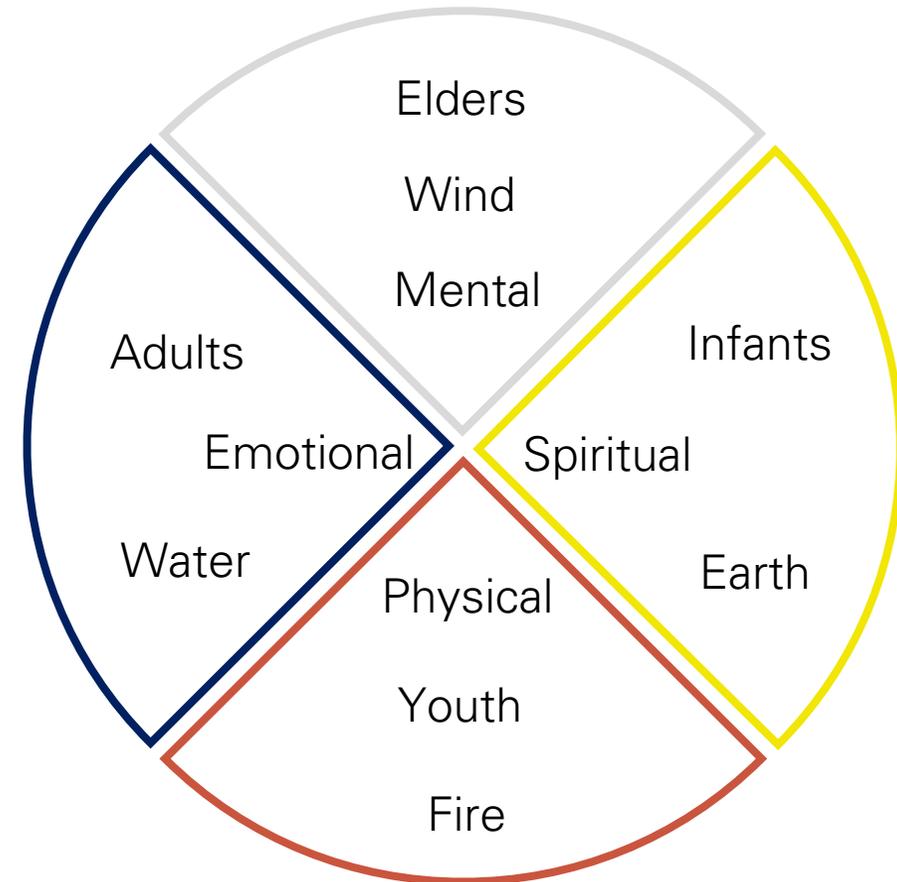


NOVEMBER 2022

Four Themes Emerged

As one Elder highlighted, much like the medicine wheel, there needs to be a balance found in how the action items are prioritized and budget spent.

As our research is qualitative in nature, and results are not ranked nor statistically significant, the following pages detail out the key themes of priorities for the budget that emerged from the consultation discussions.





Prioritizing Elders, the minds of Members, and harnessing wind-power

Elders

- Building long term care homes, assisted living homes, and Elders Centres for current and future Squamish Elders was a strong theme throughout all groups.
- Elders' centres built or upgraded.

Mental

- Hiring and electing more Squamish Nation Members that have completed post-secondary education and want to bring their skills back home.
- Increase transparency and accountability following Member consultations.
- Create learning opportunities to reduce microaggressions, racism, and lateral violence.

Wind

- Investigate wind-powered options for Squamish Valley for affordable, green power.



We have a lot of learned, lateral violence even within our community. We need to do better for our brothers and sisters. (Staff)





Addressing the needs of adults, emotional health, and protecting waters

Adults

- Build more affordable homes in Squamish Valley and North Shore to bring more people home to secure, safe, and affordable housing.
 - Reduce waitlist times for housing.
 - Ensuring access is equitable and prioritized based on need.

Emotional

- Building a healing centre in Squamish territory for trauma, treatment, and healing programs. Specific focuses mentioned include access to counsellors and doctors, healing using traditional teachings, navigating intergenerational trauma, drug and alcohol harm reduction.
- Create more opportunities for off-reserve Members to participate in and receive community experiences.

Water

- Provide clean-water access to all homes on-reserve.
- Protect marine habitats and fisheries, especially from over-touristing, boat traffic, LNG.



We have community in Nanaimo, and they were so grateful when we brought the fish. They said, "thank you for not forgetting us." (Elder)





Areas of focus for Youth, physical safety and security

Youth

- Increase living expense funding or near-campus housing for students going to post-secondary.
- Create more work and training opportunities for young people to return to the community, serve the people.
- Leverage trades program students to give-back to community and make improvements to reserve housing fallen into disrepair (plumbing, carpentry, etc.)

Physical

- Build more affordable homes in Squamish Valley and North Shore to bring more people home to secure, safe, and affordable housing.
 - Reduce waitlist times.
 - Ensuring access is equitable and prioritizes based on need.
- Crackdown on AirBnB rentals, trailers parked on reserve land, outsiders and those renting in yards of reserve homes (sanitary, health and safety risk, and costing Nation money in electricity).

Fire

- Creating an emergency and evacuation plan in case of fires or LNG disaster events.
- Take control of fire prevention burns within territory.



*Why aren't our young people coming back? Why don't they want to serve the community?
Something is broken. (Elder)*





Supporting Infants, the Earth and Spirituality

Infants

- Reclaim jurisdiction in child and family services, education, leveraging traditional Skwxwú7mesh teachings.
- Ensure there are enough daycare and early childcare education spots in-community available for children and families.

Spiritual

- Building a traditional or modern longhouse in Squamish Valley to create more opportunities for healing and gathering.

Earth

- Create a plan to rest the Stawamus Chief, as climbing campers are creating a noise disturbance and over-climbing is resulting in damage to the Stawamus Chief.
- Deal with illegal dumping and hunting in territories.

“ It’s been on hold too long. Our longhouse is our spirituality. Dance is medicine for the dancer, and everyone around them. (Elder) ”

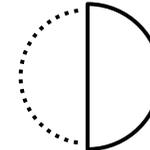
Going Forward with Governance



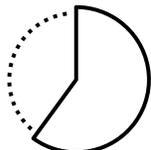
Greater transparency and accountability from S̓kw̓x̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw on the budget and following through on promises and decisions.



More respect and civility needed at Council meetings to increase participation.



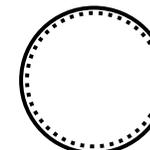
Remember Council and staff represent and work for Members; Members' needs come before Council Member agendas.



Elected officials need to spend more time in-community understanding who they represent.



Close the loop on consultations, share back learnings, and resulting actions taken.



Audit and right-size staff, Nch'kay, to reduce any excess spending that could go to community.