



Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumíxw

Squamish Nation

Chet wa í7sun

We Pull Together

Elder's Program Plan Implementation Project

***Dear esteemed Ta Síiyuxwa tl'a Skwxwú7meshulh
(The Elders of the Squamish People) and Squamish People,***

In 2024 we marked the completion of the Squamish Nation Wa í7imeshne'was chet (We Walk Together) Elder's Program Engagement Project. We heard from more than 400 Squamish Elders over two and a half years. This represented nearly 50% of the Elder population living in the Squamish Valley, on the North Shore, and Away-from-Home.

The project was grounded in deep care and love for the Elders and was guided by an incredible team of nominated Elders and Youth called Xwí7ski (meaning *Let's Go!*) as well as a Steering Committee and Planning Team. Engagement efforts included: surveys, workshops, community meetings, luncheons, home visits, phone calls, and participation in ceremonies, feasts, and outreach to Elders living Away-from-Home and in care facilities.

We thank you for continuing to share your voices as we put the Elder's Program Plan into Action!

August 2025

Implementation Project
Newsletter #2

What's in your newsletter

This newsletter details how we are moving our plan into action through the Elder's Program Plan Implementation Project.

You'll find updates on what we've recently completed.



**Elder's Program
Plan Priorities**



**Timeline of
Engagement
Activities**



**Putting our Plan
into Action!**



Recognition Awards



**3rd Annual Elder's
Open House**



Priorities

Chet wa í7sun (We Pull Together) *Elder's Program Plan*

THE PRIORITIES ELDERS SHARED INCLUDE:

COMMUNITY HEALING

Support grief and healing across generations, and land-based activities

REACH MORE ELDERS

Only 1 in 10 Elders are accessing the Elder's Program in the Squamish Valley and North Shore

IMPROVE TRANSPORTATION ACCESS

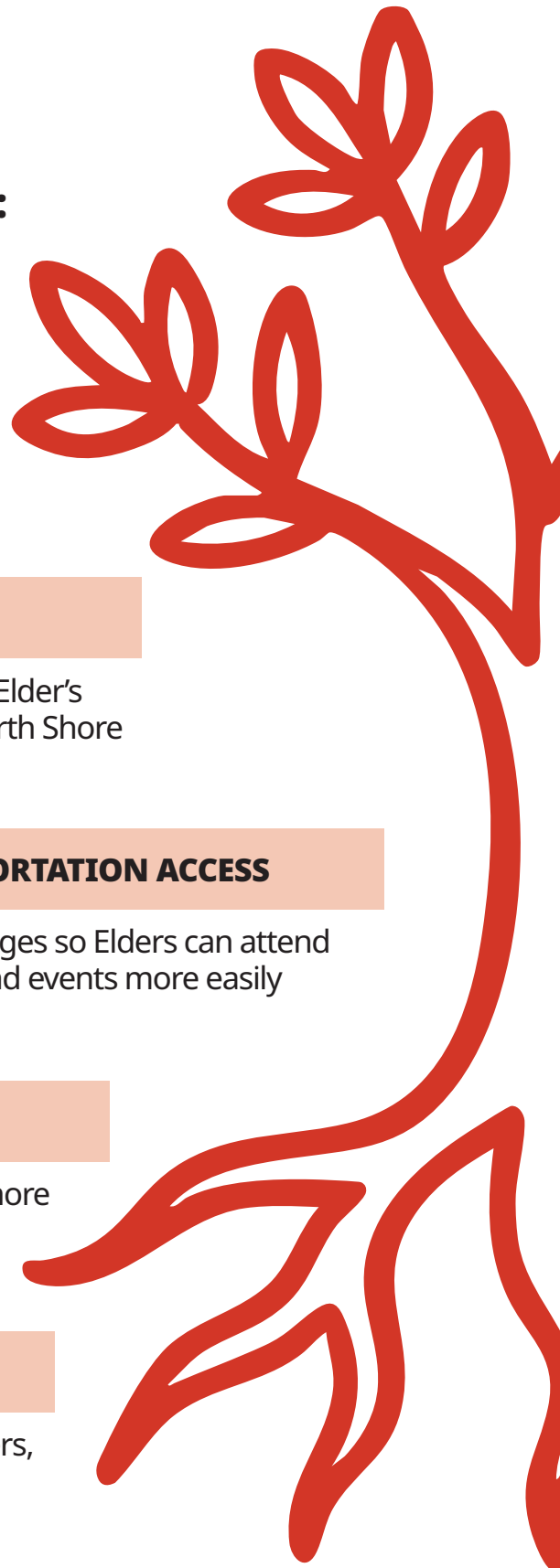
Help with mobility challenges so Elders can attend programs, services, and events more easily

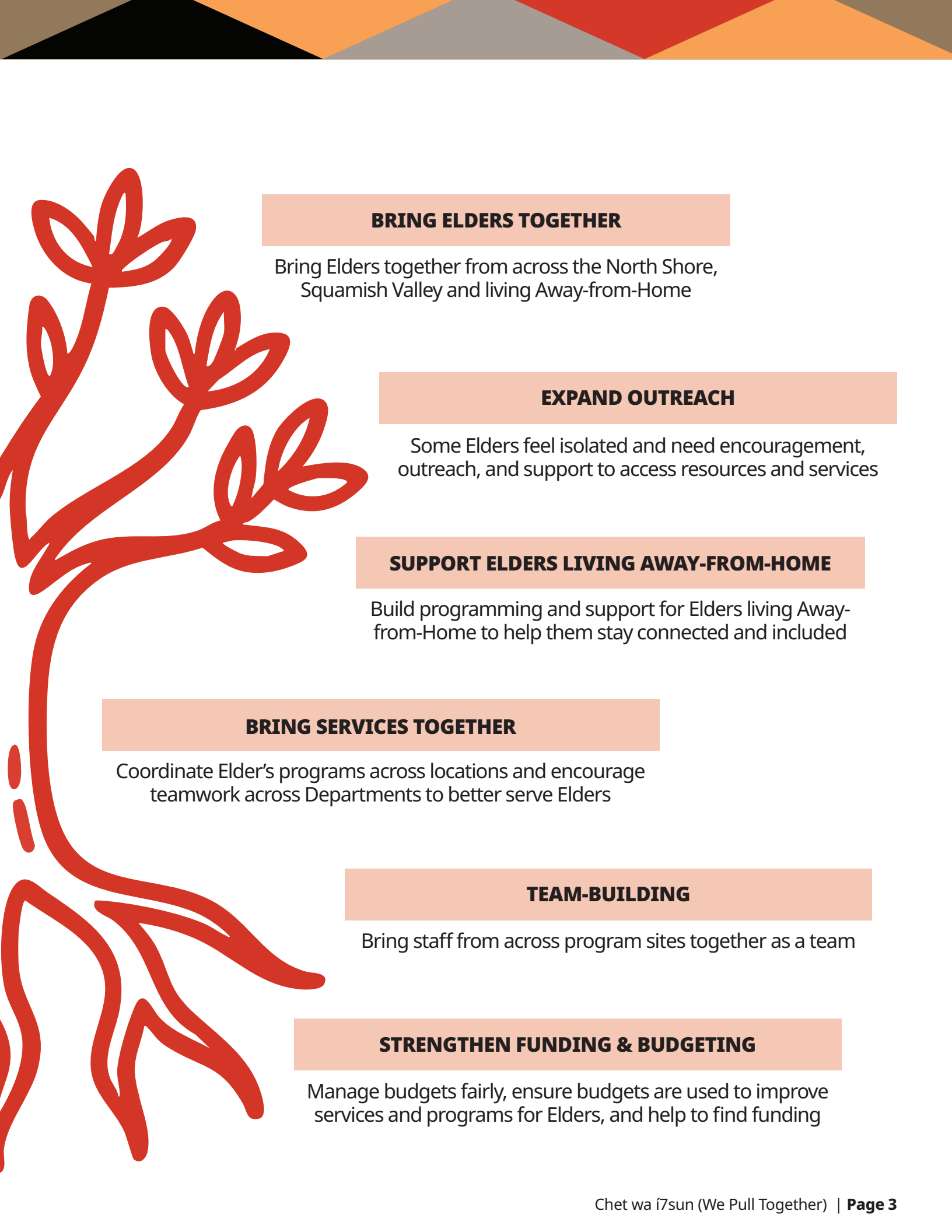
EXPAND THE PROGRAM

Staff to expand the Elder's Program with more activities and services

SYSTEMS CHANGE

Build Nation systems and structures dedicated to Elders, like an Elder's Department





BRING ELDERS TOGETHER

Bring Elders together from across the North Shore, Squamish Valley and living Away-from-Home

EXPAND OUTREACH

Some Elders feel isolated and need encouragement, outreach, and support to access resources and services

SUPPORT ELDERS LIVING AWAY-FROM-HOME

Build programming and support for Elders living Away-from-Home to help them stay connected and included

BRING SERVICES TOGETHER

Coordinate Elder's programs across locations and encourage teamwork across Departments to better serve Elders

TEAM-BUILDING

Bring staff from across program sites together as a team

STRENGTHEN FUNDING & BUDGETING

Manage budgets fairly, ensure budgets are used to improve services and programs for Elders, and help to find funding

IN JULY 2023 NEXWSXWNIWNTM TA UXWUMIXW (COUNCIL) EXPRESSED THEIR SUPPORT

Council endorsed the Elders’ vision and plan for the Elder’s Program including 13 Priority Initiatives that were most important to Elders to ensure everyone has access to the resources and opportunities they need to succeed, even if it requires different approaches for different people.

The Elder’s Program Plan continues to be a cornerstone of our Elder’s Program.

It charts a course for our community well-being.

PRIORITY INITIATIVES THAT COUNCIL IDENTIFIED:

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS	PROGRAM INITIATIVE EXPANSION
<div><div></div>Document a Plan for Respectful Relationships</div>	<div><div></div>Participatory Planning Process for Elders</div>
<div><div></div><div><div></div>Elder’s Healing and Grief Initiative</div><div><div></div>Learning from Our Elders Initiative (for children, youth, and families)</div><div><div></div>Elders-on-the-Land Initiative</div></div>	<div><div></div>Acknowledge Xwi7ski as the Elder’s Program Advisory Body</div>
<div><div></div><div><div></div>Elder’s Program Manager</div></div>	<div><div></div>Hire Elder’s Program Manager</div>
<div><div></div>Program Equity</div>	<div><div></div>Discussion paper on a Unified Elder’s Program and Possible Elder’s Department</div>
<div><div></div>Away-from-Home (off-Reserve) Satellite Elder’s Program</div>	<div><div></div>Elder’s Program Inter-Departmental Roles and Responsibilities Agreement</div>
<div><div></div>Elder’s Outreach Initiative</div>	<div><div></div>Elder’s Program Transportation and Staffing Needs Assessment</div>

IMPLEMENTING THESE INITIATIVES REQUIRES AN INVESTMENT IN:



Staffing, transportation
and infrastructure



Organizational
coordination/collaboration



Capacity building and Elder
mentorship pathways



Strategic interagency partnerships
rooted in Indigenous values



Program materials, cultural
resources, and honouraria



Fundraising



Stable, multi-year funding to
implement the Priority Initiatives





Our Plan into Action

Chet wa í7sun (We Pull Together) Elder's Program Plan

Since August 2023 we have been working together to move project planning forward for our priority areas as mandated by Council in their resolution:

**RESPECTFUL
RELATIONSHIPS**

**ACTION
PLANNING**

**PROGRAM
EQUITY**

**PROGRAM
INNOVATION
& EXPANSION**



RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

Through the Elder's Program planning process, Elders shared that they needed an agreement or code to make them feel more welcome in the Elder's Program. They wanted Squamish principles, teachings, and resources to support respectful relationships.


These relationships are between Elders participating in the Program and between Elders and Program staff.

DOCUMENT A PLAN FOR RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

When Council endorsed the Elder's Program Plan, they passed a resolution directing staff to create a document called *Our Plan for Respectful Relationships*.

Our Plan for Respectful Relationships was completed after a year of engagement.

The engagement included **lateral kindness** workshops, luncheons, and meetings with Elders, Elder's Program staff, Program Leads, and cultural advisors, and two ceremonies to endorse the Plan for Respectful Relationships in the Squamish Valley and North Shore.

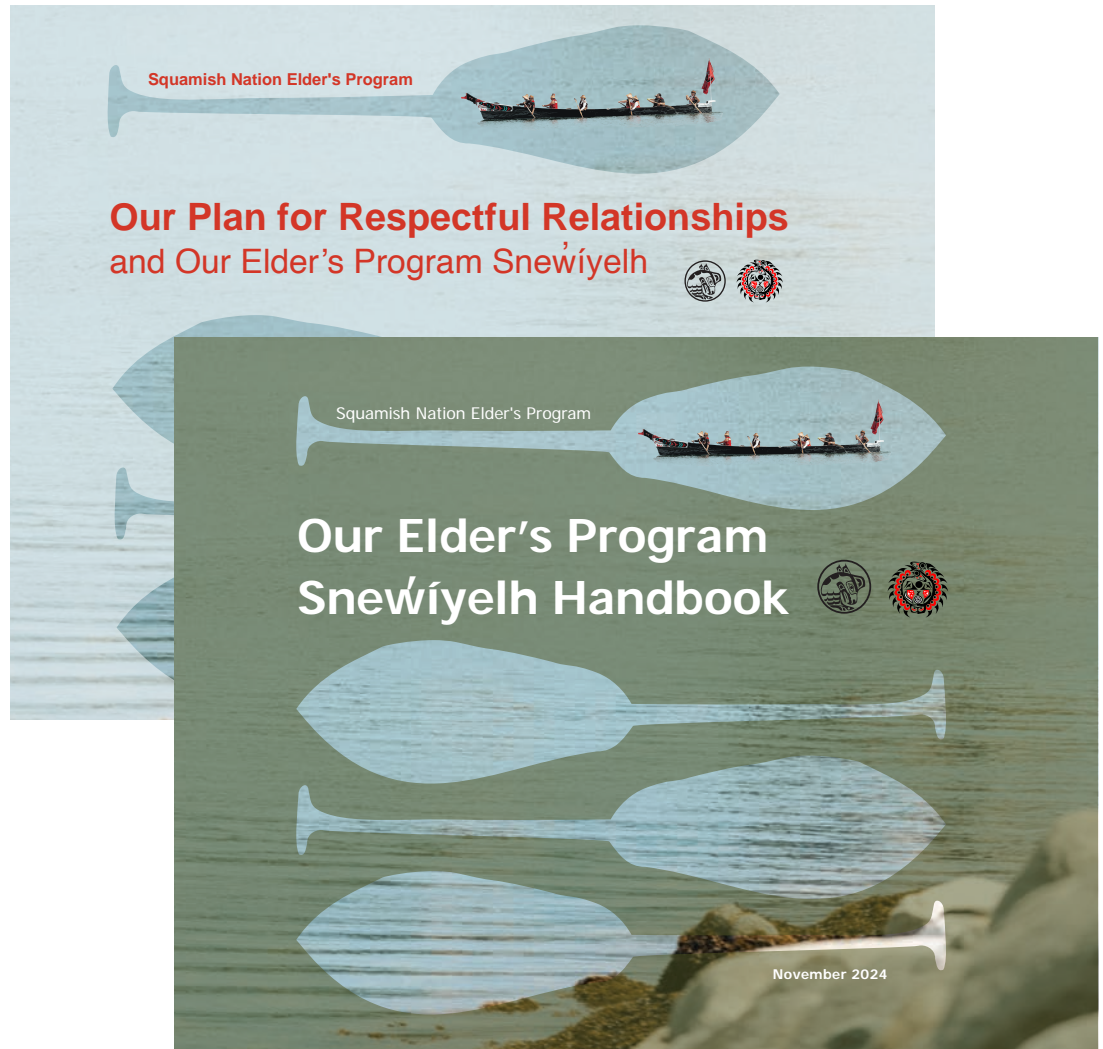


LATERAL KINDNESS is an idea rooted in Squamish values. It emphasizes building positive relationships and social harmony.

It is actively choosing to be kind, empathetic, and respectful in interactions, both within the Squamish Nation and beyond.

It's about creating spaces where people feel safe, supported, and valued. It draws strength from who we are and our cultural practices.





The Plan includes the Elders' vision for respect and inclusion in the Program. It has a summary of how we will put our values into action.

We also developed *Our Elder's Program Snewíyelh* which describes Elders' expectations about how we will respect each other in the Program. It has a set of steps for addressing issues in a good way as they come up.



If you don't already have your copy, please reach out to us.
eldersproject@squamish.net | 604.987.4646

Background

Action Planning and Program Equity Priority Initiatives

On November 13, 2024, Elders gathered to plan for our Priority Initiatives at the Chief Joe Mathias Centre in North Vancouver. It was a fun day of gathering, feasting, sharing and learning.

These Priority Initiatives capture what Elders shared was most important to think about as we develop more detailed plans.

The Initiatives include:

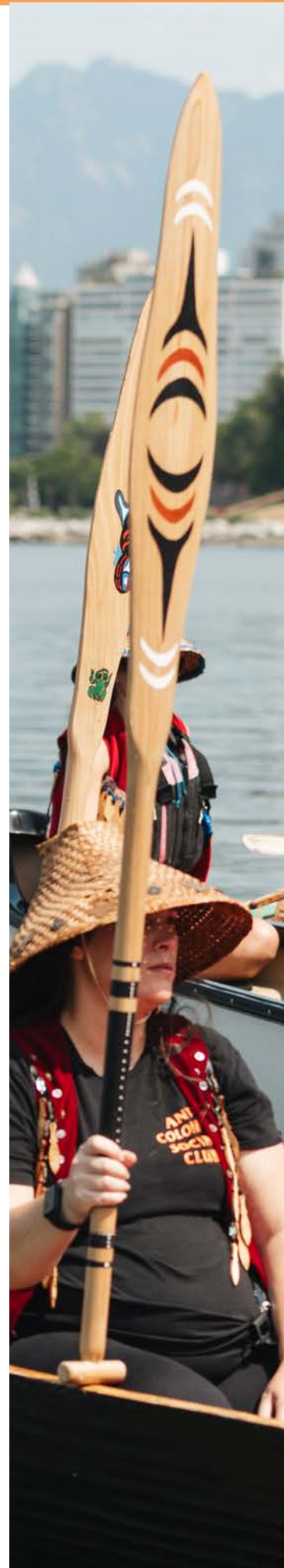
- **ELDERS-ON-THE-LAND**
- **ELDERS HEALING AND GRIEF**
- **LEARNING FROM OUR ELDERS**
- **AWAY-FROM-HOME ELDER'S PROGRAM**
- **ELDER'S OUTREACH**

Elders on the North Shore and Squamish Valley met with Squamish Nation staff during our Winter and Spring engagements.

At Elders Gatherings in Duncan and Seattle, at Wellness Days and Mental Health Fairs, at Elders Brunches and Lunches, we came together again to share with each other.

At these events, we asked Elders to share which actions were most important to them within each Priority Initiative.

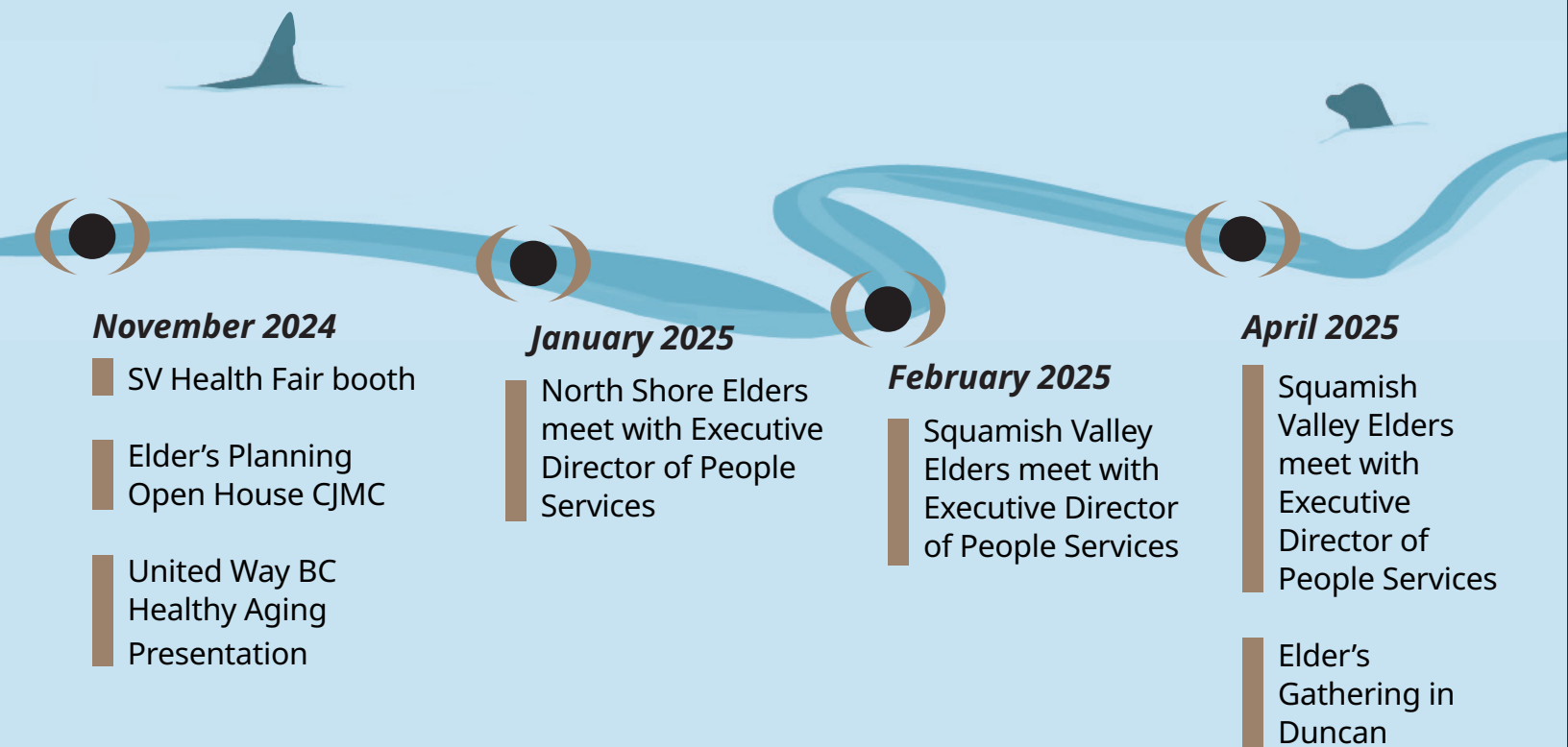
The results of what we have heard are guiding our planning and can be found summarized here.

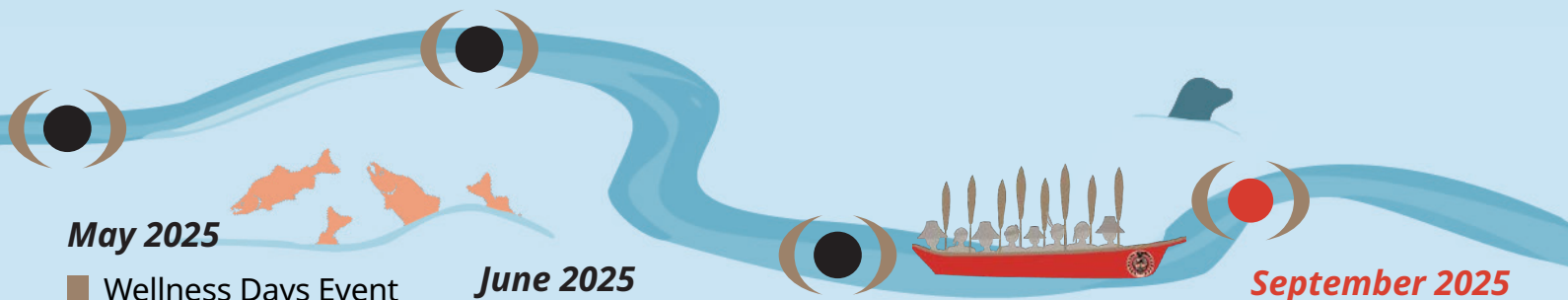
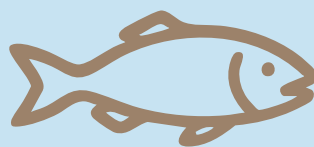
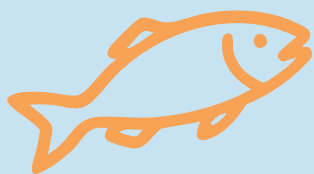




Timeline

Engagement Activities





May 2025

- Wellness Days Event
- Elder's Gathering in Seattle
- Mental Health Fair Engagement Booth

June 2025

- Elder's Brunch in the Squamish Valley
- Elder's Lunch on the North Shore
- Program Manager Discussion on the North Shore

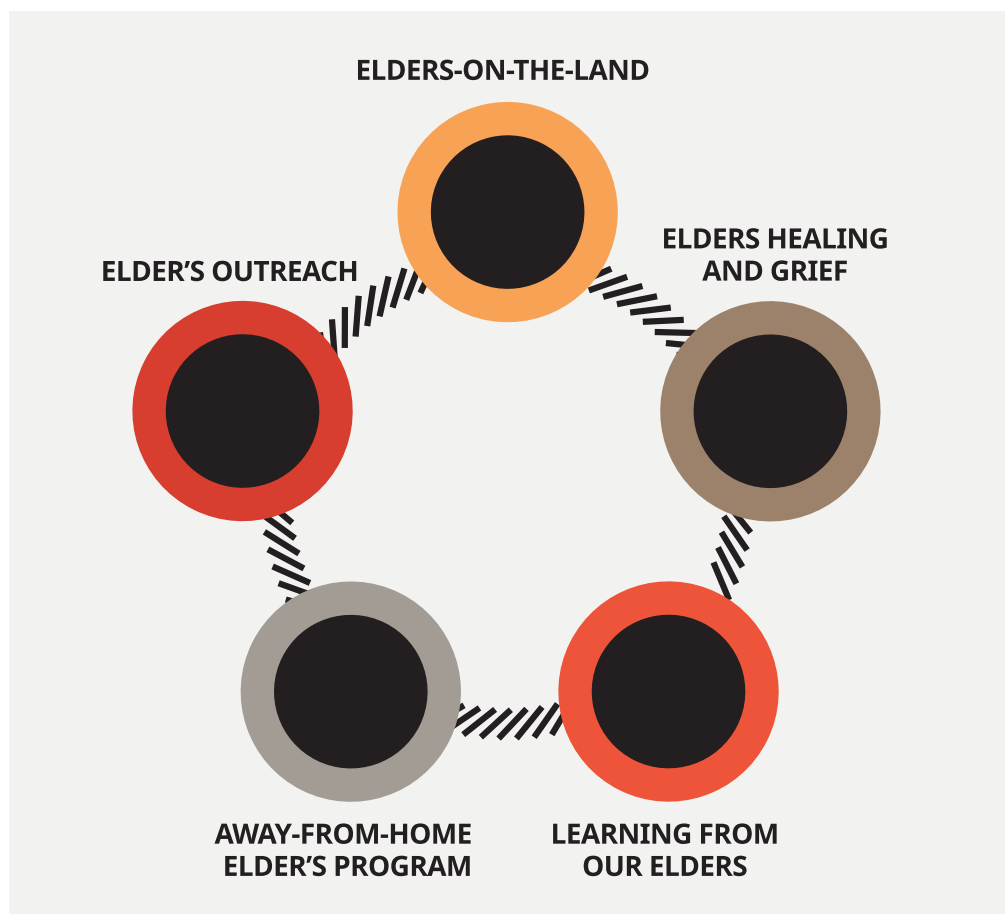
July 2025

- Pride Celebration Program Manager
- Discussion in the Squamish Valley

September 2025

- 3rd Annual Elder's Open House CJMC

THE FIVE PRIORITY INITIATIVES FOR ACTION PLANNING AND PROGRAM EQUITY INCLUDE:

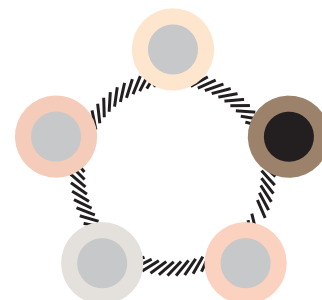


ACTION PLANNING

ELDER'S HEALING AND GRIEF INITIATIVE

Elders want more support for grieving and healing from losses in the family, the effects of trauma and the Indian Residential School System.

The Elder's Healing and Grief Initiative will build on the Nation's efforts to provide more support for Elders' grieving and healing.



// We want to protect our Elders—why? Because we love them.

—Squamish Nation Elder

Ideas include:

- Hire an **Initiatives Coordinator** (Healing and Grief, Elders-on-the-Land, and Learning from Our Elders Initiatives) that must be aware of history
- **Work closely with Yúustway Health and Wellness** and other key Departments to identify and build on the good work already happening within the Nation.
- **Build in our teachings**, beliefs, oral history, medicines
- Share **traditional meals together**
- Coordinate monthly **Elder's Talking/Healing Circles**
- Explore and integrate **intergenerational and family healing** opportunities
- **Train our community members** to support healing and grief, and build on their existing knowledge
- **Host land-based healing** events (spiritual baths, ceremony, spending time on the land together)



THE INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL SYSTEM left a legacy of deeply-rooted trauma, grief and loss for many Squamish People.

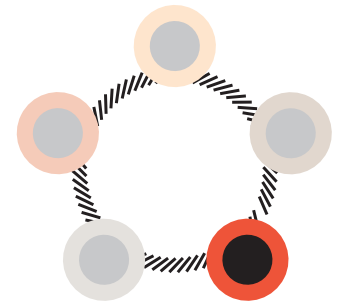
Elders have shared how they have lost loved ones, their language, connection to their culture, and sense of identity. Impacts of this trauma affect mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual well-being.

Connections to language, culture, traditions, and community can provide a powerful source of support on the path of healing.



LEARNING FROM OUR ELDERS INITIATIVE

It is important to Elders to come together with children, Youth, and families to share knowledge, teachings, and culture. The Learning from Our Elders Initiative is designed to bring generations together to pass on vital Elder knowledge.



Ideas include:

- **Learn Squamish** songs, legends, and stories with Youth
- **Explore opportunities** to include Elders/bring Elders and Youth together (e.g. Squamish Nation Youth Centre, Eslha7an Learning Centre, local schools, Canoe Journey activities)
- **Shared meals**
- **Traditional medicine picking**, cooking and gardening, hunting and fishing, survival skills with Youth
- Coordinate **Elder and Youth cultural ceremonies** (e.g. Long House, burnings, puberty rites) and opportunities for Elders to provide spiritual guidance
- **Youth support** for Elders at events
- Coordinate **Elders sharing with Squamish children in care** (e.g. family history, mentorship)
- **Family-based** activities



Elders gathering and planning open house at CJMC

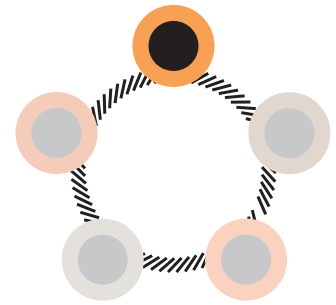


ELDERS-ON-THE-LAND INITIATIVE

Elders want to connect on the land and share and learn more knowledge, culture, and language.

This initiative will build on the good work already being done by Ta na wa Ns7éyxnitm ta Sne'wíyelh (Language and Cultural Affairs), Yúustway Health and Wellness, and other key Departments.

Ideas include:



Coordinate four **seasonal land tours/cultural outings** (e.g. smokehouse, lakes and rivers, areas in the Territory, Long House, Squamish Cultural Centre)

Land-based activities and cultural **teachings** (fishing, hunting, harvesting medicine)

Ancestry/family tree and mapping project with Elders and Youth

Daily activities as part of Elder's program (walking, checking on the land, drumming and singing outside)

Hire an **Initiatives Coordinator** for support (Healing and Grief, Elders-on-the-Land, and Learning from Our Elders Initiatives)

Visiting other Nations and Elders, learning about their Territory; trading with other Nations (e.g. elk, fish)



What will tell us that this initiative is successful? Seeing our Youth standing up with our Elders on the land.

—Elders-on-the-Land program feedback from Elders

PROGRAM EQUITY

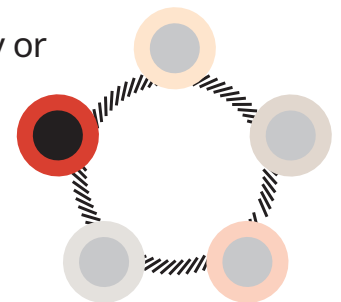
During Winter and Spring engagements, Elders and staff shared many ideas for an Elders Program reaching those living Away-from-Home and an Elders Outreach Initiative. We are looking forward to more engagement with Elders on these initiatives in the coming months.

ELDER'S OUTREACH INITIATIVE

We heard from Elders who are not feeling connected to the community or the Elder's Program. Some of these Elders are living in care homes and needing support with their mental or physical health.

The Elder's Outreach Initiative will focus on reaching these Elders and helping them access any additional support they may need.

Ideas include:



Hire an **Outreach Coordinator** to build on the Nation's Elder outreach efforts, working together with key Departments (Yúustway Health & Wellness, Ta na wa Téýwilhaylhem Public Safety, Ts'its'ixwnítway Member Services, and others)

Support Elders who need more support to take care of themselves

Advocate for more homemaking, home repairs, maintenance, and yard support

Day trips to visit Elders living Away-from-Home

Helping more to **bring Elder's interests, needs, and concerns** forward to the right people for support

Train a team of Elders to support Outreach activities (calling Elders, home visits by someone familiar)

Coordinate transportation for Elders living in care facilities and Away-from-Home to participate



“ Door to door interactions are very important. We need to reach those who may not be able to come to Elder’s centers or participate in events.

—Squamish Nation Elder

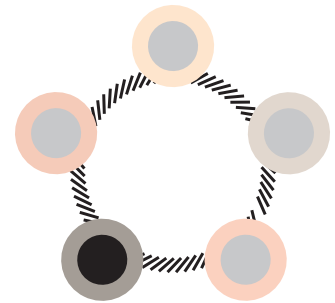
Xwi7ski gathering and ceremony at the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre



AWAY-FROM-HOME ELDER'S PROGRAM

Elders living Away-from-Home want to participate, contribute and connect with the Program and other Elders.

The Away-from-Home initiative will bring more opportunities for Elders living away from their traditional Territory to connect and be supported by their community of Elders.



Digital engagement events

(e.g. online workshops, sharing teachings and history)

Arts and cultural activities—could be take-home/mailed-out kits

(e.g. weaving, rattle making, shawl making, medicine making)

Gatherings and feasts (e.g. with Squamish Valley and North Shore Elders, Youth, Men's Gathering)

Language learning or speaking—could be online

Practicing and sharing **sacred ways**

(e.g. cedar brushing, talking circles, Longhouse)

Cooking, sharing or eating **traditional foods**

(could be food delivery)

Field trips to the land and/or water (e.g. swimming, fishing, walking, paddling, hunting, medicine walks)



“ Building out a satellite program for Elders Away-from-Home is important to make these Elders feel included and supported. This will require more programming.

—Squamish Nation Elder

PROGRAM INNOVATION & EXPANSION

PARTICIPATORY PLANNING PROCESS FOR ELDERS

Elders shared that they want to be more involved in planning for the Elders Program. Since the Elders Program Plan was endorsed by Council in July 2023, Elders continue to engage in meetings and discussions about putting the plan into action and reviewing needs and priorities.

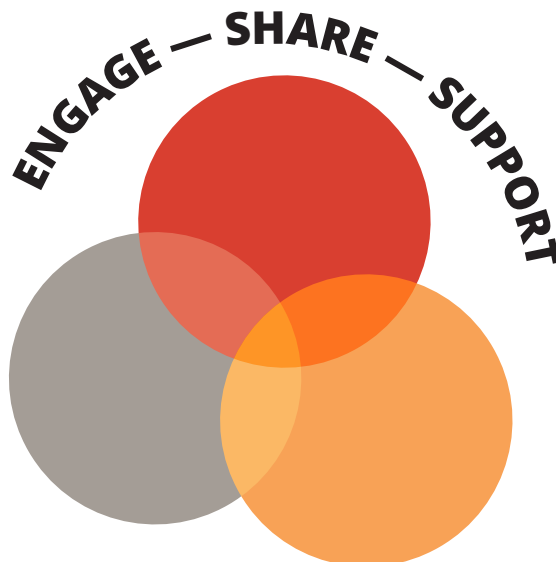
Since Fall 2024, Elders have attended luncheons, engagements, and have met with the Executive Director of Nexwnílhewá7nem Ch'áwch'aw People Services several times in the Squamish Valley and on the North Shore.

Elders can continue to stay involved by:

Engaging with Xwí7ski, your team of community-nominated Squamish Elders and Youth who are the Elder's Program advisory body

Sharing at the annual Elder's gatherings to review and update the Elder's Program Plan

Supporting in budgeting processes and ongoing opportunities for feedback





HIRE ELDER'S PROGRAM MANAGER (VOICE OF OUR ELDERS)

The growth and development of our Elder's Program needs support. A next step to ensure we have the capacity and resources to move Initiatives forward is a dedicated staff member.

The Elder's Program Manager will serve our Elders population of nearly 1000 (ages 55+) living in the Squamish Valley, North Shore, and Away-from-Home. This is a person with senior level administrative skills who brings skills and experience in:

- **Gentle leadership**
- **Effective communication**
- **Being a voice for Elders' needs**
- **Program development**
- **Fundraising**

This role will build on the good work that is already underway and will respect existing staff responsibilities. The Program Manager will ensure the Elder's Program is by Elders for Elders, culturally safe and empowering, and a safe space of belonging.

The role was thoughtfully co-created with Elders, Xwí7ski, Program Team Leads, the Steering Committee, and Human Resources. The role has been developed through meetings to hear concerns, discuss misunderstandings and support trust-building.

We look forward to sharing updates on this role with the Elders.

“ We need a dedicated manager that just focuses on the Elders because we don't have this right now.

—Xwí7ski Member

ELDER’S PROGRAM TRANSPORTATION AND STAFFING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Since November 2024, we have been working with Staff, Managers and Elders to evaluate transportation and staffing needs in the North Shore and Squamish Valley.

Elders often depend more on transportation services and supports than other groups in the community. Elders need transportation for health and other appointments, picking up essential items, and accessing cultural events, programming and services safely.

Key Themes & Ongoing Challenges

- Lack of Capacity
- Limited Access to Public Transit
- Informal Driving Supports
- Needs Beyond Medical Travel
- Scheduling & Communication Issues
- Policy Gaps

Future Vision & Goals

- Expand Transportation to Off-Reserve Elders
- Build Staff Capacity
- Clarify Departmental Responsibilities
- Develop Policy & Protocols



DISCUSSION PAPER ON A UNIFIED ELDER'S PROGRAM AND POSSIBLE ELDER'S DEPARTMENT

Centering our Elders as the heart of our community will strengthen services, unity, and organization of programs across the Nation. The Discussion Paper explores options to unify the Elder's Program and the possibility of an Elder's Department to further bring the Nation together.

ELDER'S PROGRAM INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT

Many of the needs voiced by our Elders fall under several Squamish Nation Departments, and not just the Elders Program. Departments come together monthly as part of the Elders Program Plan Implementation Project Steering Committee, including:

Ts'its'ixwnítway
Member Services


Yúustway
Health and Wellness

**Ta na wa Ns7éyxnitm ta
Snewíyelh**
Language and Cultural Affairs

**Ta na wa Shéway I7xw ta
Úxwumixw**
Planning and Capital Projects

Nexwsp'áyaken ta Úxwumixw
Community Operations

Ta na wa Téýwilhaylhem
Public Safety



Over the summer and fall, workshops are being held with these Departments to identify how they currently support Elders and where they can do more. They are eager to work together to:

- Respond to Elders' needs
- Reduce barriers
- Bring more understanding to roles and responsibilities

In Closing

Come Join Us

Our Elder's Program is a place to share stories, laughter, and connection. We're growing and adding even more opportunities to gather, celebrate culture, and support one another across generations. These are exciting times, and we're so grateful to expand our program together.

We look forward to keeping our tradition of planning alive with Elders on the North Shore, in the Squamish Valley, and Away-from-Home. Join us at our 3rd Annual Elder's Open House on September 17th at Chief Joe Mathias Centre in North Vancouver (see invitation on page 30).

We can't wait to spend time together!



Recognition Awards

Chet wa í7sun (We Pull Together) Elder's Program Plan



May 2025

Project Team representatives receiving the Canadian Institute of Planners Award for Planning Excellence in Toronto, ON

AWARD FOR PLANNING EXCELLENCE
from the Canadian Institute of Planners (CIP)

Nov 2025

Accreditation Canada identified the
**ELDER'S PROGRAM PLAN AS A
LEADING PRACTICE**

“ If we support a healthy Elder’s community together, it will impact our families and children, as Elders are at our heart.

—Xwí7ski Member



Nov 2024

Xwí7ski was invited to deliver a presentation and panel discussion for the 2024 **UNITED WAY BC HEALTHY AGEING SUMMIT**



Project Team representatives receiving the Planning Institute of BC Silver Award for Planning Excellence in Nanaimo, BC

May 2024

SILVER AWARD FOR PLANNING EXCELLENCE from the Planning Institute of BC (PIBC)

Oct 2024

CORE VALUES AWARD FOR INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT from the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2)



Project Team representatives receiving the International Association of Public Participation Core Values Award in Ottawa, ON

Acknowledgement

Xwí7ski: the Elder's Program Advisory Body

Our Elder's Program Engagement Project (2021–2023) was guided by an incredible team of community-nominated Squamish Elders and Youth, known as Xwí7ski (*Let's Go!*) Elder's Project Action Team (EPAT).

Elders emphasized a strong desire to be involved in planning for their Elders Program on a regular and long-term basis with representation from a team such as Xwí7ski. Xwí7ski was endorsed by Council in July 2023 as the ongoing Elders advisory body for the Elder's Program and other projects seeking input from Elders.

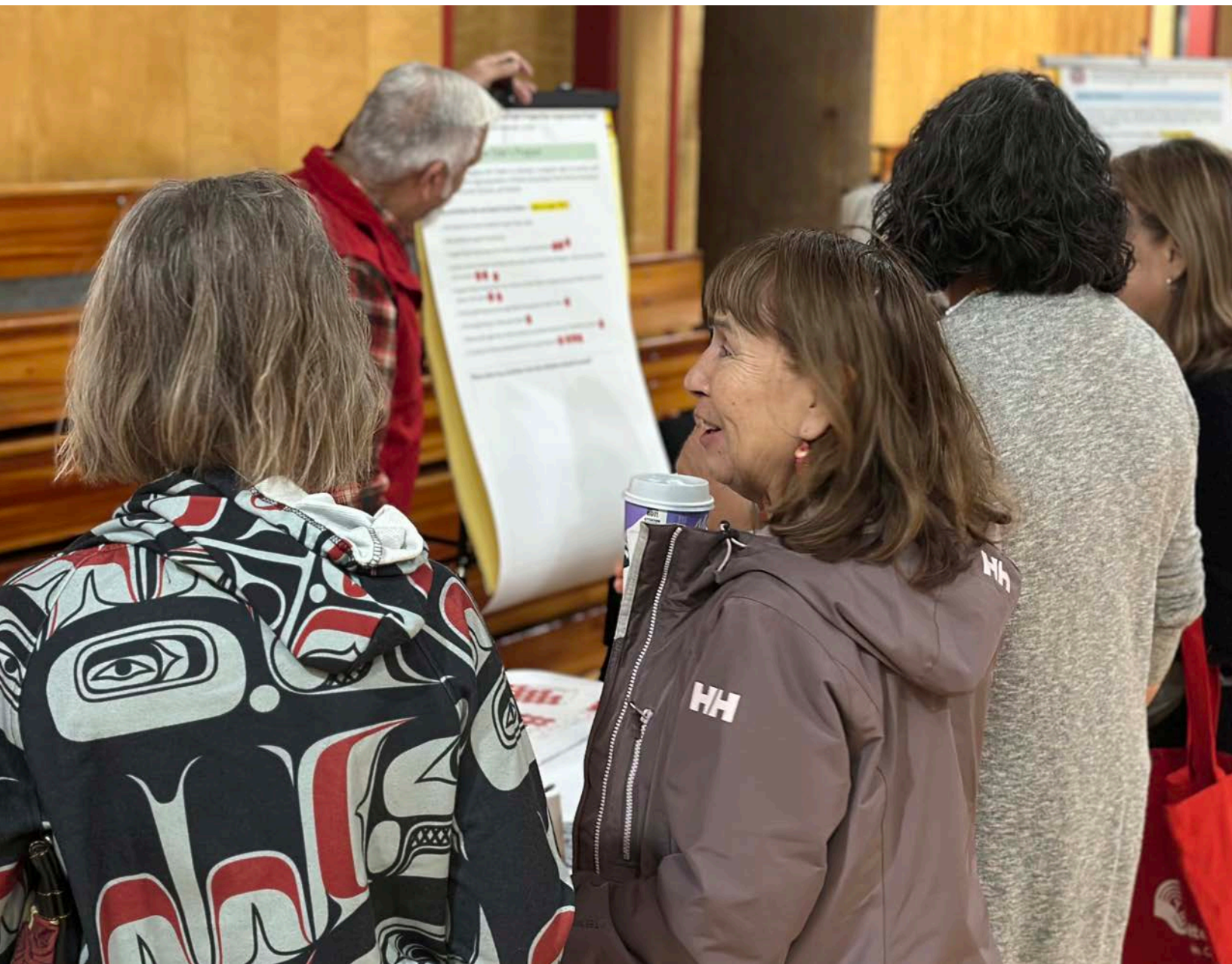


Xwí7ski logo design by Siobhan Joseph

XWÍ7SKI WAS FORMED TO GUIDE THE ELDER'S PROGRAM ENGAGEMENT PROJECT

Xwí7ski continues to guide the work of making the Elder's Program Plan a reality and ensuring it is **for the Elders, by the Elders**.

In Spring 2023, the Xwí7ski team put a call out for nominations from Elders and community members to select a new group of Elder and Youth representatives. With many strong individuals nominated, the Steering Committee wanted to ensure a balanced team with broad skills and representation from different families, genders, ages, and residences in different parts of our Territory, communities, and beyond.



Xwí7ski (Let's Go!)

Elder's Project Action Team (EPAT)



Bonaro Newman
Elder Representative
Squamish Valley



Sadie Rivers
Youth Representative
North Shore



**Tlatlakwot
Christine Baker**
Elder Representative
Squamish Valley



Pudlas Val Wright
Junior Elder Representative
North Shore



Diane Baker
Elder Representative
North Shore



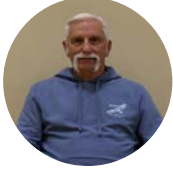
Sisolia Donna Billy
Elder Representative
Squamish Valley



**Mestl'áxwts
Jessica Walker**
Youth Representative
Away-from-Home



**Sxwch'alten
Kevin Rivers**
Junior Elder Representative
North Shore



Lawrence Walker
Elder Representative
Away-from-Home



**Lats-mat
Mary Jane Natrall**
Elder Representative
Squamish Valley



**Thlee kul wut
Monica Jacobs**
Junior Elder Representative
North Shore



**Wendy Lockhart
Lundberg**
Elder Representative
Away-from-Home



**Kiy a' m' / Mena' lh elten
Patrick Joseph**
Elder Representative
North Shore



**Sesaxwalia
Aggie Andrews**
Cultural Advisor

We continue to honour the contributions of our former Xwí7ski members and express our sincere gratitude and appreciation for their wisdom, time, and dedication.

Tselkwilem 't Late Byron Joseph
Sulseelsamat Gladys "Flo" Williams
Barry Cordocedo

Ketaxtenaat MJ Jacobs
Tsawaysia Dominique Nahanee

Xwí7ski Youth Member Nominee

A WARM WELCOME TO XWÍ7SKI YOUTH MEMBER RIANNA JOSEPH

Join us in welcoming Rianna Joseph, the newest member to be nominated to Xwí7ski.

RIANNA JOSEPH

My name is Rianna Joseph, and my Squamish nickname is Shilhiya, meaning “dear one.” I grew up in Vancouver and Vancouver Island. My parents are Ina and Patrick Joseph, and my grandparents on my mom’s side are Geraldine and George Underwood from Tsawout, Duncan, and Nanaimo. I recently moved back home to Xwemelchstn village after spending two and a half years in Oregon, where I worked as a housekeeper.

I graduated from Eslha7an Learning Centre with my Adult Dogwood Diploma, something I thought I could never accomplish. I’ve always loved listening to Elders’ stories because they remind me how important it is to listen and care for each other.

I believe in the healing power within each of us and in the importance of remembering who we are and where we come from.





Please join us!

Chet wa í7sun
We Pull Together
Elder's Program Plan
Implementation Project

3rd Annual Elder's Open House
Putting our Elder's Program Plan into Action!


Wednesday, September 17, 2025
10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Chief Joe Mathias Centre
North Vancouver

All Squamish Elders (aged 55+) are invited to attend! Elders are encouraged to bring one young person to the event.

Sk̓w̓x̓wú7mesh Úxwumíxw
Squamish Nation

Opportunity to
s Ta Síiyuxwa
meshulh (the
Squamish People)

Journey
our
action.






- hearing from Elders how Departments and partners work together to support Elder's needs
- childcare
- optional cedar brushing

Nation Departments and community partners

We look forward to feasting and planning with you!

Please let us know at eldersproject@squamish.net or **604-987-4646** if you require transportation support to and/or from the event.

Huy chexw a
to our generous partners:

Sk̓w̓x̓wú7mesh Úxwumíxw
Member Services
Ta na ma Cháwáat ta Skw̓x̓wú7mesh
Squamish Valley Operations
Vocabulary
Health & Wellness
Ta na ma Níyágitim ta Síiyúyith
Language & Cultural Affairs
Ta na ma Shéwá7yew ta Úxwumíxw
Planning & Capital Projects
Ta na ma Tíyáwíyáthem
Public Safety
Néwewemíntim ta Úxwumíxw
Council

PUTTING OUR ELDER'S PROGRAM PLAN INTO ACTION!

You are cordially invited to our
3rd Annual Elder's Open House
Engagement and Planning Event
Chet wa í7sun: We Pull Together
(Elder's Program Plan
Implementation Project)

This day is an opportunity to bring
Ta Síiyuxwa t'l'a Sk̓w̓x̓wú7meshulh
(The Elders of the Squamish People)
together to continue our
canoe journey.

Wednesday, September 17, 2025
10am–2pm
Chief Joe Mathias Centre
North Vancouver

All Squamish Elders (aged 55+)
are invited to attend! Elders are
encouraged to bring one young
person to the event.

“ We want to love each other, and we want to show everybody else how to do it.

—Squamish Nation Elder



Huy chexw a!

We are grateful to the Squamish Nation for providing our first year of budget to implement the Elders Program Plan. We also extend heartfelt thanks to our funding partners—the First Nations Public Services Secretariat and the First Nations Health Authority—whose generous support makes this work possible. With their partnership, and with the involvement and inspiration of all Squamish Nation Elders, we will continue to move the Elder's Program Plan Implementation Project forward. Thank you for joining us on this canoe journey.

As we look ahead, we also pause to honour those we lost in 2025—Elders who were part of shaping the Elder's Program Plan. We remember their wisdom, their dedication, and the care they carried for community. Each member of our team wishes their families and friends peace and comfort, and we hold close the knowledge that their work will continue to strengthen the well-being of future generations of Elders for years to come.





Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw

Squamish Nation

Learn more about the Elder's Program Plan
and the work going forward

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squamish.net/elders-program-project