

Ta Skwekwíyíntsuts ta Sxwéxwél

The Valley's Plan

Draft Plan Workbook

There are four sections in the workbook. Ask any staff or Community Advisory Group member to help fill out the workbook.

1. VISION

What do you think? Do you like the two visions for The Valley's Plan?

2. PRIORITIES AND GOALS

Which of The Valley's Plan's community goals are most important to you?

3. ACTIONS

The Valley's Plan includes three kinds of Actions – Quick Starts, Next Steps, and Seeds. We want to know which Next Steps and Seeds you're most interested in.

4. PARTICIPATION

The first Quick Start Action is a Squamish Valley Community Advisory Committee to improve engagement, communications, and information sharing in the Valley and with Council. Would you want to be a part of it when it's rolled out?

*When
completed,
please return
the workbook to
staff or drop it
off at Totem
Hall.*



**Skwxwú7mesh
Úxwúmixw**

Squamish Nation

1. Vision

Like Úxwumixw 2050, there are two visions for this plan. The first looks forward from today to the future, imagining what the Valley will be when this plan's actions are implemented, along with other foundational projects that are currently underway. A second vision from the perspective of someone looking back from 2035 completes the story of this plan.

The Valley's Plan centres the role Squamish Valley youth play as visionaries and their roles as future leaders in helping make the vision a reality.

Please take a moment to read the two visions on the next pages and then tell us what you think.

*What do you think? Do you like the two visions?
How would you rate them?*



4 STARS

They're great!



3 STARS

I like them!



2 STARS

They're OK.



1 STAR

I don't really like them.



If you want, tell us what you like about the visions, or what you would change.

OUR VISION – LOOKING FORWARD

Continuing the hard work of past generations and leaders of the past, Skwxwú7mesh Valley People will be more connected to each other and our history, traditions, culture, and land. New opportunities and developments throughout the Valley will bring more people home and improve the wellbeing of Valley People living here today. Access to community services will improve, and our people will have many more places to gather – in new spaces and places that we helped shape, in the Longhouse, in forests, and along our rivers and shores.

We will have a stronger visible presence throughout the Valley. Those living on our lands or visiting them will know more about our history, culture, and language. We will be the recognized stewards of Squamish Valley lands and waters.

Everyone will have the tools and mentoring they need to support their healing journeys. Through intentional connection and an understanding of what our people have been through, we will come together in Valley

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Skwxwú7mesh
(Squamish Strong)



“Everyone could benefit from the experience and wisdom of the Elders. We can also learn from the bravery and energy of youth. The young are our visionaries. We must remind ourselves of the often-forgotten values of other people.”

COMMUNITY ADVISORY
GROUP MEMBER

OUR VISION – LOOKING BACK

We have worked hard together to reach our Valley's goals and priorities. We have created strong language and cultural programs within our new K-12 school, Language and Cultural Centre, and Longhouse. Other facilities are providing important services grounded in our ways, including an Elder's Village, multi-generational housing, a traditional Food Hub, a Trades and Training Centre, and community health centres.



Our people are gathering in these community places that we created together, and the feelings of security and belonging are strong. We are practicing our values and have re-established traditional ways for how we communicate with and engage with Valley people as we continue to move forward together. Our collective feeling of purpose is strong.

We have welcomed many new people to the Skwxwú7mesh Valley by providing safe, accessible, and culturally appropriate housing. Our land protectors have worked hard to make sure we have access to our lands, that our rivers still flow, and our forests stand strong and that visitors to the Valley respect and understand our place here. We are practicing our traditional ways on the land and waters and are thankful for the gifts they provide us.

Through our collective healing journey, we have gained more trust in ourselves and each other. Across our villages and the Valley, our people are practicing their individual and ancestral skills back on our lands and waters. Our Valley has changed so much in the past ten years, and we continue to look forward to what the next ten years will bring.



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Skwxwú7mesh
(Squamish Strong)

2. Priorities and Goals

These represent the areas we need to act on as we journey towards our Vision. It is recognized that all of them are important to move forward on over the next 10 years and all of them are strongly interconnected.

Which ones are most important to you and your family? Select your top FOUR.



Health and Wellness

Support our physical, spiritual, and mental health and wellness.



Culture and Language

Protect and practice our culture and language.



Housing and Infrastructure

Address housing needs and improve infrastructure and facilities.



Lands and Waters

Protect and steward Squamish Valley lands and waters.



Education

Support learning and skills development for all ages and needs.



Governance

Ensure our governance upholds our guiding principles and that Squamish Valley voices guide Valley governance.



Prosperity

Foster a thriving local economy in the Valley, while mentoring and supporting Squamish Valley businesses and entrepreneurs.

If you want, tell us why you chose the four you did.

3. Actions

Actions are the steps (e.g., plans, projects, programs) that need to be taken to help us address our priorities and realize our vision.

The 18 actions in this plan came from a review of past work and input, family meetings we held at the start of this project, action ideas that were identified in our Generational Plan, and the project’s Community Advisory Group. Actions that were already underway or planned through foundational projects were moved out of the project list.



Quick Starts provide the framework for undertaking Next Steps and better supporting projects that are already underway or in the early planning stages in the Valley.

- Squamish Valley Community Advisory Committee
- The Valley’s Plan Project Lead
- Squamish Valley Communications Framework

These first 3 projects are this plan’s **most important**, have funding secured to roll them out, and will provide the foundation to further develop and implement the remaining Next Steps and Seed actions. They will also help support ongoing foundational projects underway and planned in the Valley.



Next Steps are 8 projects that require additional planning and assessment that could start after Quick Starts have begun, or sooner if opportunities arise (e.g., funding). The Squamish Valley Community Advisory Committee will play an important role in the further development of these projects.



Seeds are 7 building and facility projects that should be thought of as seeds to be planted and tended until the Squamish Valley Community Plan is ready for renewal in 2034/2035. Some projects could potentially be brought forward and considered earlier through ongoing village planning (Wiwk’em Village Plan) and land development strategy projects (Sta7mes) which are being coordinated through Community Services and Planning & Capital Projects.

3. Next Step Actions



*Which Next Steps are you and your family most interested in seeing happen in the Valley?
Select your top FOUR.*

Squamish Valley People's Guide	A resource guide or tool to educate members about our ways of caring for the Valley's land and waters. Part of a welcoming program for the many people we expect to be moving to Valley as new housing opportunities become available.
Squamish Valley Community Needs Survey	A community needs survey to better understand Squamish Valley needs to help plan for new programs and supports in the Valley.
Neurodiverse Learning Support	Providing educational support to meet all our people's learning styles and help children and youth participate actively in our growing community. It would also allow for their needs as adults to be better understood and met.
Men's Wellness Services	A community-based navigator role or advocate to support men in accessing wellness services in the Valley and help identify and address service gaps or needs for men in the Valley to continue their healing journeys.
Squamish Valley Guardians - Expansion	The program could be expanded to train Valley people to be Guardians and caretakers of the land, or to create community-led volunteer groups to care for Valley lands and waters.
Squamish Valley Wayfinding and Signage	As the District of Squamish continues to grow and we welcome new members to the Valley, we want to make sure our traditional place names and language are used on signage throughout our territory.
Squamish Valley Ecotourism	A Squamish Nation-owned and operated eco-tourism business that would also provide an opportunity to teach people about Squamish Nation and help more Squamish families access our lands and waters.
Squamish Valley Transportation System	Building on work underway to develop an inter-village community transportation system to help improve connections and reduce travel times in the Valley and to the North Shore.

If you want, tell us why you chose the four you did.

3. Seed Actions



*Which Seeds are you and your family most interested in seeing happen in the Valley?
Select your top THREE.*

Community Meeting Spaces	There is a shortage of flexible meeting space in the Valley. While there are new community facilities in the Deliver phase of Planning & Capital Project's major project delivery program that will likely include new community meeting space, the demand for meeting spaces may not be met.
Holistic Health Services Centre	A program rich facility that could provide resources for healing and traditional wellness programs. Some services and programs may be brought forward through Planning & Capital Project's ongoing work in the Valley.
Squamish Valley Treatment Centre	A treatment facility in the Valley could provide a valuable option for Squamish Valley people seeking this level of care closer to their community. There has been some discussion at the Nation level of developing a centre, but a location has yet to be determined.
Community Arts Hub	A facility for all Squamish Valley artists, including carvers, weavers, beaders, jewelers and painters. With practice and studio space, the building would provide spaces to make, teach, share, display, and give back.
Recreation Spaces	Active play and recreation fields would support health and wellness in the Valley. There is a Nation-level Parks and Recreation Plan process underway that will help identify needs and gaps in the Squamish in the Valley and outline a plan to address them.
Squamish Hotel	A Squamish-owned and operated business would provide employment opportunities for members and generate revenue for the Nation but could also support members during times of need (e.g., somewhere to stay in the event of an emergency or evacuations).
Squamish Business Park	A Squamish-owned and operated business park would provide member employment opportunities, generate Nation revenue, provide affordable space and/or other business supports to Squamish Nation entrepreneurs and businesses, and help foster member business development and entrepreneurship.

If you want, tell us why you chose the three you did.

4. Participation

Squamish Valley Community Advisory Committee

The Valley's Plan's first Quick Start project is a standing, 10-person Squamish Valley Advisory Committee. Modelled on the Community Advisory Group that supported development of The Valley's Plan, the group would start-up in 2026 and meet regularly and help support and improve engagement and communications in the Valley. A Squamish Valley Advisory Committee would help improve information-sharing between Squamish Valley people, Squamish Nation departments, and Council.

The committee would include a diversity of representatives from across the Valley and help re-establish more traditional village-based family meetings here in the Valley. The committee's role would be advisory only.



“There used to be a committee, where they made sure there was one rep from each reserve up here that came together had a meeting and discuss what’s lacking.”

COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP MEMBER

“[A Community Advisory Committee) can support continued family meetings and community meetings and help ensure that families have a voice, and our community feels heard.”

COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP MEMBER

Would you like to be considered for the Squamish Valley Community Advisory Committee in the future? If you are, please provide your name, email and phone number and we will follow up with you in the New Year.

Name:

Email:

Phone: