



**Skwxwú7mesh  
Úxwumixw**

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

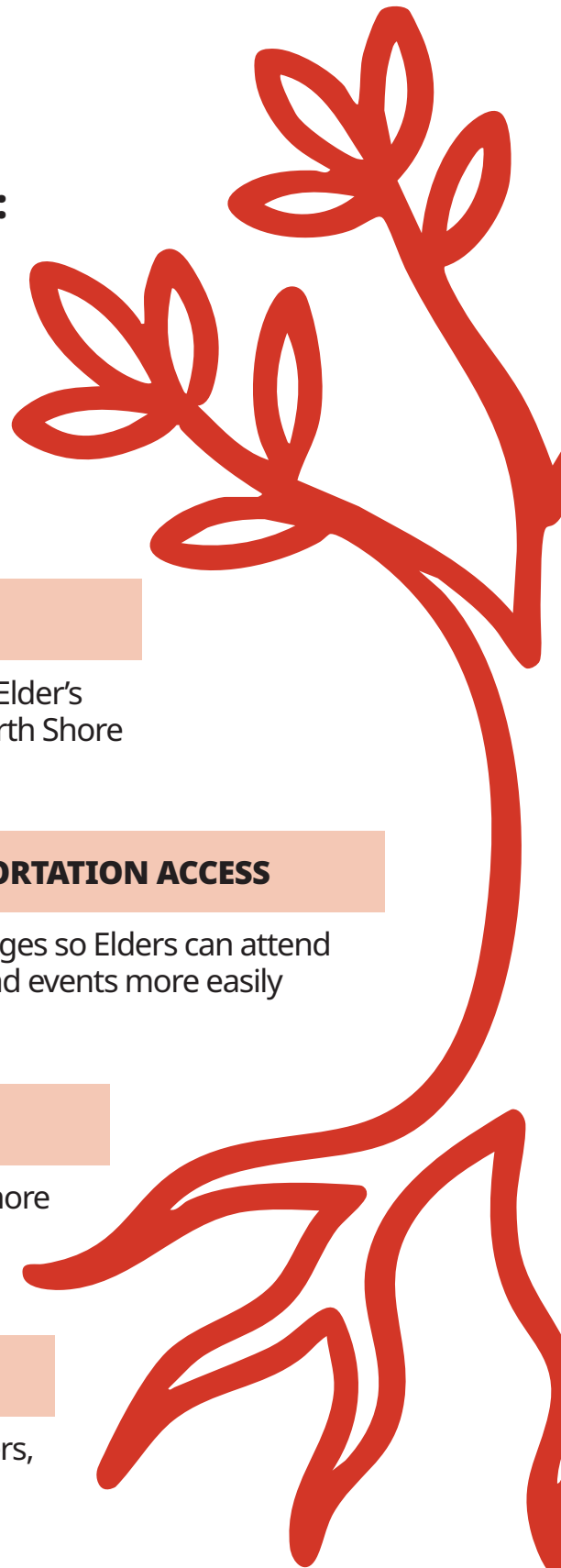
Help with mobility challenges so Elders can attend programs, services, and events more easily

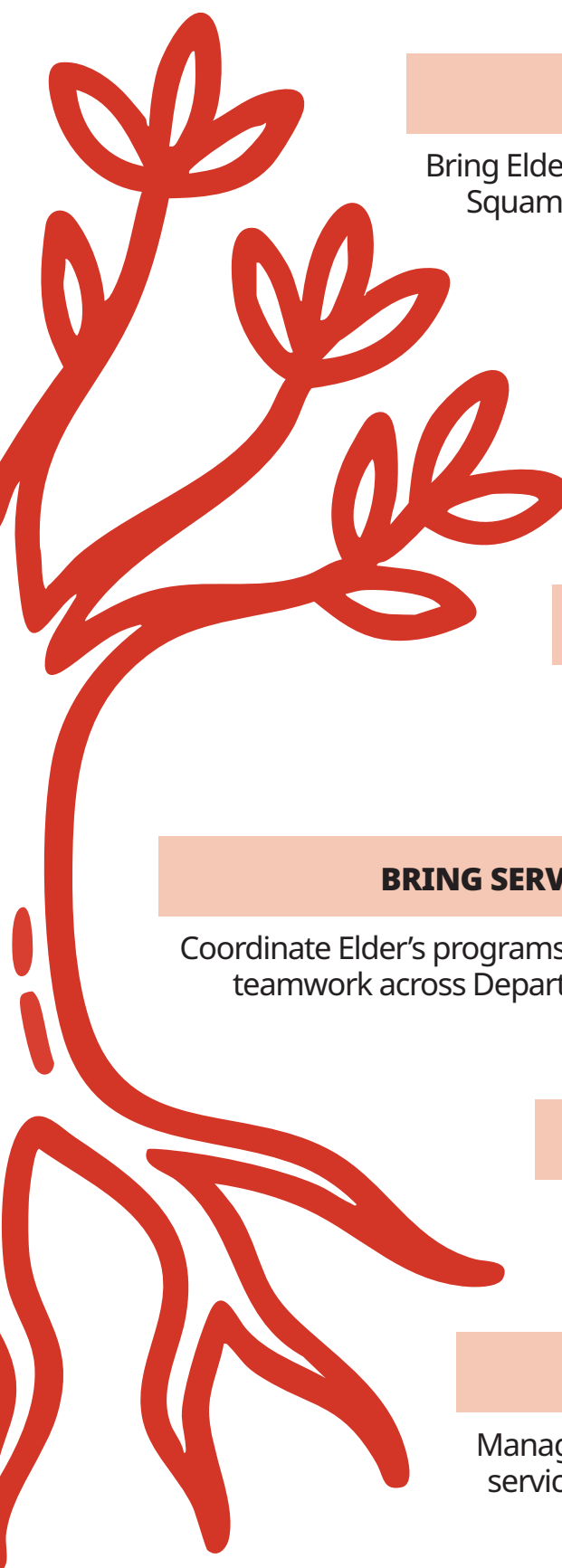
#### EXPAND THE PROGRAM

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 11 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

- Document a Plan for Respectful Relationships

### ACTION PLANNING

- Elder's Healing and Grief Initiative
- Learning from Our Elders Initiative (for children, youth, and families)
- Elders-on-the-Land Initiative

### PROGRAM EQUITY

- Away-from-Home (off-Reserve) Satellite Elder's Program
- Elder's Outreach Initiative

### PROGRAM INITIATIVE EXPANSION

- Acknowledge Xwi7ski as the Elder's Program Advisory Body
- Hire Elder's Program Manager
- Discussion paper on a Unified Elder's Program and Possible Elder's Department
- Elder's Program Inter-Departmental Roles and Responsibilities Agreement
- Elder's Program Transportation and Staffing Needs Assessment

## 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.

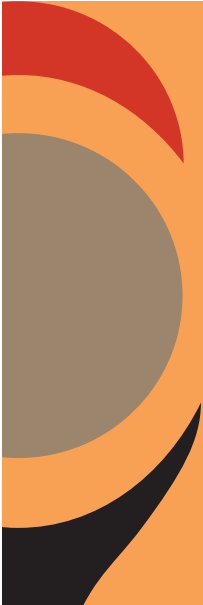
These relationships are between Elders participating in the Program and between Elders and Program staff.

## 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.

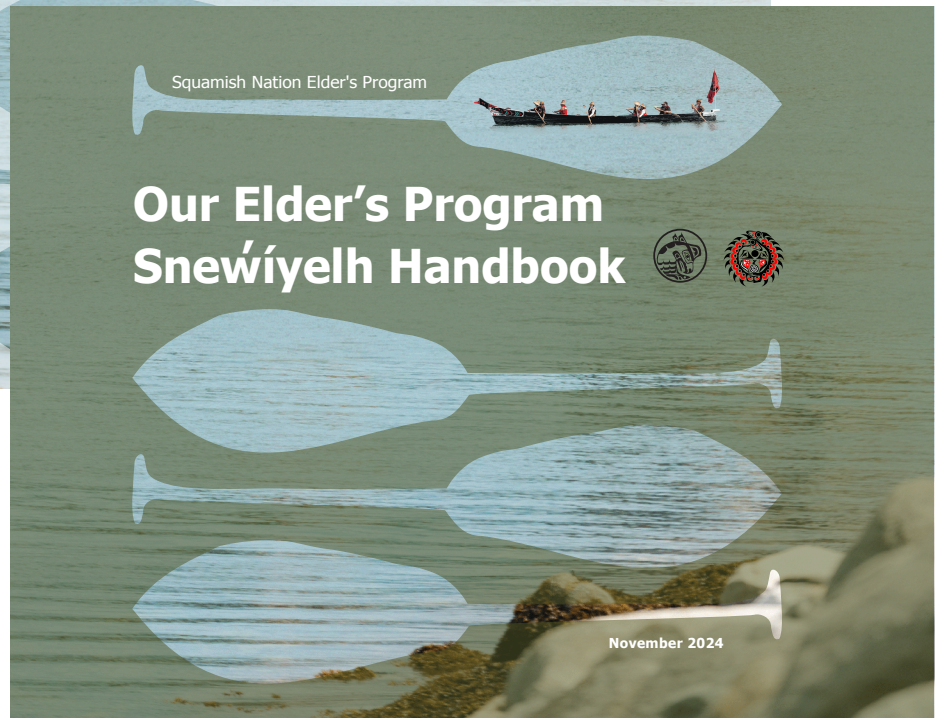


**LATERAL KINDNESS** is an idea rooted in Squamish values. It emphasizes building positive relationships and social harmony.

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](mailto: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:

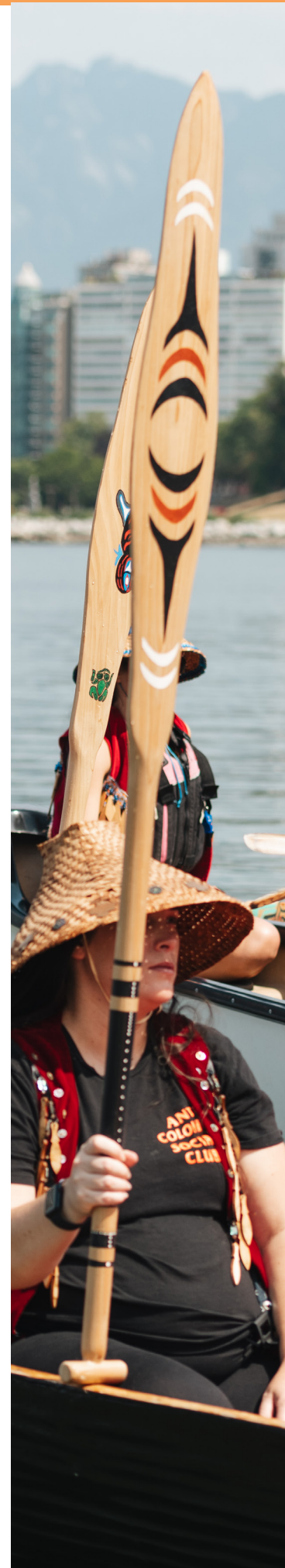
- **ELDERS-ON-THE-LAND**
- **ELDERS HEALING AND GRIEF**
- **LEARNING FROM OUR ELDERS**
- **AWAY-FROM-HOME ELDER'S PROGRAM**
- **ELDER'S OUTREACH**

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.

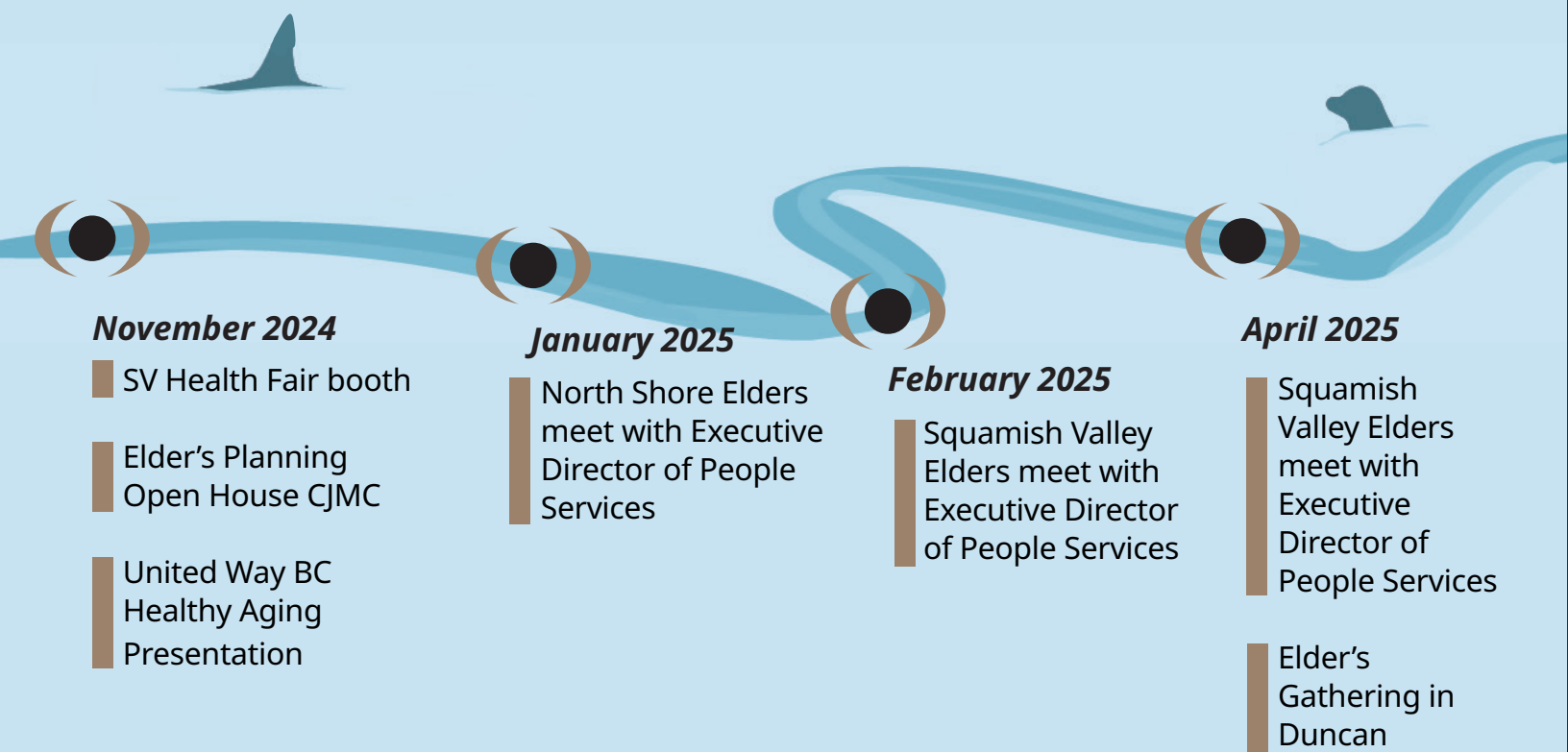
The results of what we have heard are guiding our planning and can be found summarized here.

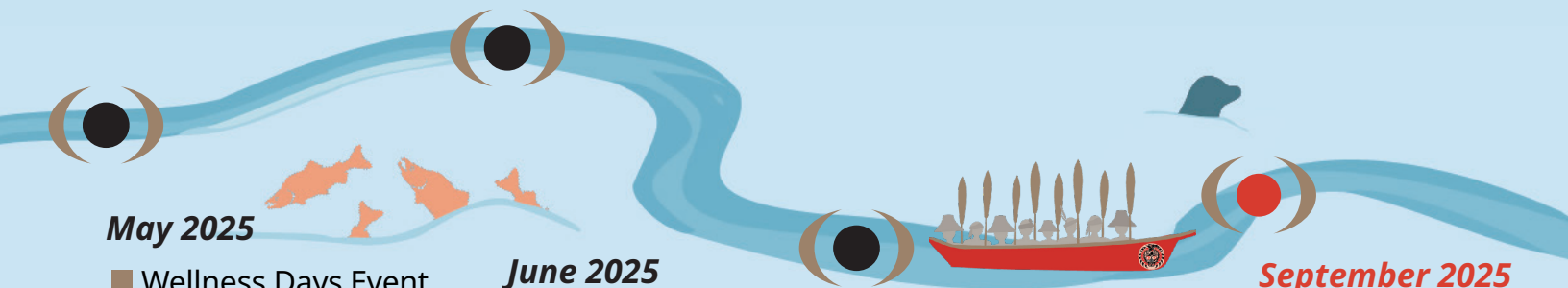
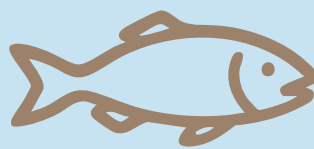
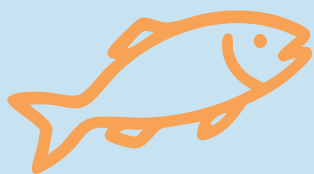




# Timeline

## *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

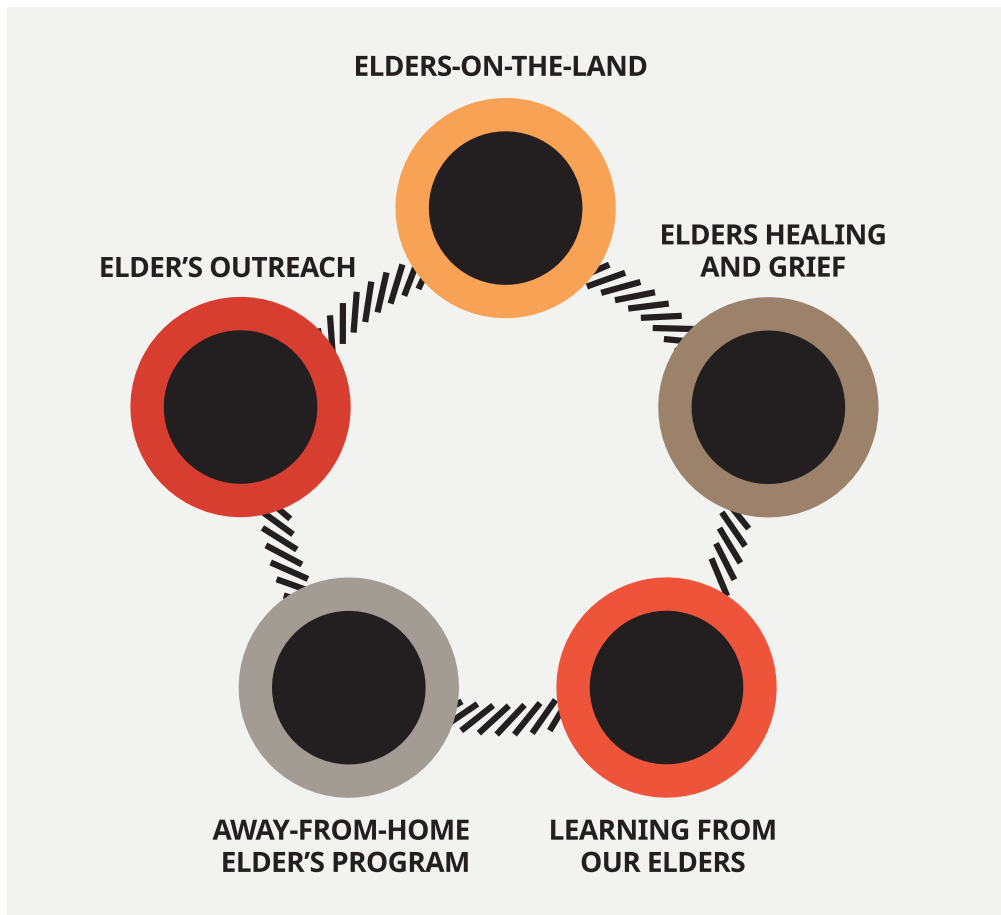
**July 2025**

- 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:

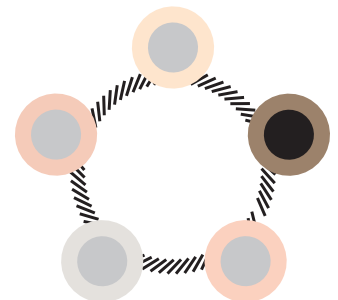


## **ACTION PLANNING**

### **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)



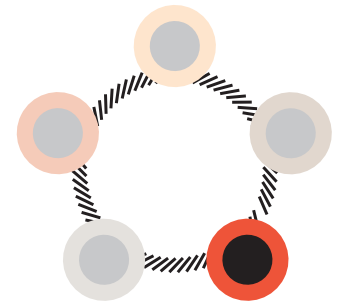
**THE INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL SYSTEM** left a legacy of deeply-rooted trauma, grief and loss for many Squamish People.

Elders have shared how they have lost loved ones, their language, connection to their culture, and sense of identify. 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*

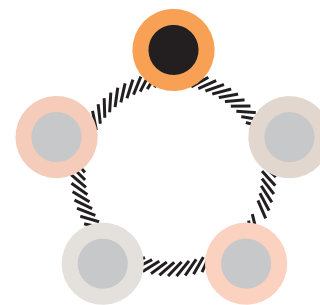


## ELDERS-ON-THE-LAND INITIATIVE

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 Snewíyelh (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)



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**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*

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# PROGRAM EQUITY

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

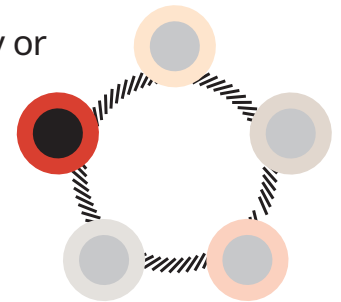
## ELDER'S OUTREACH INITIATIVE

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 Téywilhaylhem 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 Elders' 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



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**“ 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*

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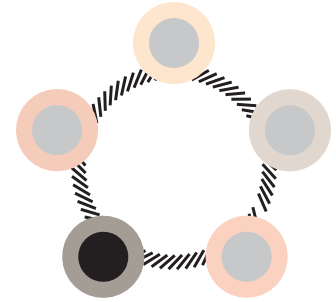
*Xwi7ski gathering and ceremony at the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre*



## 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)



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“ **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

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# 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 Elder's 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 Nexwínlhewá7nem 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.

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

*—Xwí7ski Member*

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## 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 Elder's Program. Departments come together monthly as part of the Elder's 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'áyaḱen ta Úxwumixw**  
Community Operations
- Ta na wa Téywilhaylhem**  
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 2024

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 Elder's 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**  
**Late 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.**

**Skw̓wú7mesh 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](mailto: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:



**First Nations Public Service Secretariat**  
COURAGE TO EXCEL

**Squamish Valley Elders**

**Skw̓wú7mesh Úxwumíxw**  
Member Services  
Ta na wa Chéwéw ta Spwéwéw  
Squamish Valley Operations  
Yáawéw  
Health & Wellness  
Ta na wa Nu'gáwntim ta Snewiyéth  
Language & Cultural Affairs  
Ta na wa Shéwéw P'zew ta Úxwumíxw  
Planning & Capital Projects  
Ta na wa Táywíllaythem  
Public Safety  
Néwéwéwíntim 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 Skw̓wú7meshulh  
(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.**

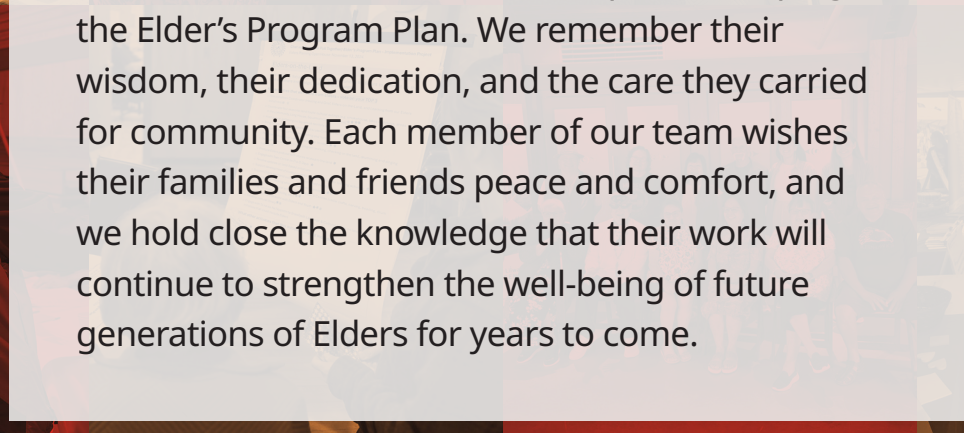
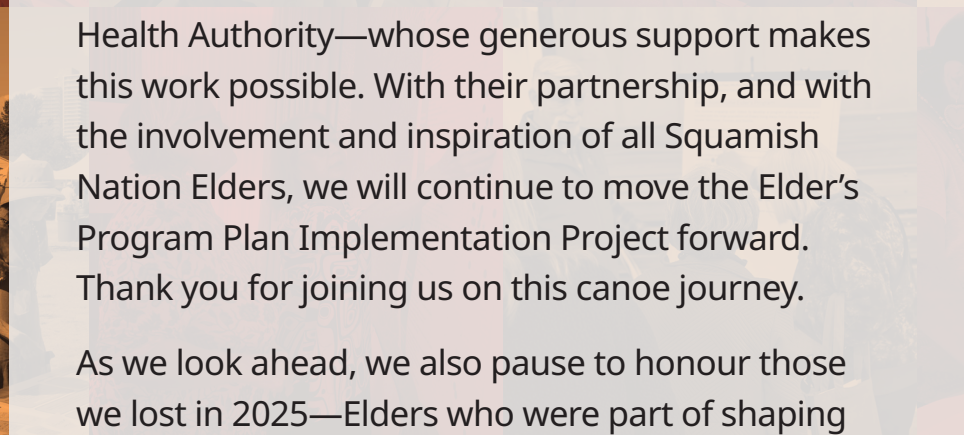
—Squamish Nation Elder



***Huy chexw a!***

**We are grateful to the Squamish Nation for providing our first year of budget to implement the Elder’s 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.





**Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw**  
Squamish Nation

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

[eldersproject@squamish.net](mailto:eldersproject@squamish.net) | 604.987.4646  
[squamish.net/elders-program-project](http://squamish.net/elders-program-project)