

Squamish Nation Planning for Howe Sound

Squamish Nation Howe Sound Steering Committee:
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Julie Gardner (Planner)



Topics covered in this presentation:

- Starting point for the Squamish Nation: Howe Sound is in Squamish Nation territory
- Approach to Squamish Nation planning for Howe Sound, focusing on marine component
- Guiding principles – the foundations of the planning process
- Draft goals of the Squamish Nation Howe Sound Plan
- Governance for planning and implementing the plan
- Understanding conditions and trends in Howe Sound
- Priority values



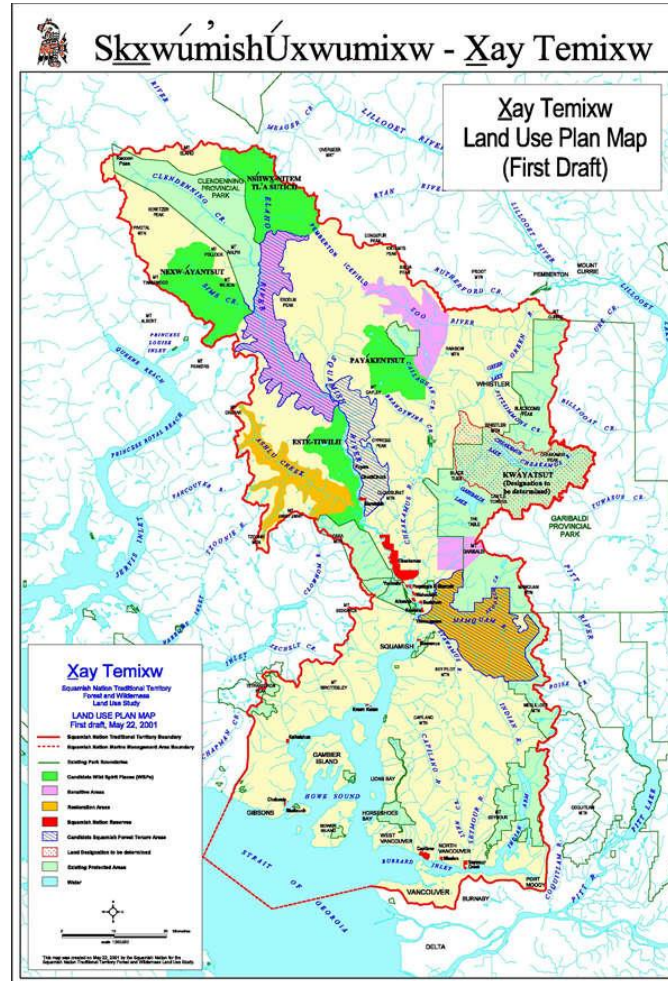
Starting point for the Squamish Nation in HS

Howe Sound is in Squamish
Nation Territory

- The Squamish Nation has used and occupied Howe Sound's waters and islands for all time.
- The Nation has an effective land use plan for the upper forests and wilderness of their territory: *Xay Temíxw*.
- The Howe Sound plan will take the next step in painting a holistic vision for Squamish Nation territory.
- Prior to having the full budget for the project in place, a Steering Committee has been conducting some preparatory work.
- Dr. Julie Gardner, a Planner from the Dovetail Consulting Group, has been assisting.



Existing land use plan for the upper forests and wilderness of SN territory: *Xay Temixw*



Approach to Squamish Nation planning for Howe Sound

With a focus on the marine
component

Follows an approach similar
to the one used by coastal
First Nations in the Marine
Planning Partnership

- **Direction-setting:**
Setting out the aims of the plan, including principles, goals and priority values
- **Governance:**
Establishing authority for implementation and a governance structure for planning
- **Conditions and trends:**
Understanding the starting point and the direction of change
- **Management objectives:**
Getting more specific about the aims of the plan
- **Management strategies:**
Defining ways of reaching objectives, including Management Directions
- **Spatial planning:**
Distinguishing the activities suited to various geographic areas, mapping zones



Direction-setting:

Setting out the aims of the plan, including principles, goals and priority values

– *Partially complete*

- Guiding principles have been drafted by the Steering Committee
- Goals have been drafted by the Steering Committee
- Next, priority values will be explored by Squamish Nation Knowledge Holders and Members
- Related management objectives will come later



Guiding principles:

Foundations of the planning process

– Drafted by the Steering Committee

- Ensure protection of natural, cultural and spiritual resources.
- Ensure Squamish First Nations' priority access to cultural and spiritual resources.
- Follow the principles of ecosystem-based management.
- Enable appropriate Squamish First Nations commercial use of resources, within the limits of the above principles.
- Enable appropriate non-First Nations' use of resources, within the limits of the above principles.



Ecosystem-based Management

- A Guiding Principle

- Marine planning is an opportunity to manage human activities and provide for sustainable uses that are compatible with each other and with the ecosystem.
- Watersheds bordering the marine are included.
- From the outset, ecological data as well as information on human use, cultural values, development, transportation, etc. are seen as intertwined. Ecosystem-based management (EBM) is a way of linking it all together.
- EBM strives to maintain and restore healthy ecosystems while sustaining human use of ecosystems over generations.
- EBM provides mechanisms for monitoring, evaluation and redesign of plans as required.



Draft Goals:

- Drafted by the Steering Committee; to be reviewed by Squamish Nation Knowledge Holders and members

- Communicate Squamish First Nation cultural history and values connected with Howe Sound, past, present and future.
- Sustain Squamish Nation cultural and spiritual values in Howe Sound.
- Further the recovery of Howe Sound marine and watershed ecosystems to support clean air, clean water and the plants, animals and humans that benefit from them.
- Guide development that is ecologically sustainable, economically beneficial to Squamish Nation members and consistent with cultural and spiritual values.
- Ensure that Squamish Nation members have opportunities to engage in traditional activities in a modern way, with a view to activities made possible by the recovery of degraded Howe Sound ecosystems in the future.



Governance:

Establishing authority for implementation and a governance structure for planning

– *Partially complete*

- A Steering Committee has been established : Chief Gibby Jacob, Chief Bill Williams, Chief Ian Campbell and Councillor Chris Lewis.
- Consulting planners have been selected (Dr. Julie Gardner for the marine portion and Bryan Evans for the land portion, both of the Dovetail Consulting Group). Other technical support will follow.
- Squamish Nation members will participate in Howe Sound planning.
- In limited parts of the planning area, coordination with other Coast Salish Nations will be appropriate.
- The Squamish Nation will consult with other governments as appropriate.
- Cooperation with non-government interests is also appropriate in some aspects.
- Relationship-building between the Squamish Nation, governments and non-government organizations in connection with Howe Sound is well underway.



Understanding conditions and trends in Howe Sound

Establishes a vital foundation for future planning steps

- *Many related initiatives are complete or underway*
Opposite is a sample:

- *A BC Cumulative Effects Assessment Framework* is under development and has been proposed for application in Howe Sound – Squamish Nation priority values need to be central.
- Squamish Nation is a partner in the project to *Report on Coastal Ocean Health in Howe Sound*, with the Vancouver Aquarium, David Suzuki Foundation and knowledge holders.
- *Squamish Nation Land Data Management System* provides a secure, unified access point to multiple layers of data held by the Squamish Nation in the form of a web-based user interface.
- *Howe Sound Science and Knowledge Workshop, 27 March 2015* brought together 60 knowledge holders from a diversity of backgrounds.



Priority Values

To set the foundation for the Squamish Nation Howe Sound Plan and to guide the focus of related initiatives, priority values of Howe Sound for the Squamish Nation will be explored.

- *Next step*

- Questions to Squamish Nation Knowledge Holders and members will include:
 - What has to be protected or restored in Howe Sound to respect and support Squamish culture and spirituality?
 - What place names should be used for Howe Sound?
 - What are the main wishes of Squamish Nation people for future use of Howe Sound for income or economic development?
 - What has to be protected or restored in Howe Sound to ensure that nature thrives, including clean air and water for all living beings?
 - What are some of the main values that should go in a vision for Howe Sound?



Thank you

Kxwuzh means canoe in the Squamish language, and it is also the name of a canoe used on Tribal Journeys each summer!

Source of photo: Turtle Island Native Network
www.turtleisland.org

