Ta Skwekwiý́ntsuts ta Sx̱wéx̱wel

The Valley's Plan

Sḵwx̱wú7mesh Úxwumixw

Squamish Nation

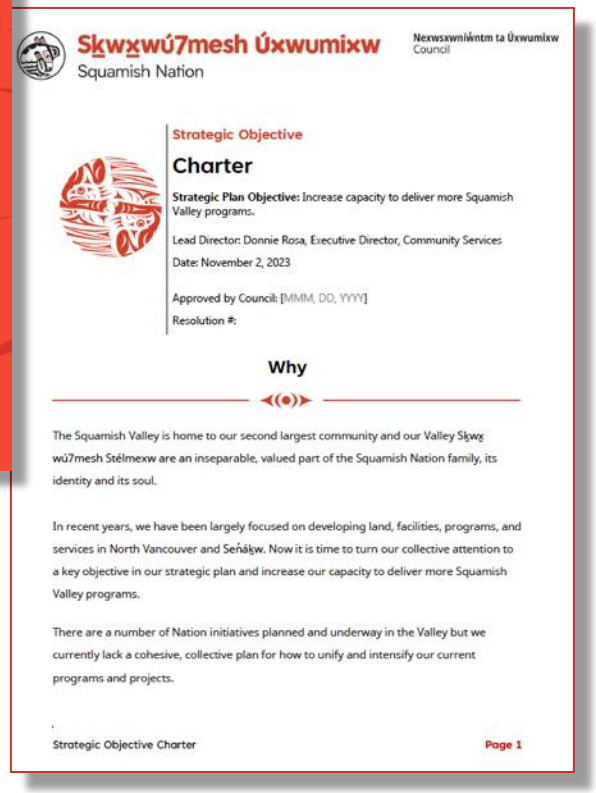
Plan Overview

October 2026

Project Context

Squamish Nation Strategic Plan identified need to increase capacity and deliver more Squamish Valley programs

Council Strategic Objective and Charter outlined Squamish Valley Plan project


Sḵwx̱wú7mesh Úxwumixw
Squamish Nation
Nexwsxwníwntm ta Úxwumixw
Council

Strategic Objective

Charter

Strategic Plan Objective: Increase capacity to deliver more Squamish Valley programs.

Lead Director: Donnie Rosa, Executive Director, Community Services

Date: November 2, 2023

Approved by Council: [MMM, DD, YYYY]

Resolution #:

Why

The Squamish Valley is home to our second largest community and our Valley Sḵwx̱wú7mesh Stélmexw are an inseparable, valued part of the Squamish Nation family, its identity and its soul.

In recent years, we have been largely focused on developing land, facilities, programs, and services in North Vancouver and Seńáḵw. Now it is time to turn our collective attention to a key objective in our strategic plan and increase our capacity to deliver more Squamish Valley programs.

There are a number of Nation initiatives planned and underway in the Valley but we currently lack a cohesive, collective plan for how to unify and intensify our current programs and projects.

Strategic Objective Charter Page 1

Project Context

Project Timeline

Planning-to-Plan
Fall 2024

- *Reviewing past work*
- *Elders outreach*

Getting Started
Winter - Summer 2025

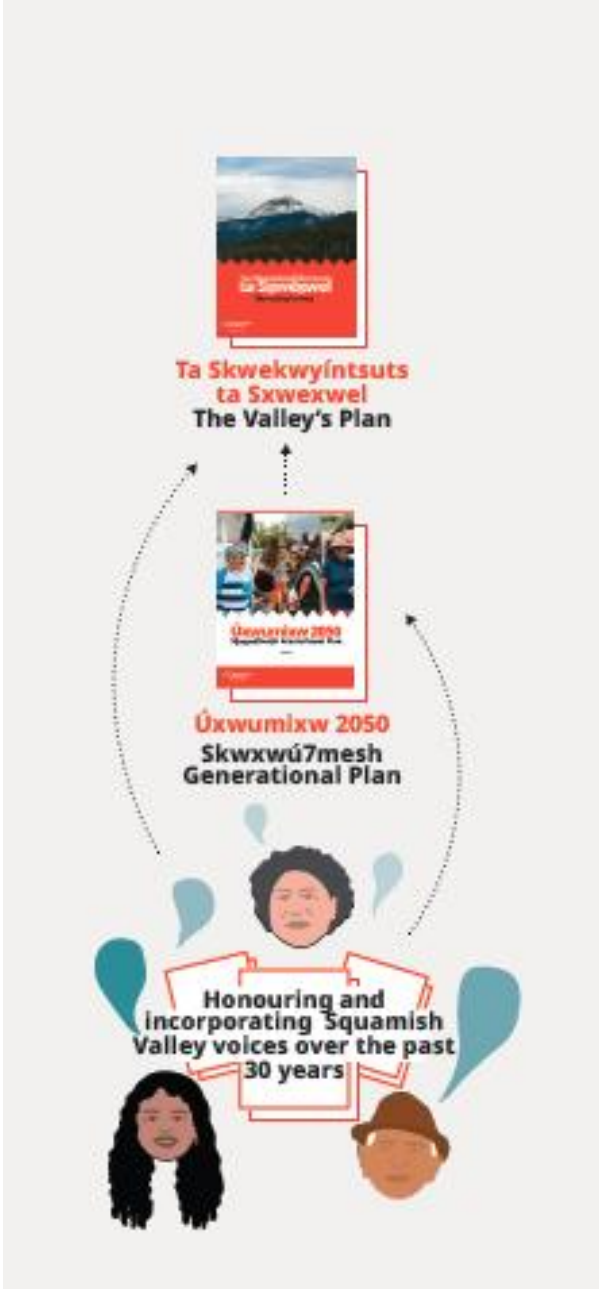
- *Family meetings*
- *Community Advisory Group*
- *Visioning*

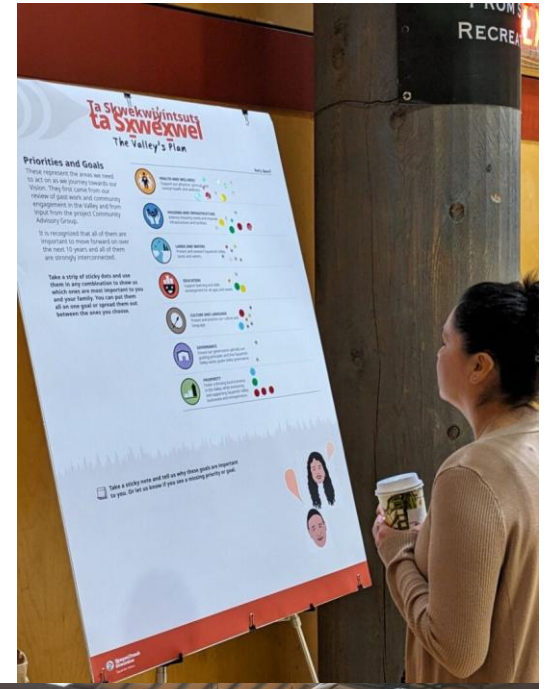
Choices & Directions
Summer - Fall 2025

- *Community Advisory Group*
- *Priorities and projects*
- *Draft Plan*
- *Community review*

THE TEAM

Making the Plan





Community Advisory Group

Our Vision – Looking Forward

Continuing the hard work of past generations and leaders of the past, Sḵwx̱wú7mesh 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

iy̓ím ta Sḵwx̱wú7mesh
(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

kw'áchmincht

Our Visions

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 Sḵwx̱wú7mesh 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.

iýím ta Sḵwx̱wú7mesh
(Squamish Strong)

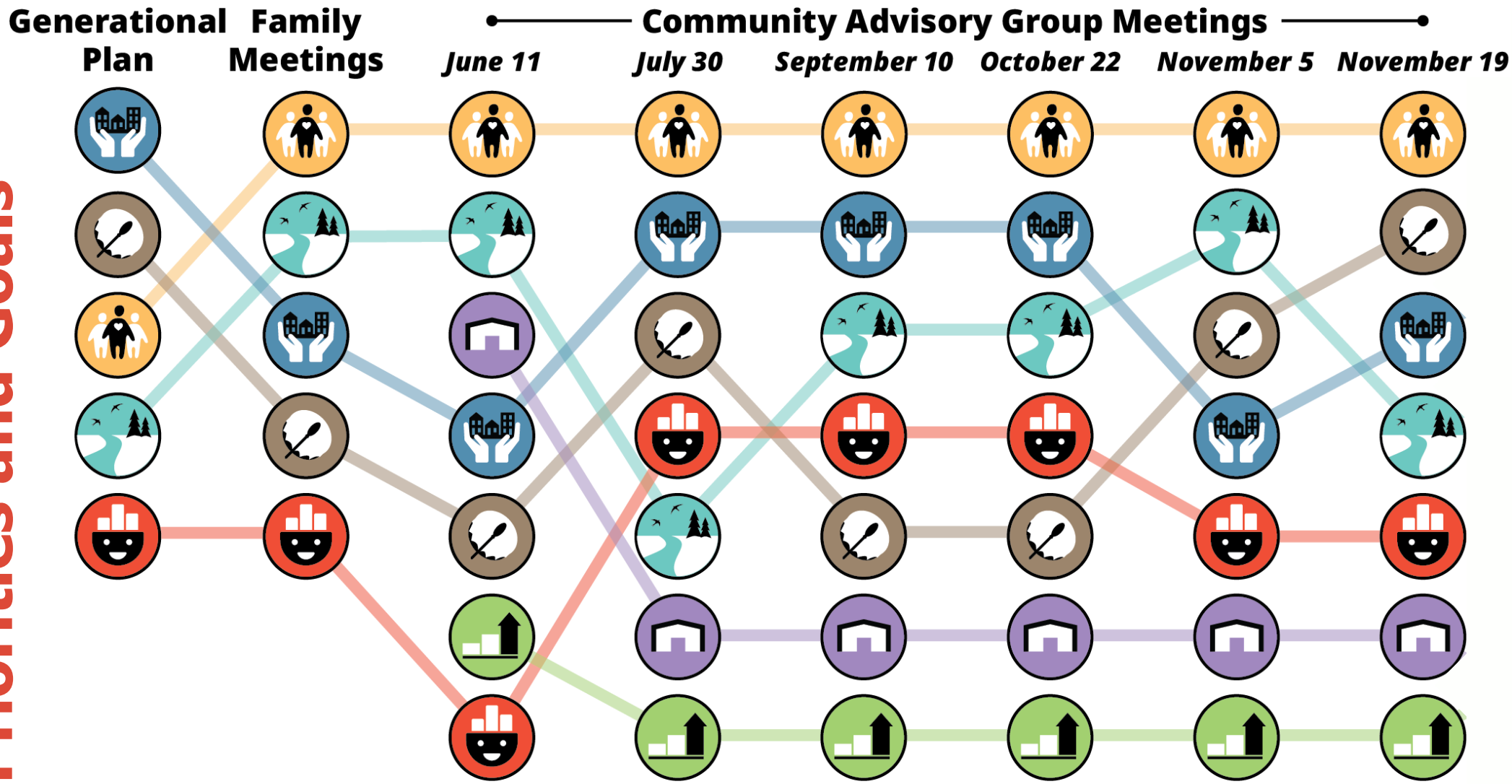
Foundations

There are big projects planned and underway in the Valley and at the Nation-level

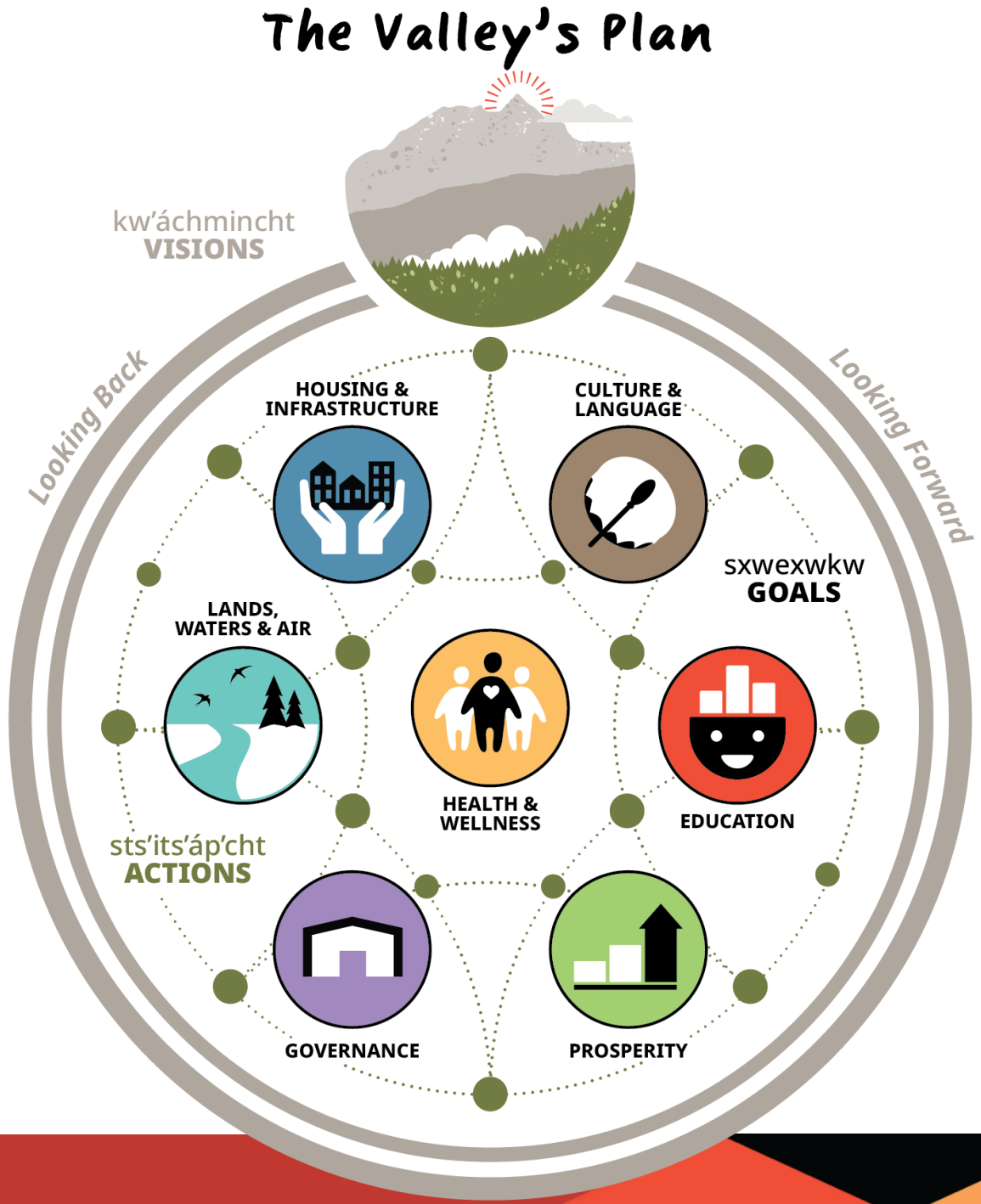
Collectively, these projects will transform the Valley in a good way over the next several years and within the timeline of this plan

The transformational projects provide a foundation for rolling out The Valley's Plan's actions

Priorities and Goals



Organization



Making the Plan

LOOKING BACK, PADDLING FORWARD

The Valley's Plan is at the confluence of decades of past planning work and feedback from Valley people and will help implement our Generational Plan in the Valley

A LIVING PLAN. A GROWING COMMUNITY.

A Living Plan

The Valley's Plan is a living document. It will change and evolve as our community grows and as this plan is put into action. New ideas and opportunities will likely emerge as major projects are built over the next ten years. This plan will grow together with them.

Actions

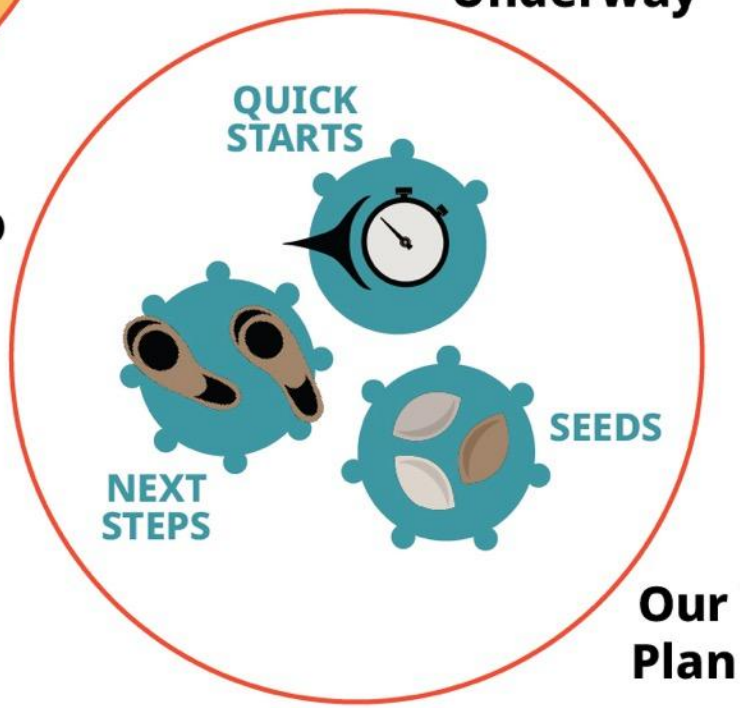
Sḵwx̱wú7mesh Generational Plan

Other Plans

Family Meetings

Community Advisory Group

Projects Already Underway



Our Valley's Plan Actions

How all actions will be implemented

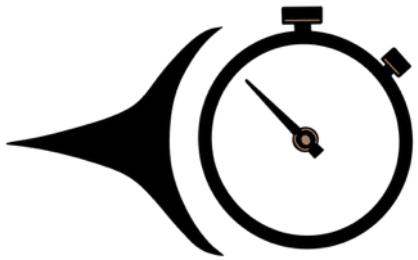
Commitments

Follow our ways

Support wellness in the Valley

Mentor, build capacity and support prosperity in the Valley

Actions



Quick Starts
chet wa mi̓-kw (we are starting now)

3 relatively inexpensive actions that can start-up immediately and help put the plan "on the ground", build capacity, and build momentum for undertaking other actions.

Next Steps
híwi̓k̲wam̓ chet ek̲' (we will move ahead)

8 more detailed projects that require additional planning and assessment that *could* start after Quick-starts have begun, or sooner if opportunities arise (e.g., funding, capacity)

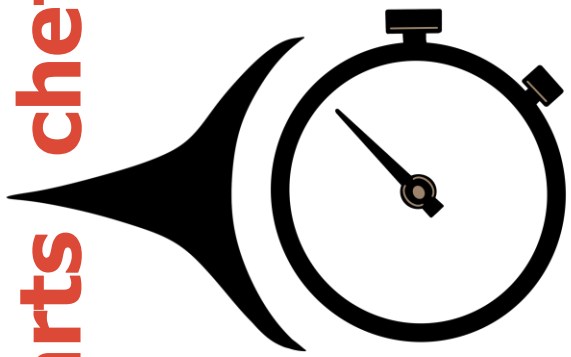
Seeds
spén̓em (plant; seed; shoot for planting)

7 major projects that could be undertaken beyond the plan's timeframe – i.e., seeds to be planted and tended until the Squamish Valley Community Plan is ready for renewal in (2034/2035)

Quick Starts | chet wa mi̓-kw

Actions that can start-up immediately and put the plan "on the ground"

Build capacity and lay the groundwork for undertaking other actions (Next Step and Seeds)

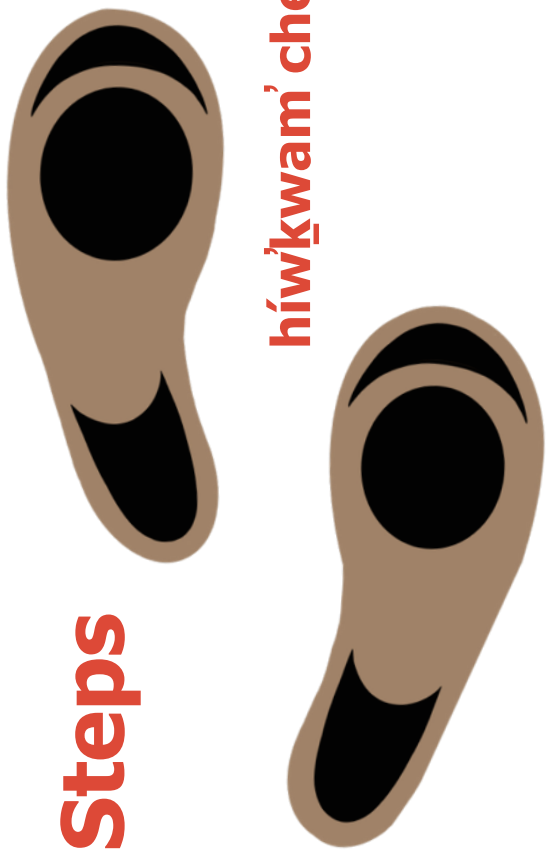


- Squamish Valley Community Advisory Committee
- The Valley's Plan Project Lead
- Squamish Valley Communications Framework

Supporting work plans developed for Quick Starts

Next Steps

híwḵwam̓ chet eḵ̓



Require additional planning and assessment work

Start after Quick Starts have begun, or sooner if opportunities arise (e.g., funding)

Community Advisory Committee will play an important role

- Squamish Valley Community Needs Survey
- Neurodiverse Learning Support
- Men's Wellness Service
- Squamish Valley Transportation System
- Squamish Valley Guardians -Expansion
- Squamish Valley People's Guide
- Squamish Valley Ecotourism
- Wayfinding and Signage

spénem

Seeds

Seven significant building and facility projects that may be undertaken beyond the plan's timeframe

Some could potentially be brought forward through ongoing village planning (Wíwḵ'em Village Plan) and land development strategy projects (St'á7mes)

- Community meeting spaces
- Holistic Health Services Centre
- Squamish Valley Treatment Centre
- Community Arts Hub Space
- Recreation Spaces
- Squamish Hotel
- Squamish Business Park

Seeds - Sample

Seeds

Seven significant building and facility projects that may be undertaken beyond the plan's timeframe 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 Seeds 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 K̲'iyáx̲an Ch'áwch'aw (Community Services) and Ta na wa Shéway I7x̲w ta Úxwumixw (Planning & Capital Projects), particularly those projects that are still in the early Plan phase of Planning & Capital Project's major project delivery project delivery program.

The Community Advisory Group is aware that there are opportunities for the first three Seeds to be realized sooner through ongoing foundational projects in the Valley.

- *Community meeting spaces*
- *Holistic Health Services Centre*
- *Squamish Valley Treatment Centre*
- *Community Arts Hub Space*
- *Recreation Spaces*
- *Squamish Hotel*
- *Squamish Business Park*

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.

"There's not enough space for meetings to happen, and a lot of groups could benefit from additional space being available."

COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP MEMBER

Holistic Health Services Centre

A program rich facility that could provide more resource for healing our traumas, traditional wellness programs, and potentially an addictions centre among other services could be developed to support Valley wellness. Some services and programs may in the Plan, Invest, and Deliver phases of Planning & Capital Project's major project delivery program may address and include some holistic health services.

"It's in the works, but it's something that we want to highlight specifically as a need in the Valley so that it doesn't fall off. Wellness is a priority in the Valley."

COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP MEMBER

"This would make me feel proud, happy, and hopeful our people can heal."

FAMILY MEETING PARTICIPANT

Additional Actions

Community Advisory Group – Additional Action Ideas

The following action ideas were recorded from the Community Advisory Group. Updates and reviews of The Valley's Plan will revisit these ideas with the Squamish Valley Steering Committee and community. Opportunities may also emerge through new funding or project developments and new community priorities to explore them further over the lifespan of this plan.

- Squamish professional building (doctors, dentists, counsellors), keeps capacity in community.
- Squamish Nation museum or heritage center in the Valley that celebrates culture, helps with preserving artifacts, and provides regular in-community workshops to learn about language, history, arts and crafts.
- Community-based farm and garden that supports food security in Squamish Valley.
- Acquiring more land for program and service delivery (above current Additions to Reserve [ATR lands]).
- Recycling and waste reduction education program.
- Indoor pool with swimming lessons, aquafit, and hot tub (could be a joint project with District of Squamish).
- Revive summer camps at Evans Lake.
- Green building program for Squamish buildings. Include EV charging stations, solar panels and green infrastructure. Replace staff fleet with hybrid or EV vehicles.
- Homes for men who are single parents – they're doing their best to raise their kids, but programming is focused on women – we need to be holistic in providing care – what's best for the child.
- Safe house for women and children.
- Cannabis production by Squamish Nation.
- Service agreement(s) with the District of Squamish.

Witness List

Witness List

We are grateful for everyone that has shared their thoughts, aspirations, goals, needs and ideas. This list is just a general list of the many witnesses of our planning work together as people.

ADMINISTRATION / STAFF

2024

- June 5 – Steering Committee
- June 24 – Steering Committee
- August 6 – Steering Committee
- September 25 – Steering Committee project kick-off
- October 9 – Steering Committee
- October 17 – Steering Committee
- December 17 – Squamish Valley staff sessions (2)

2025

- March 3 – Steering Committee
- September 3 – People Services presentation
- September 5 – Community Services presentation
- September 16 – Steering Committee
- October 24 – Planning & Capital Projects coordination meeting
- November 28 – Steering Committee
- December 9 – Squamish Valley staff sessions (2) – The Valley's Plan

An internal project technical team met weekly over the course of the project and met over 35 times over the course of the project.

SQUAMISH VALLEY COMMUNITY – FAMILY MEETINGS

2025

- January 16 – Billy/Newman family
- January 30 – Lewis family
- February 13 – Harry family
- February 20 – Youth sessions
- February 27 – Joseph family
- March 6 – Baker family
- March 13 – Williams family
- March 20 – Online session

SQUAMISH VALLEY COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2025

- April 30 – project kick-off and orientation
- June 4 - visioning
- June12 – visioning and priorities
- July 9 – priorities
- July 30 – Planning & Capital Projects presentation (Squamish Valley projects)
- 10 September – priorities and actions
- 22 October – visions, priorities and actions
- 5 November – preliminary draft review
- 19 November – draft review and confirmation

SQUAMISH VALLEY ELDERS

2024

- September 25 – Elders Lounge
- December 9 – Elders Lounge
- 2025
- March 20 – Elders lounge
- December 5 – Elders Lounge

SQUAMISH VALLEY COMMUNITY-FACING COMMUNICATIONS

2024

- October – Project intro posters Totem Hall
- October – Project postcard (Gen Plan celebration distribution)
- October – Project newsletter

2025

- February – Project newsletter
- June – Project newsletter
- November – Project newsletter
- December – Community Unveiling and Celebration
- December – Project handouts for Community Unveiling

2026

- January – Project newsletter
- January – Squamish Valley Visions poster (for Totem Hall)
- January – Plan-on-a-page for distribution in the Valley

Questions?

Ta Skwekwiý́ntsuts ta Sx̱wéx̱wel

The Valley's Plan

Sḵwx̱wú7mesh Úxwumixw

Squamish Nation

Plan Overview

January 2026