

Esquimalt Nation Community Plan

Volume I | Issue 6 | April 2010



Chief Thomas receives a Chancellor's Community Award, 2007. Royal Roads University.

The Chief and Council are pleased to provide this update on the Esquimalt Nation Vision and Community Plan. This process will be an opportunity for the community to embrace our future in the context of change and planning for a better community.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE PLAN?

The purpose of the Plan and the Planning Process is multi-fold. However, there are four key considerations:

1 | TO DEFINE THE NATION'S DIRECTIONS

The Nation has opportunities to pursue new directions in terms of social services and economic development. In recent decades, changes in the provincial economy have had negative impacts on the Nation. Current opportunities have potential to move the Nation toward becoming a more self-reliant community.

2 | TO INFORM THE NATION

Members need to take active roles in defining the future of the Nation. The Plan allows for that participation, and informs Members about opportunities and constraints that exist in moving forward.

3 | TO GUIDE DECISION MAKING

The Nation is in transition towards a more socially and economically strong community. Major decisions regarding social and economic development are imminent. Further strategies for housing the growing population must be developed to provide opportunities for Members to live on reserve if they choose. These and other decisions require a framework to guide the decision making process.

4 | TO BUILD CAPACITY

The Nation needs to build capacity within the community to take advantage of opportunities and to create new ones. The Plan can start by involving Members in the process.

Process Phases

1 GETTING STARTED:

Confirming the work plan and launching the planning process.

(Sep-Oct 2009)

2 DEFINING THE KEY ELEMENTS OF THE SACRED TRUST:

Identifying the key elements of the Sacred Trust and the Teachings.

(Nov 2009-Jan 2010)

3 MAPPING THE VISION:

Moving from the Sacred Trust and the Teachings to identifying Values and developing a Vision Statement.

(Jan-Mar 2010)

4 DRAFTING THE PLAN:

Preparing the Community Plan.

(Apr 2010-Mar 2011)

WORK TO DATE

- The Chief, Council and staff have continued to meet with our consultants on a weekly basis.
- Newsletter Volume 1, Issue 5 was published in March 2010.
- Coordination meetings were held with the consultants, who are documenting important aspects of the Nation's history and language.

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- Our communications consultant, CitySpaces, has prepared a final draft of the Community Plan website.
- The second Open House was held on March 30th. Presentation boards from that event remain available for viewing at the Nation's offices.
- Work is continuing on securing funding for the next phase of the process.

ESQUIMALT NATION COMMUNITY PLAN BACKGROUND PAPERS

As part of the Community Plan process, five background papers are being written by our consultants, Bill White and Andrew Cienski. The proposed titles are:

- Esquimalt Nation Time Line
- Traditions Still Continue
- Sovereign Nation
- Sinoopun – The Hereditary Chieftainship
- Esquimalt Nation Sacred Trust

LEKWUNGEN DICTIONARY

<i>'uy skwechl</i>	Good day.
<i>'elhe 'u s-hw 'o' 'ay' ul'?</i>	How are you? Are you alright?
<i>'o' 'ay' sun ul'</i>	I am well.
<i>Hay' s-hw q'a</i>	Thank you.
<i>Hay'ekwu</i>	Goodbye.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Monthly meetings with the Heads of the Families are proposed to continue through the next phase. The intention is to activate the Advisory Committee for ongoing advice. The intent of these meetings will be to first review the work to date, and then begin building the goals, objectives and policies that will form the substance of the Plan.

We will continue to publish monthly newsletters. The response to the Special Projects — The Nation Chronology, The Language Dictionary, The Photo Album and the Nation's Family Tree — was very positive. We will be looking for volunteers to support each of these projects.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2nd Tuesday of each month
Heads of the Families Meetings

April 23
Launch of the Community Plan website

June (date to be confirmed)
Open House #3

HOW TO GET INVOLVED?

- **Talk with the Heads of the Families.**
- **Volunteer for a Special Project.**
Contact Michael McCarthy at: fusioninc@hotmail.com or sign up at the office.
- **Make sure everyone in your family reads the newsletter.**
- **Drop by the Nation's offices to see the Open House boards.**
- **Drop in any Tuesday to talk with our Planning Consultant.**
- **Visit the website: www.esquimaltnation.ca**

