

# Area C Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP)

## 'Plan on a Page' Content (Draft)



<b>Vision</b> What we are trying to maintain and achieve.	Area C is a beautiful coastal area comprised of high ecological diversity and unique communities working to maintain their quiet rural character, protect the natural environment, mitigate climate change, and meet community needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.				
<b>Systems</b> What we need to attend to and plan for.	<b>Climate Change &amp; Natural Environment</b> <i>The greatest threats to the residents of Area C - and all life on earth - are climate change caused by greenhouse gas emissions and the destruction of biodiversity.</i>	<b>Developed Areas, Housing, and Infrastructure</b>	<b>Community Wellbeing and Individual Health</b>	<b>Economy and Employment</b>	<b>Governance and Reconciliation</b>
<b>Goals</b> What we are trying to maintain and achieve in more detail. They are in no particular order and were developed with input from the project task force.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION &amp; ADAPTATION: To reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, become a net carbon sink, and adapt to a changing climate.</li> <li>2. RESPECT: To recognize, respect, and steward the natural environment and wildlife as the foundation of our community, economy, and human health.</li> <li>3. PROTECTION: To protect and where necessary restore the health of sensitive ecosystems, wildlife habitats, endemic species, and areas of significance to communities, and to minimize encroachment into these areas.</li> <li>4. ACCESS: To appreciate, protect, and enjoy community access to wild places and areas of significance to communities, and to avoid harm by restricting access where sensitive areas may be damaged by recreational activities.</li> <li>5. RESOURCES: To reduce our consumption of natural resources and energy, to supply energy increasingly from renewable sources, to move toward zero waste, and to protect water sources.</li> <li>6. MATERIAL TYPES: To select natural and local materials over synthetic substances as much as possible, and to manage synthetic substances and their emissions in ways that protect human well-being and ecosystem health.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. GROWTH MANAGEMENT: To manage and limit growth and development in a way that minimizes encroachment into and impact on natural areas, accounts for infrastructure capacity, and avoids hazardous areas.</li> <li>8. RESIDENTIAL AREAS &amp; HOUSING: To enable limited, small-scale, compact, affordable residential housing as needed in planned areas that avoids sprawl and negative impacts on natural areas and the peaceful rural character of Area C, focusing it in core areas as the preferred approach.</li> <li>9. COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL AREAS: To locate commercial and light industrial areas such that our remote character is protected, negative impact on surrounding areas is avoided, and encroachment into nature and neighbourhoods is minimized.</li> <li>10. INFRASTRUCTURE: To deliver and manage infrastructure services* that meet local needs, utilize natural assets where possible, minimize negative environmental impacts, and contribute to quality of life and the local economy.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11. QUALITY OF LIFE: To support good health and quality of life of Area C community members.</li> <li>12. CHARACTER &amp; CULTURE: To protect and celebrate our quiet, private, and rural culture, which is enhanced by the rich heritage and culture of Area C First Nations, on whose unceded traditional lands our region is situated.</li> <li>13. UNIQUE &amp; CONNECTED: To foster a strong sense of community, close social connections and collaboration, and mutual understanding and respect amongst the unique individuals and communities within our region.</li> <li>14. INCLUSIVE: To be inclusive of all people and treat everyone with fairness, respect, and care, resulting in high levels of mutual trust, safety, and wellbeing.</li> <li>15. HEALTH &amp; SAFETY: To ensure our communities are safe, prepared for emergency situations, and have access to essential health, emergency, and social services, primarily locally or by timely and convenient transportation to other communities.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16. LOCAL GOODS, SERVICES &amp; BUSINESS: To support locally owned and operated businesses such that they thrive and can supply essential goods and services reliably and affordably as much as possible.</li> <li>17. EDUCATION &amp; EMPLOYMENT: To encourage local opportunities and technology that enable residents to access the needed education and home-based employment that support livelihoods and the pursuit of continuous learning and personal development.</li> <li>18. RESOURCE-BASED ACTIVITIES: To carefully locate, plan, and conduct light resource-based economic activity such that it protects environmental and human health and the remote and quiet character of the area.</li> <li>19. TOURISM: To manage the tourism sector to support small-scale, ecologically responsible tourism and reduce adverse impacts on residents, infrastructure, and the natural environment.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20. DECISION-MAKING: To localize decision-making whenever possible and to be guided by shared vision, goals and policies that support the environment, the economy, and Area C community members, and account for the unique places and perspectives of the area.</li> <li>21. PARTICIPATION: To enable Area C community members to meaningfully and collaboratively participate in the decision-making process to achieve the shared vision and goals of the region.</li> <li>22. RECONCILIATION: To work toward reconciliation, to establish and maintain mutually respectful relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in the region and beyond, to respect traditional land and use of those lands by Indigenous people, and to collaborate in decision-making related to shared interests in pursuit of mutual benefit.</li> <li>23. PARTNERSHIPS: To develop and maintain strong partnerships with Area C community members and First Nations, other levels of government, and community stakeholders that inform decision-making to achieve mutual goals and shared benefits through open dialogue, honesty, respect, and collaboration.</li> </ol>
<b>Key Initiatives – initial ideas</b> These initiatives were informed by task force submissions. They are some initial ideas for consideration through future SRD planning and budgeting.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Develop a climate change mitigation and adaptation plan that identifies the greatest opportunities for GHG reduction and impact/risk mitigation, including an exploration of increasing local food and energy sources and security.</li> <li>b. Consider the GHG emission and sequestration implications of all decisions.</li> <li>c. Support land use shifts that increase carbon sequestration, reduce carbon emissions, maintain biodiversity, and protect water.</li> <li>d. Support transportation shifts towards low emission, low impact modes and away from high emission, high impact modes.</li> <li>e. Identify environmentally sensitive areas such that they can be appropriately protected in planning, regulations, and other decision-making.**</li> <li>f. Improve waste reduction, diversion, and management to conserve natural resources and reduce GHG emissions.</li> <li>g. Work with other levels of government to protect primary (never logged) and mature temperate rainforest.</li> <li>h. Work with other levels of government to remove open net pen salmon farms from Area C.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Using community consultation and local knowledge, develop an understanding of housing issues and propose appropriate and attainable solutions.</li> <li>j. Review existing infrastructure services with a focus on future needs, climate change, and suitable upgrades or improvements.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>k. Identify and protect parks, trails and other natural places as affordable ways for Area C community members to meet their health and recreation needs.**</li> <li>l. Enhance emergency services, preparedness, and education.</li> <li>m. Support local organizations such that they can contribute toward the health and wellbeing of Area C residents.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>n. Develop a sustainable tourism management strategy that maximizes economic benefits and minimizes negative impacts on the environment and Area C community members and ensures tourism activities occur within infrastructure limits.</li> <li>o. Explore ways to support local small businesses.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>p. Create/update OCPs and work to ensure they are accurately reflected in zoning bylaws.</li> <li>q. Improve community engagement with respect to local decision-making.</li> <li>r. Implement the Truth and Reconciliation Commission calls to action relevant for local governments.</li> <li>s. Provide community members with opportunities to learn about Truth and Reconciliation in Canada, local Indigenous culture and heritage, and diversity, equity and inclusion generally.</li> </ol>

\*Including transportation, energy, water, waste, communications | \*\*If undertaken, would form policy within the OCP/zoning initiatives for the outer islands and Quadra, both listed in the Governance and Reconciliation section of this table.