

GITXAALA NATION

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN (CDP)

NEWSLETTER #1



February 2026

INTRODUCTION

Over the next 6 months, we will work together to build the Gitxaala Community Development Plan (CDP). It will set out a shared vision for the future of our lands, housing and infrastructure, and lay out the steps needed to make that vision a reality.

MEET THE TEAM

The Project is being led by nine Steering Committee members with the support of David Nairne + Associates Ltd (DNA).

DNA has longstanding relationship with Gitxaala Nation, working on 25+ projects within our community, including subdivision / lot development in Lach Klan, the CMHC Rapid Housing Initiative, and Visiting Professionals Housing.

Together, this team will ensure the project is led in a manner that reflects the values and priorities of our Nation.

Steering Committee

- Marcia Robinson
Chief Administrative Officer
- Colissa Bolton
Gitxaala Territorial Management Agency
- Roxanne Aster
Health Department
- Ernie Westgarth
Director of Community Services
- Sierra Tolmie
Housing Manager
- Debbie Stava
Director of Education & Culture
- Vince Davis
Director of Public Works
- Tamer Gras
Director of Finance
- Laverne Faithful
Executive Assistant to Governing Council

David Nairne + Associates Ltd (DNA)



Shannen Doyle
Planner



Emma Fairfield
Junior Planner



Neil Courtney
Project Engineer



Dan Martin
Civil E.I.T

WHAT IS A CDP?

A CDP is a generational plan that helps a community decide what it wants for the future and how to get there. It looks at things like lands, housing, and infrastructure, and brings them together into one shared plan. This process will be guided by the vision and priorities of all Gitxaala community members - including youth, Elders, those living in the community, and those living away.

This plan will be *by the community, for the community.*





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HOW WILL THE PLAN BE USED?



Chief & Council: The CDP will guide Chief and Council in their future decision making to ensure future growth and development meet the needs and aspirations of the community.



Staff: Staff will be responsible for implementing the CDP actions as they pertain to each division, ensuring future projects meet the overarching vision and goals of the Plan.



Community: Members will actively participate in engagement activities and future CDP reviews, evaluate ongoing work, and provide feedback that reflects community values to help achieve our vision.

THE PLANNING PROCESS

The CDP is currently in the “Where are we now” phase, gathering baseline information through member surveys, background reviews, and assessments of housing, infrastructure, and existing land uses. It will then move into the “Where are we going” phase, engaging members through visioning and workshops to shape future land use and development directions.



ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

There will be many opportunities for our members to stay informed about the CDP project and provide input throughout the process, including:

- 1. PHASE ONE**
 - Newsletter #1
 - Member Survey
 - Virtual Engagement
 - What We Heard Report
- 2. PHASE TWO**
 - Newsletter #2
 - Division Focus Groups
 - Member Workshops
 - ★ *Prince Rupert* (April 29th)
 - ★ *Lach Klan* (April 30th)
 - What We Heard Report
- 3. PHASE THREE**
 - Newsletter #3
 - Priority Setting Workshops
 - Member Meetings
 - ★ *Lach Klan*
 - ★ *Prince Rupert*
 - What We Heard Report

GET INVOLVED!

Member Survey

We are conducting a member survey to better understand your priorities related to housing, community services, infrastructure, community buildings, land use, and climate adaptation.

To participate, please scan the QR code or contact Marcia Robinson at cao@gitxaalanation.com to request a hard copy of the survey.

SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW TO
TAKE OUR MEMBERS SURVEY



Members living in
Lach Klan



Members living
away from
community