



Tsawout First Nation is preparing a plan process to guide future community development. This process began in August 2009 and is overseen by the Lands Committee – it relies on involvement by *the entire community* at key points. The information on this sheet outlines the main components of the process. A community meeting was held on November 12, 2009 to present two land use options and get community feedback. The information presented at the Open House is attached to this document. **We encourage you to take the time to read this information and send your comments to the Lands Department at the Band Office** as this process will affect you, your family, and the Tsawout community at large.

What is a Community Plan?

First Nations in British Columbia use comprehensive community planning (CCP) as tool to build healthy and sustainable communities and improve the quality of life for members. The process is driven, designed and implemented *by the community for the community*. It enables Tsawout to plan for future development in a way that meets the community’s needs and aspirations. The plan takes a long-term view and considers all aspects of community life, such as governance, land and resources, health, infrastructure development, culture, social issues and the economy.

The final results of the plan will include:

1. **A document** that describes how different areas in your community can be enhanced, developed and protected; and
2. **An implementation document** that describes the various processes and tools that could be used to achieve the plan.

The benefits of planning to Tsawout

The plan will provide Tsawout with a framework and process to identify core values and priorities, a vision for the future, and a way of achieving that vision through strategies, objectives and action plans.

Some key benefits of the plan:

- **Empowers the community** to become self aware and create positive change in a proactive way;
- **Improves governance and community decision-making** and **fosters effective use of resources**;
- **Promotes healing and reconciliation** as members work together toward a common, positive vision;
- **Celebrates traditions and culture** as part of the planning focus; and
- **Creates sustainable economic opportunities** because plans can help attract investment.

How does the plan affect me and why I should be involved NOW?

Your input throughout the planning process will help shape the community. Once it is finalized, significant time, cost and effort would be required to make changes to the plan. The final plan will establish the type of land uses (housing, commercial, industrial, etc.) that will be permitted within specific areas of the community.

The land use designations will identify:

- Where people live, work, shop or participate in community, recreational and cultural activities;
- How people can develop their properties, including:
 - The amount of development that can occur;
 - The look and feel of the development; and
- Where and how important environmentally sensitive areas (like the Tixen Spit) or resources (such as trees) are protected.



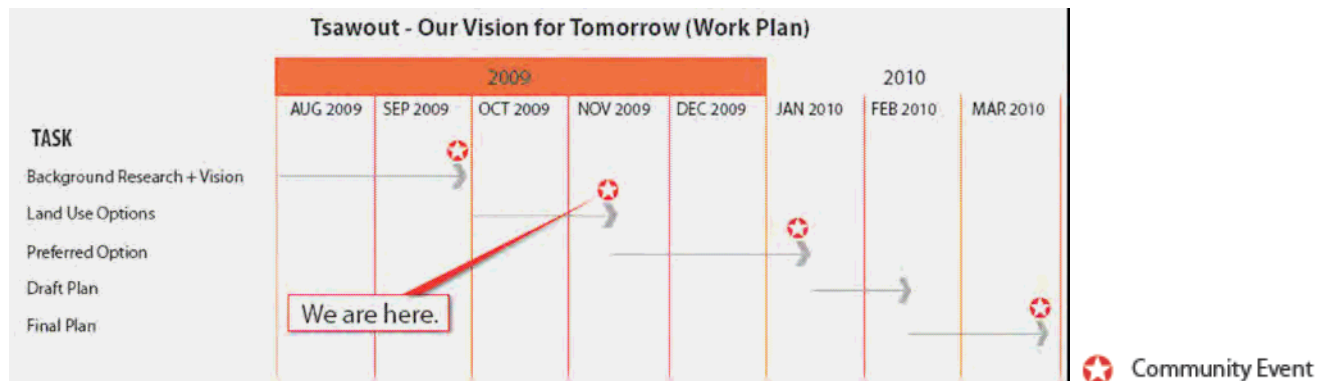
5 Steps to “Our Vision for Tomorrow”

So far...

Step 1: Gather and analyze background information on the community + create a community vision (August - September 2009). A survey was distributed to Tsawout households in September 2009 that identified community values, priorities and areas of improvement. The information was used to create a draft community vision and goals and objectives to help realize that vision.

Step 2: Develop draft land use options (October-November 2009). Two (2) options for land use development were created based on community feedback for both the East Saanich and Fulford Harbour Reserves – those were presented on November 12, 2009. They are shown in the attached handout for you to review and comment. Each general land use is represented by a different colour. Within each designation, land will be set aside for parks, trails and sensitive ecosystems.

What’s next...



Step 3: Develop a preferred land use plan (December-January 2010). Based on the feedback collected on the options developed in Step 2, one preferred option will then be created.

Step 4: Draft and finalize plans (February-March 2010). The plan is further reviewed and revised until it is adopted by Council. A community gathering will be organized to celebrate the completion of the plan.

Step 5: Implement the plan. Action items and tools will be developed to help achieve the plan.

What tools can be used to implement the plan?

There are several tools that can help implement and enforce the plan:

- 1. Zoning Laws** – a document that determines: *what* and *where* buildings or other land uses (like parks) are allowed; *how much* of that development can be built, such as building size and height; and the steps involved in getting approval for the development;
- 2. Development Permit Areas (DPAs)** – in addition to zoning laws, DPAs control specific land uses in certain areas to: protect important natural areas; determine the design and look of a development; protect an area from natural hazards, like floods; or preserve important cultural areas/resources; and
- 3. Servicing and Access** – lands with good access and connections to water and sewer could be the first to develop. A phasing plan will be created to show the order in which development could take place.