

Principles For Cooperation

Howe Sound Community Forum

To provide an overview of the need, purpose and structure for cooperative efforts by interested local governments and First Nations in the Howe Sound area.

1. Statement of Purpose

To provide a forum for local governments, Regional Districts and First Nations discussion to maintain and enhance the economic, environmental, cultural and social well being of the Howe Sound for the benefit of present and future generations.

2. Rationale (The Need)

The Howe Sound Community Forum will enhance collective action among local governments, regional districts and First Nations by:

- Providing a common forum for dialogue
- Sharing knowledge and information to avoid duplication of effort and to enhance any single organization's capacity for action
- Promoting the use of transparent processes that encourage awareness and involvement.

3. Scope (The area)

The Howe Sound area includes the marine waters and all the municipal, regional district, local trust committee and First Nation lands that drain into these waters, the surrounding airshed on the east side of the Strait of Georgia between Point Atkinson and Gower Point, and interested adjacent communities.

4. Common Vision

The Howe Sound Community Forum envisions that communities within the Howe Sound area can be healthy, productive and sustainable by:

- promoting compact and complete communities;
- encouraging safe and livable communities;
- encouraging an integrated transportation system;
- preserving a healthy and natural environment;
- nurturing cultural heritage
- supporting sustainable use of resources;
- fostering a vibrant and dynamic economy;
- raising awareness about land use; and
- ensuring the public is informed and encouraged to be active.

5. Shared Values

The Howe Sound Community Forum will involve the collective efforts of a wide variety of governments, First Nations, non-government organizations, the private sector, educational institutions and individuals to pursue the following values and objectives. The Forum shares the following values and objectives.

Value...Spirit of Sharing

Objective – The many interests and organizations in the Howe Sound can strengthen the effectiveness of programs by openly sharing information and knowledge.

Value... Action Orientation

Objective – The Howe Sound Community Forum will encourage groups to take actions that produce positive observable results and public benefit to communities.

Value...Efforts towards Sustainability

Objective - The Howe Sound Community Forum members recognize the need to effectively manage and maintain a balanced relationship between community development and the protection of unique biophysical and cultural qualities of the region.

Value.. The need for Cooperation

Objective –Governments, First Nations and organizations will be encouraged to work together.

Value...Stewardship

Objective – Voluntary action of individuals and organizations as a powerful and effective tool for achieving positive results is an objective of the Forum.

Value... Transcending Jurisdictions

Objective – The Forum will encourage communities to work together for the greater good because territorial lines on a map mean nothing in terms of sustainability.

Value...Focus and Transparency

Objective – Forum member programs will encourage clear objectives and use accountable processes that are available to Howe Sound Community Forum members and the public.

Value... Respect for Diversity

Objective – It is recognized that while every member of the Howe Sound Community Forum may have a different focus or interest, they are encouraged to acknowledge a shared interest in the sustainability of Howe Sound.

6. Structure (The Members)

A hosting community from the membership will act as the focal point and be responsible to coordinate meetings and agenda material.

The hosting community will rotate among the Howe Sound Community Forum members and meetings will be held annually, or more frequently, as requested by any member or as predicated by local issues.

Task forces or sub forums may be established to focus on specific projects.

Charter members of the Howe Sound Community Forum include elected representatives of:

District of Squamish	Greater Vancouver Regional District
Resort Municipality of Whistler	Squamish-Lillooet Regional District
Squamish Nation	Village of Lions Bay
District of West Vancouver	Sunshine Coast Regional District
Gambier Island Local Trust Committee	Bowen Island Municipality
Village of Pemberton	Town of Gibsons

7. Activities (Action and Results)

The Howe Sound Community Forum members are not expected to make decisions as a body and will achieve its objectives through activities that build on the talents, knowledge and actions of its individual members by:

- Facilitating information exchange about local or regional projects
- Supporting members by sharing information, research and best practices
- Apprise the public of topical and important matters that affect us all
- Identifying areas of public policy that require attention and projects that deserve the support of the Forum members
- Assessing progress through benchmark, monitoring, and program assessments; and
- Promoting transparency and accessibility by the Forum members.

Therefore, all the parties of the Howe Sound Community Forum commit to respect the Principles for Cooperation

Approved by the District of Squamish this ____ day of ____, 2013 by _____
Rob Kirkham, Mayor

Approved by the Bowen Island Municipality this ____ day of ____, 2013 by _____
Jack Adelaar, Mayor

Approved by the Squamish Nation this ____ day of ____, 2013 by _____
Bill Williams, Chief

Approved by the Gambier Island Local Trust Committee this ____ day of ____, 2013 by _____
David Graham, Chair

Approved by Metro Vancouver this ____ day of ____, 2013 by _____
Greg Moore, Chair

Approved by the Town of Gibsons this ____ day of ____, 2013 by _____
Wayne Rowe, Mayor

Approved by the Village of Lions Bay this ____ day of ____, 2013 by _____
Brenda Broughton, Mayor

Approved by Squamish Lillooet Regional District this ____ day of ____, 2013 by _____
Patricia Heintzman, Chair

Approved by the Sunshine Coast Regional District this ____ day of ____, 2013 by _____
Garry Nohr, Chair

Approved by the Resort Municipality of Whistler this ____ day of ____, 2013 by _____
Nancy Wilhelm-Morden, Mayor

Approved by the Village of Pemberton this ____ day of ____, 2013 by _____
Jordan Sturdy, Mayor

Approved by the District of West Vancouver this ____ day of ____, 2013 by _____
Michael Smith, Mayor

