

REPORT TO: Council FOR: COW  
REPORT FROM: Community Planning & Infrastructure  
PRESENTED: July 13, 2021 FILE: MAST  
SUBJECT: Community Marine Access Review & Marine Archeological Review Special Project  
Budget consideration for 2022

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### **Recommendation:**

That Council approve the following resolutions:

**THAT** the District of Squamish endorse the scope of work and draft engagement program for the community marine water access review as presented in the July 13, 2021 Council report.

**THAT** the District of Squamish direct staff to draft a special project scope for archeological resource management for consideration in the 2022 Budget process;

**AND THAT** the District of Squamish bring a request for contribution towards the Atl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Marine Reference Guide for consideration in the 2022 Budget process, as presented in the July 13, 2021 Council report.

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### **1. Objective:**

This report presents a scope of work and engagement program for a forthcoming marine access review and seeks Council input and endorsement prior to its initiation, which is anticipated towards the end of Q3 2021. In addition, direction on special project recommendations for archeological resource review in 2022 is requested for the upcoming budget planning cycle. Lastly, a request for an annual local government financial contribution towards the Howe Sound/Átl'ka7tsem Marine Reference Guide from Howe Sound Community Forum and OceanWatch Action Committee is presented.

### **2. Background:**

The [Squamish Marine Action Strategy](#) endorsed in 2018 identified a cluster of strategic directions and actions respecting marine water access and marine user needs within Focus Area 3 (Marine Economy) and Focus Area 4 (Marine Gateway). With accelerating downtown waterfront revitalization, ongoing community growth and marine employment activities, and intersection of diverse water access interests, planning staff propose initiation of a marine water access review to clarify/distinguish, map and plan for the coordination of existing and future proposed marine access points in the community to meet marine user needs and aspirations.

The marine access review is still planned to follow the conclusion of marine zoning update in 2021, which has now been extended for some additional engagement as directed by Council on June 8, 2021. While the marine zoning work continues, preliminary scoping for the marine access review is under development. This early touch point with Council will help staff ensure

the proposed work program and engagement is aligned with Council's expectations and strategic directions.

### **Additional Marine-related Items for Future Work Planning + Budget Consideration**

Two additional items related to ongoing marine planning work require Council direction in time for inclusion in 2022 budget planning.

#### **1. Marine Zoning Archeological Review Considerations**

During the 2020-21 marine zoning update, through intergovernmental referrals, a focused archeological review of marine areas was recommended by Squamish Nation to affirm archeological site potential within high potential areas. As a shoreline archeology review was beyond the scope of the marine zoning project, staff identified as a preliminary recommendation to consider future archeological study (overview) of the marine shoreline area. Archeological sites are protected by the *Heritage Conservation Act*. Early knowledge of archaeological resources supports land use planning and can also reduce the potential for use conflicts and increased development costs and delays.

On May 18 2021, Council passed the following resolution:

THAT a plan for approaching Squamish Nation archaeology concerns be referred to a Committee of the Whole meeting.

CARRIED

Archeological considerations for a marine shoreline review, as well as broader policy and operational guidelines for archeological impact assessment process improvements are outlined in Attachment 2.

#### **2. Howe Sound Community Forum/Ocean Watch Action Committee Request for annual contribution towards Marine Reference Guide (MRG) maintenance**

From 2018-21 the District (along with local and regional governments in Howe Sound) contributed \$15,000 and in-kind support towards the development of the MRG, a priority joint initiative stemming from the [2017 Ocean Watch Action Plan Report](#) as recommended by the Ocean Watch Task Force (now Action Committee). The MRG ([www.howesoundguide.ca/map](http://www.howesoundguide.ca/map)) is an online decision-support tool for the region with over 400 data layers that inform marine spatial planning, collaborative decision-making and community education associated with the ocean and freshwater systems in Howe Sound/Átl'ka7tsem. At the April 23, 2021 Howe Sound Community Forum, participating communities were asked to consider ongoing support for a portion (~20%) of the estimated annual maintenance cost of the MRG in their five-year financial plans 2022-27, as outlined in Attachment 3. These annual costs sustain the value, function, and accessibility of the Guide's principal deliverables and assets, as well as intergovernmental and community collaboration. Cost-shared contributions are based on each community's percentage contribution to the regional population of Howe Sound. For Squamish, the annual financial contribution was noted as \$3,799 for a total of \$18,995 over 5 years. Funds are proposed via the Átl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative Society (AHSBRIS) who will oversee the MRG project after year-end 2021.

### **3. Project Information:**

The project purpose, scoping and draft engagement program for the 2021-22 preliminary marine access review is presented in Attachment 1.

*Project Purpose:* To assess and distinguish and locate marine access needs, and create a unified marine access map to inform tactical planning for the coordination and accessibility of existing, interim and future proposed marine access points in Squamish marine areas.

The proposed marine access review advances and attempts to practically consolidate an array of Strategic Directions and individual Actions outlined in MAST. These directions and actions were based on community engagement activities and inputs. They include but are not limited to:

#### **FOCUS AREA 3: Marine Economy**

##### **3.1 Marine Access and User Needs**

*3.1.1 Enable safe and effective access to coastal waters, while avoiding user conflicts.*

Strategic Direction A. Identify land and water access needs for all marine users. A1. Secure and coordinate public access/rights of way with current and future land owners/interests.

Strategic Direction B. Secure public access on the waterfront while ensuring marine environment protection and conservation goals are maintained. B1. Identify, map and enhance access points and key linkages to uplands and water uses. Incorporate into Downtown public spaces planning, and development and review.

*3.1.2 Expand commercial recreation and marine based business opportunities on the waterfront.*

Strategic Direction A. Address business and recreation infrastructure needs and barriers in key areas on or near the waterfront. A1. Identify and reach out to stakeholders and operators to clarify recreational, commercial, recreational and commercial marine uses and needs...

##### **3.2 Marine Industry Access + Land Use Compatibility**

*3.2.1 Support water dependent + marine industry access.*

Strategic Direction A. Protect marine transportation corridors as valued shared asset for ongoing marine industrial and transportation activities. A1. Inventory, assess and formalize marine industry-related and commercial transportation routes through a local marine transportation and access plan. A2. Inventory, confirm and plan for critical industrial upland access between highway, water lots and navigation channel.

#### **FOCUS AREA 4: Marine Gateway**

##### **4.1 Infrastructure, Facilities and Amenities**

*4.1.1 Plan for and develop appropriate marine and marine-related infrastructure, amenities and facilities in consideration of current and future needs.*

Strategic Direction A. Address water-dependent user infrastructure, amenity, services and facility needs.

A1. Identify and secure locations and investment for current and future marine infrastructure, facilities and amenities through (re)development plans and zoning. A2. Secure land/ROWs for sea dike and

continued infrastructure needs for continued access. A3. Identify needed water-based tourism and transportation at key locations.

Strategic Direction B. Facilitate sensitive (re)development and plan for long-term marina/boating facility and servicing needs.

B1. Assess long-term marina facility and servicing needs for coordinated development planning. B2. Strategize and implement interim public boat launch solution and/or improvements until a future permanent facility/site is secured and developed.

*4.1.2 Ensure public waterfront realm is safe and accessible for all ages and abilities.*

B1. Design and develop linear, connected parks, boardwalks, trails and signage with linkages to uplands and waterfront trails as outlined in the Sub Area Plans.

These core directions and actions also connect to additional activities that will initiate later in 2021, such as: ecosystem based dredge management program and funding strategy development 2021 and MAST Direction 3.1.3 Action A1. Further, opportunity for advancing directions and actions for growing marine-based employment (MASt 3.3.1) will be connected to the District's economic action plan initiatives and future needs and impact assessments (ongoing, core enabling sectors).

Marine access review project objectives and key deliverables as well as engagement are further discussed in Attachment 1. Council input is sought to affirm the preliminary scope, deliverables and engagement program prior to preparing an RFQ (request for qualifications) for a marine planning consultant support to initiate the work program and engagement later in 2021.

#### **4. Implications:**

##### **a. Budget:**

Marine Access Review: This preliminary work will be initiated with special project funds in the current budget (\$15K) allocated for MAST implementation items in 2021. Staff propose to retain additional marine planning expertise to support the needs assessment, marine access planning and engagement. It is anticipated this work will continue into 2022, in part due to the additional time required for fulsome engagement during the BC restart plans, and to complete the marine zoning project. Additional funds for completing this work will be estimated and included in the 2022 budget.

Archeological shoreline review and resource management process improvements: New budget is required and proposed for this work in 2022. Grant funding and partnership opportunities will be investigated. One opportunity is Heritage BC's [Heritage Legacy Fund](#), a financial assistance program for heritage awareness, conservation, and planning. Program funding applications for 2022 will reopen in the Spring of 2022.

Átl'ka7tsem/Howe Marine Reference Guide Budget Contribution: In the budget process, staff will recommend an annual base contribution amount of \$5,000 be brought into the financial plan. This value will be adjusted for population adjustments in future. As outlined in Attachment 3, funds would be contributed and flow through the Átl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative Society, who will have oversight over the MRG tool and project continuity.

**b. Organizational Impact:**

The marine access review and marine reference guide budget item will support ongoing downtown land and marine use planning efforts and land development negotiations and plan review. As a MAST implementation action, it aligns with strategic priorities of Council and Development Services service delivery area. The archeological review requires staff management of consulting services under contract. Staff time will also be required to prepare any grant applications. Staff time will be included within the planning department's operational workplan for 2022.

Cross-departmental engagement and review will require staff review time with Economic Development (liaison with key community partners such as Tourism Squamish and the Chamber of Commerce), Engineering & Environment staff (water access points in consideration of coastal flood protection strategy and sea diking, as well as environmentally sensitive areas mapping and restoration and enhancement areas) as well as the Communications team and IT/GIS staff.

**c. Policy:**

Key District policies and plans pertinent to the project:

➤ Squamish2040 OCP

- **Reconciliation** Objectives 6.1 and 6.3 and Policy 6.4c – ...Facilitate mutual engagement and participation in ongoing plans respecting natural hazard mitigation, economic development, tourism, education and training, community health and wellbeing, and stewardship and marine planning efforts for Howe Sound.
- **First Nations Culture & Heritage** Objectives 27.1 a and b; Policy 27.2a Collaborate with First Nations to protect, conserve and build appreciation for local archeological sites, heritage and other cultural interests and b
- **Coastal Marine Planning** Policy 10.12h – Ensure foreshore development.... secures and enhanced public shoreline access without affecting aquatic habitat. Access points should be practical and universally accessible for public use and enjoyment.
- **Employment Lands Maximization** Objectives 14.1 and Policy 14.1f – Advocate for improved, safer access to and from Site B and support use of Site B for expanded specialized water-dependent industrial and port terminal uses.
- **Port Facilities + Marine Activities** Objective 14.5 and Policies 14.6b – Encourage expansion and diversification of marine, and 14.6e (coordinated waterfront land uses that support economic development.
- **Downtown Land Uses** Policy 16.1f – Support continued use of harbour as 'working harbour' and seek to achieve balance between residential/commercial, industrial and public uses.

- **Recreation Access + Amenities** Objective 18.3 and **Recreation Economy** Objectives and Policy 18.8b – Acknowledge and track the economic and social value of local outdoor recreation activities such as mountain biking, climbing and wind and paddle sports; and Policy 18.8d Partner with recreational stakeholders to monitor recreation growth and increasing user demands, and responsibly manage recreation activities in local parks and natural areas.
- **Water-Based Recreation** Objectives 18.9 (assets and stewardship of local blueways and marine areas), Policies 18.10a Promote marine-based recreation opportunities and low impact, water-based recreation access in and around the ocean, channels, and rivers; Policy 18.10c Secure public access to and staging areas for water-based recreation opportunities...; facilitate and secure public access to the dike system through the land development process.

**d. Bylaws:**

The key District bylaw pertinent to the marine access review and recommended archeological resource management work is the Squamish2040 OCP.

**5. Strategic Plan**

Marine Strategy implementation is an ongoing priority highlight area in Council's Strategic Plan. The water access review also directs focus, resources and effort in the following priority areas:

**The Economy and Local Jobs.** A thriving economy and working waterfront require safe and efficient marine access for water-dependent uses and meeting marine user needs by providing and maintaining key transportation infrastructure, amenities and facilities, while minimizing impacts to supporting natural areas. A variety of access infrastructure is required for industry, recreation, tourism and mixed-use and commercial activities to co-exist optimally. Access to tidal waters supports marine industry and employment and broader regional and provincial economic development beyond Squamish.

**Neighbourhood Connectivity and Public Spaces.** The marine access review is connected to the marine gateway goal to enhance the community's connection to the water through improved public access that is safe and accessible. This directly links to Council's strategic goals in 2019-22 *to increase year round utilization of public spaces (parks, public squares) and increase the area of publicly accessible parks and gathering/pedestrian spaces... in marine waterfront areas by 2022.*

**6. Organizational Plan:**

**Building Bridges.** The community marine access review, as well as the shoreline archeological overview recommendations and proposed archaeological resource protection process improvements advance the District's Building Bridges pillar by providing opportunity for collaboration, knowledge sharing and learning with First Nations and community partners.

**7. Engagement:**

Proposed draft engagement based on early stakeholder group mapping is presented in Attachment 1. Intergovernmental, key stakeholder and broad public engagement for the

marine access review proposes engagement at the IAP2 Consult level. Squamish Nation, as well as Musqueam Nation and Tsleil-Waututh Nation as appropriate, will be engaged through the marine access review as well as the archeological review work. No formal legislative notices or requirements are noted for these projects.

**8. Next Implementation Steps:**

Subject to Council input and direction on the marine access review, the scope, core deliverables and engagement program will be formalized for initiation. Staff will continue working with internal staff project team/advisors (Planning, Economic Development, Environment and Engineering, Real Estate) to refine the project charter. Project initiation will be dependent upon completion of the marine zoning bylaw update. Finally the 2022 budget items will be brought into the 2022 – 2026 5 year financial plan budget process.

**9. Attachments:**

1. Marine Access Review – Preliminary Scoping + Engagement Plan Brief
2. Shoreline archeological considerations and recommendations for archeological resource management process improvements
3. Howe Sound/Átl'ka7tsem Marine Reference Guide Update April 2021 – Budget Request

**10. Alternatives to Staff Recommendation:**

THAT the District of Squamish revise the scope of work and draft engagement program for the community marine water access review as follows:

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THAT the District of Squamish defer consideration of project budget for marine archeological review and resource management in 2022 and direct staff to return for additional discussion a future Committee meeting;

AND THAT the District of Squamish defer funding consideration for the Atl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Marine Reference Guide to the 2022 Budget, as presented in the July 13, 2021 Council report.

OR another alternative recommendation. Where direction for budget is not advanced for the marine reference guide maintenance, it is recommended that staff advise the OceanWatch Action Committee and MRG project team as adjustments to the funding strategy will be necessary.

**11. Staff Review**

**Prepared By:**

Sarah McJannet, RPP MCIP, Planner

**Reviewed By:**

Katherine Mulligan, Economic Development Officer

Gary Buxton, General Manager of Community Planning & Infrastructure

Anita Bleick, Acting General Manager of Corporate Services

Heather Boxrud, Chief Financial Officer

**CAO Recommendation:**

That the recommendation of the Community Planning & Infrastructure be approved.

Linda Glenday, CAO

## ATTACHMENT 1

### Marine Access Review – Preliminary Scoping + Engagement Plan Brief

#### **\*EARLY DRAFT\***

**Purpose.** Assess, distinguish, and create a consolidated marine map of existing, interim and future proposed marine access points and corridors in order to tactically plan for the siting, coordination, safety and accessibility of marine access infrastructure and associated services.

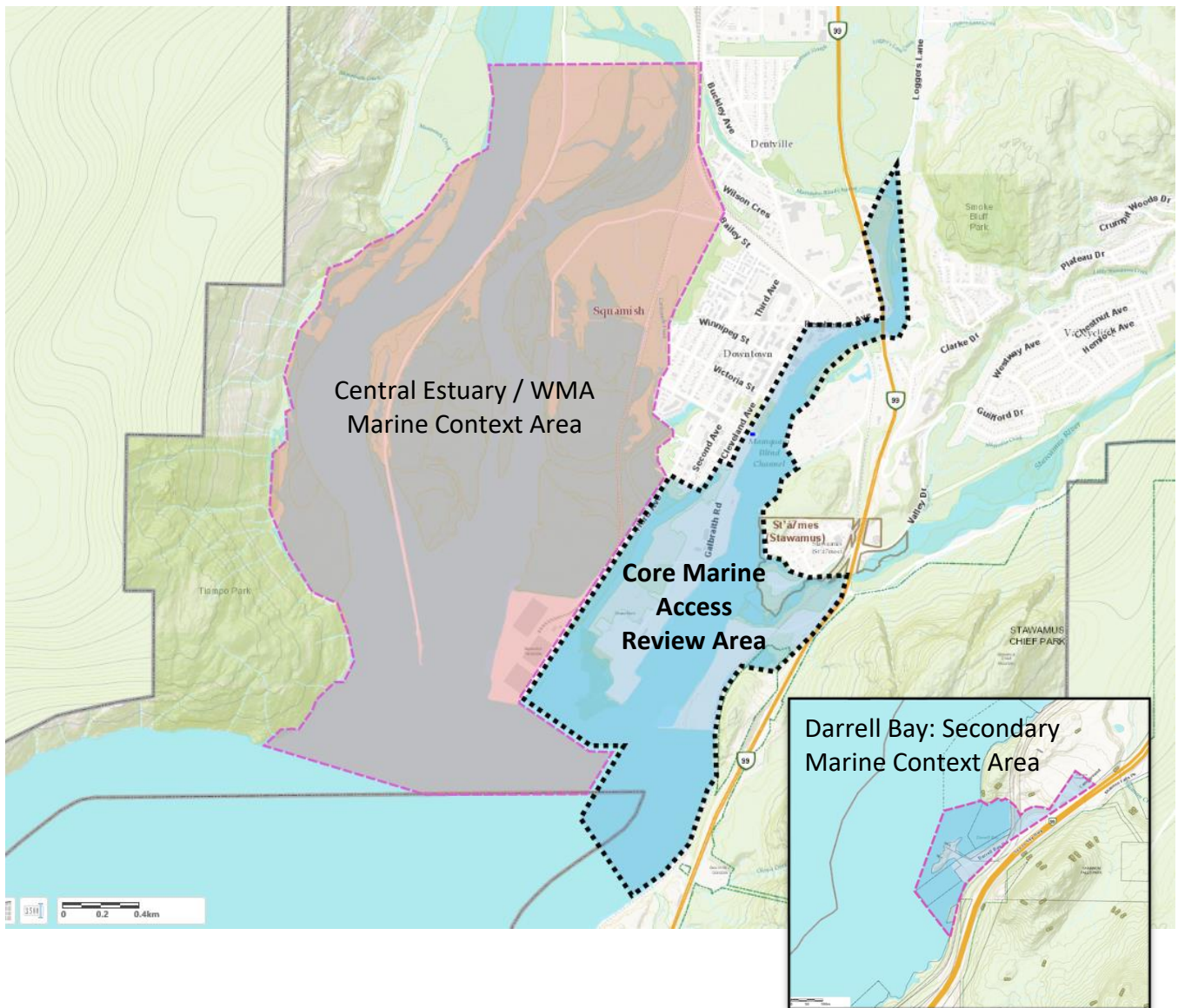
#### **Scope**

Review of public water access\* points and infrastructure (existing, interim, planned future) within the Mamquam Blind Channel (upper, mid and lower reaches), and Cattermole Slough (East of Third Avenue). The draft core marine access review area is illustrated in Figure 1.

*Water access considerations, options and proposals currently under discussion within the Central Estuary Restoration Project are not included within the scope of this overall marine access review, which focuses on the core area Mamquam Blind Channel (east and west shorelines), from the upper reaches at the Squamish Adventure Centre to the Squamish Oceanfront, adjacent to Site B. Other marine areas will be considered as part of a larger contextual/study area however (Squamish River Estuary, WMA, as well as Darrell Bay Ferry Terminal, and the north bay) and the marine access review will create a baseline of access needs and mapping to inform and support ongoing downtown land and marine access and transportation plan implementation.*

*\* Review scope of public water access needs is intended to be inclusive of motorized and non-motorized access points for cross section of uses, users and access types (public, recreational, commercial, industrial, and institutional). The review will be grounded in rights and title matters and sets intention to bring indigenous land, marine use and cultural context (historical and present day) to this project work to facilitate ongoing community learning and knowledge sharing.*

Figure 1 – Marine Access Core Review Area



### Project Elements / Key Tasks

- Marine study area assessment of specific water-access challenges & opportunities (updated and extended SWOT from Marine Action Strategy completed in 2018)
  - Including historical, cultural and marine information – understanding use of local marine areas, marine ecology and impacts
- Existing marine access infrastructure spatial inventory (foreshores, uplands, water lot tenure areas)
- Future planned marine access (planned waterfront parks, amenities, associated facilities such as parking, accessibility, +key programming and services linkages – overlays with blueway and greenway corridors in Squamish Parks and Recreation Master Plan and approved Downtown Area Plans)

- Gap analysis – review gaps in needs + opportunity areas and existing/future access points and infrastructure
- Base Map of marine transportation areas and corridors (navigation channel delineation, recreational and commercial use areas) and facility operational plans (Small Craft Harbour, MBC Bridge public information and communications)
- Boat Launch special study/topic: needs, issues and options for public boat launch facility (for motorized vessels and upland storage/parking area) – including specific public boat launch survey

### **Core Deliverables (3)**

1. **Marine access assessment and summary** documentation of access needs and priorities, types and locations (existing, future planned) and water access infrastructure gaps
2. **Consolidated marine access map** of existing, interim and future proposed marine access points and corridors with key information about associated services and amenities

*\*See example from City of Vancouver's On-Water Strategy marine user access map with overview of watercraft activity, along with information about safety, facility, and amenity locations: <https://vancouver.ca/files/cov/1747-on-water-user-guide-map-11-by-17.pdf>*

3. **Draft Infrastructure and marine access options and recommendations summary** for Council and community consideration (for informed and ongoing and integrated development, parks and recreation, public realm as well as transportation and facilities master planning)

### **Project Team Leadership and Engagement Groups**

Below is a very preliminary presentation of core project leads and internal as well as external engagement groups that will be used to inform development of a fulsome engagement program later in Q3 2021.

**Core Project Team Lead:** Development Services (Planning) + Marine Planning Consultant Support

**Cross - Department Internal Advisory:** Economic Development, Real Estate & Facilities, Engineering & Environment, IT/GIS, Public Works, Recreation Services, Bylaw Services, Communications

**Governments / Key Agencies:** Referral and early and ongoing engagement of Squamish Nation, Musqueam and Tseil-waututh Nations, as well as northern First Nations that have marine interests within Howe Sound; Province of BC (FLNRORD, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure), Fisheries & Oceans Canada (Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Branch), and Transport Canada

**Key Marine Stakeholder Groups and Community Advisors/Organizations:**

- Environmental and Stewardship Organizations
- Recreation (public and commercial recreation, wind and water sports and paddling groups, adaptive sport, commercial fishing)
- Upland Owners, Leaseholders and Water Lot tenure holders (public/private, commercial, marinas, industrial use including forestry and log handling, shipping and transportation)
- Squamish Small Craft Harbour (Squamish Harbour Authority) and public authorities (RCMSAR)
- Marine tourism operators and other marine businesses and water-based employment, involving Tourism Squamish and Squamish Chamber of Commerce
- Public realm + accessibility advocates and community advisors
- Marine shipping and transportation services (Squamish Terminals, Woodfibre LNG, marine transportation service operators including marine-based and air/seaplane)

*A fulsome stakeholder mapping exercise will be completed for the final project engagement plan. Council inputs on this preliminary list are valued and appreciated.*

## ATTACHMENT 2

### **Marine Archeological Considerations and Recommendations for Future Assessment and Process Improvements for Budget 2022**

Background: In the marine zoning update process in 2020-21, archeological resources and cultural sites were a central focus of discussions and inputs from Squamish Nation and have also been a focal point for District land development referrals. District staff reviewed legislative requirements and opportunities for strengthened recognition and protection of archeological values and sites, as well as overview studies (AOA, PFR) for ongoing marine use planning and coastal development review. Archeological and cultural sites protection is also a central aspect of recent intergovernmental work with the Province to pilot new frameworks for [joint land use planning and visitor use management](#) in the sea to sky corridor.

The District's OCP update in 2016-18 enhanced recognition and respect for Aboriginal rights and title, and support for First Nations goals and aspirations in land stewardship, cultural revitalization, governance, economic development, health, and well-being. Embedded policies in OCP Part 27 specifically focus on honouring the culture, heritage and traditions First Nations by meaningfully supporting expressions of Aboriginal identity, self-government, languages, arts, and cultural and spiritual practices throughout their traditional territory. Policies 27.2 related to archeological heritage sites are to:

- a. Collaborate with First Nations to protect, conserve and build appreciation for local archaeological sites, heritage and other cultural interests.*
- b. In close collaboration with Skwxwu7mesh Uxwumixw (Squamish Nation), recognize specific sites and locations of cultural importance within the community, and work to integrate traditional knowledge, perspectives and Indigenous place names in municipal planning, communications, signage, and mapping. Honour and respect First Nations archeological and burial sites within the community.*

Future Recommendations: Focused review and enhanced municipal operational guidelines for archeological impact assessment is a key way for the District to raise the profile and clarify requirements and ensure values and sites are being protected pursuant to the *Heritage Conservation Act*. Early knowledge of archaeological resources supports integrated land use planning and also reduces the potential for increased development costs and delays and use conflicts.

- Strengthen District of Squamish Protocol/Operational Guidelines. Raise the profile of Provincial requirements for archaeological assessment and site management within the District to ensure archaeological issues are addressed at the earliest stages of municipal project and development planning. Establish internal operational guidance for municipal projects.
- Consider future detailed shoreline AOA review in collaboration with Squamish Nation to refine and map out coastal zones of archeological potential and distribution. Explore potential to seek partnership funding from the Province and complete in conjunction with Squamish Nation through forthcoming marine use planning.

AOAs produce mapping of an entire jurisdiction or defined area and identify known sites and areas likely to contain archaeological sites. Past archeological overview assessments conducted in Howe Sound (1975) and for the Squamish Forest District (1997) provided basic but coarse inventory as opposed to detailed assessment. Squamish Nation staff indicate that focused review of marine areas will be valuable to affirm archeological site potential within identified high potential areas, to be assessed by professional archeologists. As noted by SN staff, there are many coastal marine areas with very high potential but yet unrecorded archeological sites, as well as important cultural and named places.

# Howe Sound/Átl'ka7tsem Marine Reference Guide

Howe Sound Community Forum Update, April 2021



## SUMMARY

Art by Di

The Howe Sound/Átl'ka7tsem Marine Reference Guide ("the Guide")'s goal is to create resources and decision-support tools that inform marine spatial planning and community education associated with the ocean and freshwater in Howe Sound/Átl'ka7tsem (one of three Squamish Nation place names). In 2017, the Ocean Watch Task Force (now Action Committee) selected the Guide as a priority initiative, stemming from the 2017 Ocean Watch Action Plan. From 2018 to present, the Guide has been a project on MakeWay's Shared Platform (formerly Tides Canada), guided by a roundtable Steering Committee, and with the Ocean Watch Action Committee and Squamish Nation as Leadership Partners.

## PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

We are proud to announce the **early completion** of the Guide's principal deliverable: an online interactive map that visualizes comprehensive data about the ocean and freshwater within the region (available at [www.howesoundguide.ca/map](http://www.howesoundguide.ca/map)). This decision-support tool contains over 400 data layers that can inform spatial planning and collaborative decision-making across the Sound's governments, rightsholders, and stakeholders. We are currently conducting training and engagement workshops with end users (e.g. local, provincial, federal, First Nations government staff members, consultants).

In addition to the online map, the Guide is preparing narrative reports that describe the interaction between economic, ecological, cultural, and social values associated with the water. These reports are informed by research (interviews, survey, participatory mapping) that the Guide is conducting in partnership with the University of British Columbia and the Squamish Nation. There will be one report associated with each of the six marine units identified by the Guide's Steering Committee (Appendix 1).

Finally, we have completed additional research, tool creation, and community engagement over the past few years. Together, these activities have served to fill critical knowledge gaps and build relationships between diverse rightsholders and stakeholders in the region. See below for a few examples:

- Community Network Map: [www.howesoundguide.ca/community](http://www.howesoundguide.ca/community) (password: community)
- Research and workshop reports (e.g. eelgrass survey and Indigenous Guardian workshop): see [www.howesoundguide.ca/resources/#research-reports](http://www.howesoundguide.ca/resources/#research-reports)
- World Oceans Day 2020 Celebrate the Sound event: <https://youtu.be/4i1ski9vHbE>

Note: In June 2020 Tides Canada rebranded to become MakeWay



## SUCCESSION PLAN

The Guide was established as a three-year project, ending in December 2021. This timeline, which we can call **Phase 1**, was deemed sufficient to build and launch the decision-support tools and conduct community training to ensure all end-users are aware of, trust, and know how to use the tools.

After December 2021, ownership and responsibility to maintain the Guide's deliverables will transition to a regional body. As of April 2021, the Guide's Steering Committee has identified the Átl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative Society (AHSBRIS) as the suitable entity to subsume these responsibilities. Over the next five years, which we can call **Phase 2**, AHSBRIS will partner with other regional organizations to ensure the successful fulfillment of the Guide's succession responsibilities.

## REQUEST TO HOWE SOUND COMMUNITY FORUM GOVERNMENTS

Local governments contributed invaluable financial and in-kind support toward Phase 1 of the Guide, from 2018-2021. Each local government, the SLRD and the SCRD endorsed and provided financial contributions toward the Guide according to a cost-share scheme outlined in [Appendix 2](#). In sum, local and regional governments collectively contributed 10% of the project's operating costs (\$20,000 out of an annual budget of \$200,000/year). This amount was divided according to each government's population as of the 2016 census.

These annual contributions were critical to the Guide's success, as they provided core multi-year financial stability that enabled the Guide to leverage support with other funders. They also confirmed each government's endorsement toward the added value of the Guide's deliverables.

Given the Guide's ongoing value to government planning and education initiatives and collaborative work within the region, the Guide is requesting that local and regional governments commit to providing financial contributions toward Phase 2 (2022-2027) following the same cost-share scheme used in Phase 1 (i.e. \$20,000/year, [see Appendix 3](#)). This will represent 20% of the overall annual operational costs (\$100,000/year), including the core technical work to sustain the value, function, and accessibility of the Guide's principal deliverables and assets, and intergovernmental and community collaboration. Note that the proportion of the contribution toward the budget has increased from 10-20% in Phase 2, but the dollar value contributions from each government will remain largely the same. The remaining 80% of the annual operating costs will be matched from external funding, such as foundations and donations.

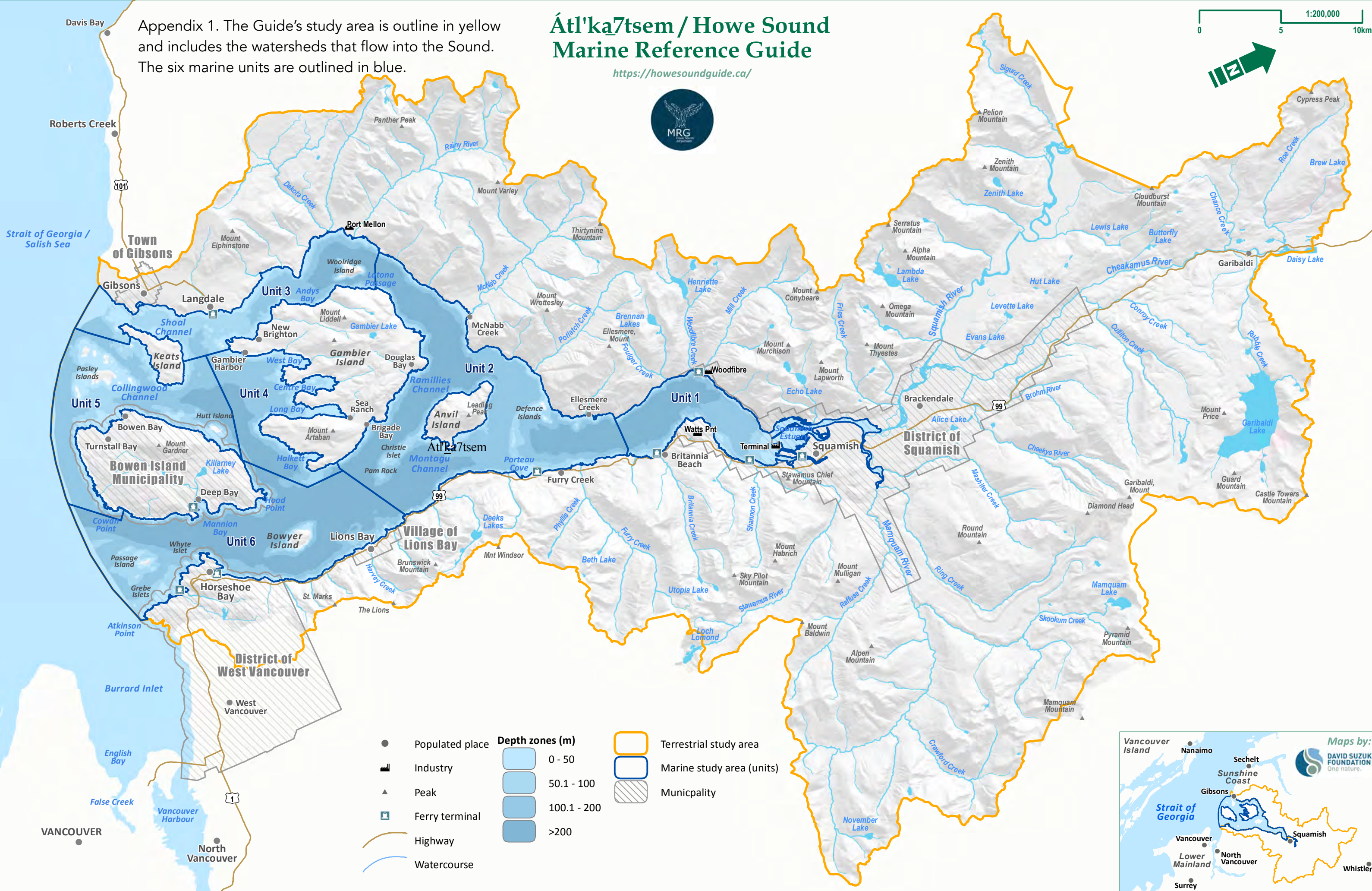
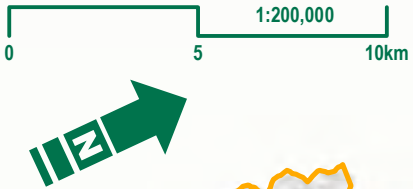
**The Ocean Watch Action Committee, following the recommendation of the Guide's Steering Committee, requests that the Howe Sound Community Forum members consider bringing the following recommendations to their respective councils or boards:**

1. *Include contributions toward Phase 2 of the Howe Sound/Átl'ka7tsem Marine Reference Guide Phase 2, which will be under the purview of the Átl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative Society, in your 5-year financial plans, as outlined in [Appendix 3](#)*
2. *Include contributions toward the Guide via the Átl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative Society in your annual budgets each year from 2022-2027, as outlined in [Appendix 3](#)*

Appendix 1. The Guide's study area is outline in yellow and includes the watersheds that flow into the Sound. The six marine units are outlined in blue.

# Átl'ka7tsem / Howe Sound Marine Reference Guide

<https://howesoundguide.ca/>





## Appendix 2: Cost-share breakdown for Phase 1, 2018-2021

| Local govt                          | Popltn*       | % contribution<br>to regional<br>popltn | Annual<br>financial<br>contribution | Estimated<br>contribution<br>over 3 years | Actual contribution<br>over 3 years** |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Bowen Island                        | 3680          | 4.05                                    | \$810.24                            | \$2,430                                   | \$5,228                               |
| Gibsons                             | 4605          | 5.07                                    | \$1013.90                           | \$3,041                                   | \$3,000                               |
| Lions Bay                           | 1334          | 1.47                                    | \$293.71                            | \$881                                     | \$1,895                               |
| Sunshine Coast                      | 1743          | 1.92                                    | \$383.76                            | \$1,151                                   | \$3,000                               |
| Regional District<br>Squamish       | 19,512        | 21.48                                   | \$4296.05                           | \$12,888                                  | \$15,000                              |
| Squamish-<br>Lillooet               | 1057          | 1.16                                    | \$232.72                            | \$698                                     | \$1,502                               |
| Regional District<br>Islands Trust  | 300           | 0.33                                    | \$66.05                             | \$198                                     | \$500                                 |
| Metro Van                           | 16,133        | 17.76                                   | \$3552.08                           | \$10,656                                  | No contributions                      |
| Regional District<br>West Vancouver | 42,473        | 46.76                                   | \$9351.48                           | \$28,054                                  | \$28,026                              |
| <b>Total</b>                        | <b>90,837</b> | <b>100</b>                              | <b>\$20,000</b>                     | <b>\$60,000</b>                           | <b>\$58,151</b>                       |

\*Population data derived from the 2016 Canadian Census 2016

\*\*Please note that the actual contributions over 3 years differ from the estimated contributions for certain local governments. This is due to two possible reasons. First, certain governments decided the Guide's value warranted a different financial contribution (e.g. higher or round number) than that outlined in the population cost-share. Second, in 2017 governments were presented with two cost-share options: one that sub-set Metro Vancouver and West Vancouver's populations and one that did not. The contribution amounts of all non-Metro Van and West Van governments were greater in the first option, which many governments chose. For simplicity and congruence with the Phase 2 cost-share break-down, here we only present the cost-share that does not subset populations.

### Appendix 3: Proposed cost-share breakdown for Phase 2, 2022-2027\*

| Local govt        | Popltn**      | % contribution to regional popltn | Annual financial contribution | Estimated contribution over 5 years |
|-------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Bowen Island      | 3,982         | 3.56                              | \$711.15                      | \$3,555.74                          |
| Gibsons           | 4,816         | 4.30                              | \$860.09                      | \$4,300.46                          |
| Lions Bay         | 1,357         | 1.21                              | \$242.35                      | \$1,211.74                          |
| Sunshine Coast    | 2,554         | 2.28                              | \$456.15                      | \$2,280.75                          |
| Regional District |               |                                   |                               |                                     |
| Squamish          | 21,273        | 19.00                             | \$3,799.16                    | \$18,995.80                         |
| Squamish-Lillooet | 1,727         | 1.54                              | \$308.38                      | \$1,541.91                          |
| Regional District |               |                                   |                               |                                     |
| Islands Trust     | 4,000         | 3.57                              | \$714.36                      | \$3,571.81                          |
| Metro Van         | 28,474        | 25.43                             | \$5,085.17                    | \$25,425.96                         |
| Regional District |               |                                   |                               |                                     |
| West Vancouver    | 43,805        | 39.12                             | \$7,823.17                    | \$39,115.83                         |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>90,837</b> | <b>100</b>                        | <b>\$20,000</b>               | <b>\$100,000</b>                    |

\*Note that the breakdown may be updated as new population census data becomes available year by year

\*\* All population totals were gathered from the 2020 census. For the SLRD and SCRD I divided the total unincorporated population census by the number of areas within each Regional District ( 4 and 6 respectively). For Islands Trust, I divided the total Islands Trust Area population estimate by 13 then multiplied that by 2 (the number of 'large islands' within the area, of which Gambier and Bowen comprise 2).

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/data/statistics/people-population-community/population/population-estimates>. <http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/connect/about-us/#:~:text=This%20is%20a%20unique%20and.non%2Dresident%20property%2Downers>.