



## **Regional Ideas Symposium Wednesday, September 15, 2004**

### **A Summary of Proceedings**



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## **Acknowledgements**

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*Venue:* Totem Hall, Squamish Nation

*Opening Prayer:* Dale Harry and family, Squamish Nation

*Presenters:* David Baxter, Urban Futures Institute, Jodie Siu, Smart Growth BC, David Marshall, Fraser Basin Council

*Member Municipalities and Electoral Areas:* District of Squamish, Resort Municipality of Whistler, Village of Pemberton and District of Lillooet, Electoral Areas A, B, C, and D

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*Staff:* Paul Edgington, Steve Olmstead, Lisa Griffith, Willie Macrae, Kevin Creery, Allison Macdonald, Aletta Larsen

*Funding Partner:* Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services, Province of B.C.

*Caterer:* Howe Sound Inn & Brewing Company

## Executive Summary

This report is a summary of proceedings from the Regional Ideas Symposium held on September 15<sup>th</sup>, at Totem Hall in Squamish in support of the SLRD Regional Growth Strategy. The Symposium brought together 120 Stakeholders from throughout the region, including representatives of local governments, First Nations, community-based associations, senior government agencies, academics, RCMP, school districts, health authorities, and the development and planning profession.

This Summary of Proceedings includes a participant list, the SLRD Chair's remarks, a summary of the priority issues, and a summary of suggested vision elements and goals.

The Regional Ideas Symposium was designed to provide a forum for local elected officials and community stakeholders to come together to identify and discuss growth management issues / priorities, and share ideas about the future of the region.

The three primary objectives of the symposium were as follows:

1. Raise awareness of regional trends and important issues with respect to growth and growth management;
2. Identify and discuss key issues to be addressed in our Regional Growth Strategy; and,
3. Begin to develop our regional vision and long-term goals.

## Next Steps

The results of the Symposium, along with input from a broader public consultation process, will be presented to the Regional Board and the Elected Officials Forum in late October 2004 in a report outlining key issues, visions and goals. The report will help shape development of the Regional Growth Strategy over the months to come by providing direction on priority issues to be examined in Stage 2 – Identification of Options. Copies of the Key Issues report will be available by contacting the SLRD Planning Department. Highlights of the results of the community consultation to date and progress on the Regional Growth Strategy will also be featured in our November edition of **In\*sight 2025** – the official e-newsletter of the SLRD Regional Growth Strategy. The e-newsletter will be distributed every other month to those names on our contact list and can also be found on our website.

## Opening Remarks

Chair Susan Gimse, Squamish-Lillooet Regional District

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Good Morning,

At this time I'd like to invite Dale Harry of the Squamish Nation to share a welcome prayer with us. I'd also like to thank the Squamish Nation for welcoming us into their traditional territory and providing us with this beautiful facility for today's session.

My name is Susan Gimse, and I am the Chair of the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District Board and the Director for Electoral Area C. On behalf of the Board and staff of the Squamish Lillooet Regional District it is my pleasure to welcome you to our Regional Growth Strategy Ideas Symposium.

We had about 130 people pre-registered for today's session and I am delighted to see not only a great turn-out...but a high level of interest. We have representation here today by elected officials and staff from all local government jurisdictions from throughout the region- school districts, chambers of commerce, economic development committees, First Nations, community stakeholders, environmental organizations, the RCMP, adjacent Regional Districts, provincial ministries and federal agencies, as well as business representatives from across the region. This group represents a very broad and diverse group of stakeholders.

The purpose of today's Symposium is to provide a forum for discussing ideas related to the management of growth in some areas of the region, and the stimulation of growth & economic development in others. The session is designed to raise awareness of regional trends we can expect to see in the next 20 years and to allow us to begin identifying regional issues... priorities and concerns to be addressed in our Strategy. The session is also designed to remind us of some of the principles that are important to bear in mind as we begin crafting a regional vision to guide us into the future.

Our facilitator for today is Leslie Rodgers. Leslie is a Senior Consultant with Praxis Pacific, a North Vancouver firm specializing in public process and facilitation. Leslie has over 15 years experience in the public consultation field including work in the Sea to Sky Corridor. I've also heard that when she is not working, she is most likely mountain biking, hiking or skiing somewhere in the SLRD region. Leslie is part of the consulting team assisting with public consultation on the Regional Growth Strategy.

Before I hand things over to Leslie, I would like to once again welcome everyone. I hope this session proves to be both thought-provoking and beneficial for all of you. Again, on behalf of the SLRD Board, I thank you for your time and your thoughtful input, as we embark on this first phase of public consultation in the development of the SLRD Regional Growth Strategy.

## **Presentations**

Three guest speakers provided thought-provoking presentations during the morning session of the Symposium, including David Baxter from the Urban Futures Institute, Jodie Siu from Smart Growth BC and David Marshall from the Fraser Basin Council.

David Baxter provided an overview of expected demographic and housing trends impacting the SLRD and its sub-regions over the next 25 years. Jodie Siu gave a presentation on the application of Smart Growth principles at the regional level, and David Marshall spoke on the value of collaborative leadership in planning and promoting regional sustainability. Copies of the three presentations are available from our web-site ([www.slrd.bc.ca](http://www.slrd.bc.ca)).

## **Small Group Discussions**

The afternoon session provided an opportunity for participants to break out into facilitated groups of 8 to 10 people, to identify and prioritize key issues, and to discuss visions and goals for the Regional Growth Strategy.

Participants were divided into fourteen discussion groups and each table had a facilitator who lead the discussion, kept notes, and reported back to the large group. The groups performed two exercises. The purpose of Group Exercise: Identification of Issues- was to identify and discuss issues that participants felt the Regional Growth Strategy should address. Issues were discussed in the following broad categories:

- Regional land use;
- Transportation;
- Affordable housing;
- Economic development;
- Other

The purpose of Group Exercise 2: Regional Vision and Goals, was to discuss our long-term vision and goals for the region. The results of this discussion will be used in preparing draft vision and goal statements.

1. What is our vision of the region in 2025? Imagine the ideal state of the region, with a healthy environment, economy, social fabric, and governance.
2. What long-term goals will guide us toward that vision?

A summary of the key issues that emerged from these sessions is provided in the next section of these proceedings. A PDF version of detailed notes from the 14 small group discussions is available on request (32 pages, 525 KB) by contacting [rgs\\_info@slrd.bc.ca](mailto:rgs_info@slrd.bc.ca) .

## Priority Issues

This section of the Symposium Proceedings describes the top issues participants said the Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) should address. The top issues were gleaned through a prioritization exercise in which each of the small groups selected the top six from their list of identified issues. The description below is a synthesis of the groups' priorities.

### A. Regional Land Use

#### *A1 Coordination/Strategy*

- Need for a publicly accessible inventory (maps and other data) of resources and attributes of the SLRD (e.g. habitat and community amenity mapping)
- Coordination of land use planning within the region and with adjacent jurisdictions (e.g. with Land and Resource Management Plans)
- Need for a regional land use strategy
- Lack of understanding of planning issues between communities in the region – there are competing interests and insularity prevails over a larger vision
- Better coordination on land use issues needed between government agencies
- Process for with long-term land use decisions related to 2010 Olympics within a short time-frame

#### *A2 First Nations*

- RGS needs to acknowledge/address Aboriginal title and rights, land settlement and reserve lands

#### *A3 Parks and Green Space*

- Need to identify, develop, and formalize protection of parks and green space
- Suggested mechanism for doing this –a Regional District parks function

#### *A4 Urban Growth*

- Address containment of urban growth to urban areas
- Prevention of sprawl and its impacts (residential sprawl, commercial big-box enterprises, longer commuting times, greater car use, decreased social fabric/volunteerism)
- Need to understand and apply Smart Growth principles

#### *A5 Backcountry Use*

- Address commercial and public backcountry recreation use
- Strategy for dealing with the proliferation of backcountry recreation tenures

### B. Transportation

#### *B1 Alternative Transportation Modes*

- The most frequently raised issue was the need to set the stage and plan for alternative transportation modes (alternative to the automobile). These alternatives include: car sharing and pooling; better bus service; passenger train service; air and water transport; and cycling trails.

- Suggest dealing with transit (bus service) on a regional basis through a regional transit authority
- Recognize the link between housing policy and the reliance on cars (i.e. if people can work in the community in which they live there will be less inter-community commuting)

#### *B2 Improved and Alternative Linkages*

- Need to look at links to transportation networks (e.g. rail) and major facilities beyond the SLRD
- Need alternative routes to the Sea to Sky Highway

### **C. Economic Development**

#### *C1 Strategy*

- Need a proactive economic development strategy that builds on the synergy within the region
- Strategy should address both opportunities both at the regional and at the individual community level

#### *C2 Sustainability*

- Need for sustainable forms of economic development, for example, development that uses local and renewable resources
- RGS needs to set a tone and vision for regional economic development – one that includes a pedestrian orientation

#### *C3 Community Involvement*

- Need for communities to invest in infrastructure that will attract and facilitate investment
- Communities should be involved in planning and decision-making regarding the future of the region's economy

#### *C4 First Nations*

- Economic development must be sensitive to First Nations and impacts to reserves
- First Nations need to participate in economic development/growth –SLRD Board should have a First Nations representative

### **D. Affordable Housing**

#### *D1 Range of Housing*

- The most commonly raised housing issue was the need to plan for and support a range of housing types in the region – housing to serve seniors, families, and single people
- Use zoning tools to provide this diversity of housing types
- In urban areas, need more high density and vertically integrated development

#### *D2 Affordable Housing*

- Affordable housing is a priority (however, one group said this is a local government, not an SLRD responsibility)

- Consider making non-market (i.e. social housing) mandatory (in Vancouver 10% of new housing development must be of the non-market variety)

#### *D3 Agricultural Land Reserve*

- Need to address conflict in uses of ALR land – should be valued for agricultural use, not seen as a land bank

### **E. Environment/Ecosystem**

#### *E1 Habitat, Wildlife Corridors*

- RGS needs to address preservation of habitat and ecological function
- Plan for, develop and protect natural wildlife corridors through settlements in valley bottoms as well as at through existing parkland at high elevations
- Need to acknowledge and address conflicts in values between environmental interests, tourism and industry

#### *E2 Protection of Water Supply*

- Need to consider ecological carrying capacity , e.g. the impact of residential development on water supplies
- Integrity and supply of water should be core to the Regional Growth Strategy

#### *E3 Integrated planning*

- For effective planning, the region needs improved inventories, indicators, and understanding of ecosystem functions
- RGS needs to factor in effects of climate change on water management, agriculture, wildfire and flood management
- Integrated planning needed for water, air, energy and wildlife

### **F. Governance and Communication**

- Need clear communication and policies between government agencies and communities (example – policy on Independent Power Projects)
- Need to look at whether the region has sufficient governance and the right governance relationships in place. Collaboration with First Nations is needed, in a way that recognizes their different values

### **G. Human Services**

- Need to plan health care services for a changing population
- Quality of life issues are central to the RGS – preserving a sense of place, pride, and community

## Vision and Goals

This section of the Symposium Proceedings describes vision statements, goals, objectives and strategies participants suggested through the small group exercises. The description below is a synthesis of all 14 group discussions.

### Regional Vision for 2025 and Beyond

- A self-sustaining region with locally distinct, complementary communities.
- A region that supports and manages positive change, while respecting the history and culture of its communities.
- A highly liveable, sustainable, and vibrant region.
- A world leader in achieving sustainability.
- Best Place in the World.
- The region is defined by a unique sense of place defined by its geography, geology, ecology, history and culture.
- A place where I can live & own, feel safe at night & comfortable to let kids play on the street, know the people around me, be able to play outside in the great recreational environment, and feel like I am part of a healthy and diverse community.
- To have healthy, strong communities under the collaborative leadership of the Regional District who will act as a facilitator to foster economic growth, diversity, and an environmentally viable family living, with a strong focus on attracting and retaining the young population.
- Applies smart growth principles.
- Every resident has easy access to green space and natural areas.
- Culturally & demographically diverse population.
- Economically vibrant region.
- Plenty of economic opportunities for youth to remain in or return to home communities.
- Residents may “age in place” if they so choose.
- High degree of eco-system function, i.e. healthy bird population, fish, wildlife
- Low / managed level of non-native / invasive plants.
- Abundance of sustainable and affordable transportation options.
- “Zero-waste” society.
- Opportunities exist for life-long learning.
- Locally produced goods are available & are the mainstay of local consumption.
- A politically engaged & informed citizenry – “a culture of collaborative decision-making.
- Series of small communities with their own special identity preserved.
- Strong connection of the people to the land.
- Good medical and dental within corridor.
- Liveable region and communities at a smaller scale.
- Maintain environmental integrity.
- Compact communities.
- Dramatic natural setting.
- Encourage visitors – tourism.
- Diverse population – age and occupation.
- Support and promote farming – attract new people to it.
- Safe, efficient and effective transportation within and between communities.
- Economically diverse.

- Cooperative – without losing community identities.
- Outstanding recreation opportunities.
- Ensure access to waterfronts – ocean, lakes and rivers.
- Ability to live and work in same community.
- Responsible waste management.
- Economically self-sustaining.
- Community that protects high quality of life that I will have access to health care, recreation, & cultural events, and will enjoy clean air & water quality.
- Intergenerational population.
- The corridor is a place where you can maximize recreation, family, social and career.
- A resource-based community – a place to live.
- Support existing and encourage new cultural integration/diversity.
- Liveable communities and adequate housing.
- Sustainable transportation, transit, car sharing/pooling, cycling, walking.
- Opportunity for a range of employment (types, pay levels, etc) focused on local human natural resources.
- Adequate services for population.
- Plan and develop infrastructure that will attract and facilitate invest.
- Ensure balance of land uses.
- Identify and build on opportunities for regional collaboration.
- Smart Growth should dictate the RGS and recommend compact communities and preserving green space.
- The SLRD should be an ideal place to live, work, and maintain diversity.
- Equal social and economic opportunity throughout the region.
- Stewardship.
- Live tomorrow’s vision today.
- Protect carrying capacity of corridor – look at region as a whole.
- Preserve the quality of life and environment we currently enjoy.
- Place where people have equal access to a high quality of life, including healthy water and air, access to health care and education and economic opportunity.
- Region has distinct healthy communities that are self-sufficient but add value to partner communities.
- Community that respects & cares for its seniors, youths, and disenfranchised through services & support that are provided by the economic health of the region, is inclusive, and respects the natural environment.
- We’re all one community and have a regional identity.
- Respect for local needs distinctiveness.
- Understand and base growth on carrying capacity and highest and best use of the land base.
- Live/work/play in own community.

### **Governance goals**

- Regional thinking that is collaborative based on an evaluated and improved governance model.
- Governance based on collaborative management.
- Partnerships and communication with First Nations.
- A politically engaged & informed citizenry – “a culture of collaborative decision-making.
- A shared long-term vision (beyond 2025).

- Continued involvement with the First Nations & municipalities, etc.
- All parts of the region working together.
- Inclusive, coordinated transparent governance.
- Certainty, integrated planning, partnerships, mutual respect.
- More cooperation between communities in the region.
- Resolve governance issues.
- Recognition for minority votes & views.
- Local decision making; locals should make decisions on local issues.

### **Governance strategies**

- Inter-governmental jurisdictional agreements including First Nations.
- Including finance reporting/accountability at all levels of government including First Nations.
- Create a process and framework that allows communities to meet common needs to work together.
- Community Roundtable involving all communities in corridor – share information and collaborate on use of resources.
- Strong council with shared equal voice.

### **Regional land use goals**

- Don't allow one community to gobble up another – green space between.
- Strong urban containment – through OCPs, etc.
- Negotiated growth boundaries.
- Keep rural areas rural and urban areas urban.
- Increasingly compact communities Development that fits in with natural setting.
- Mixed-use development.
- Greater protection of crown lands, from commercial use – communities in a sea of a green.
- Avoid development / settlement in environmentally sensitive areas.
- Communities complete & compact & pedestrian oriented, less car-dependent.
- Clear long-term land use plan.
- Series of communities in corridor that retain local distinctiveness.
- String of communities each defining their own distinctness-linked through arts/culture/heritage Developed nodes with large areas of undeveloped lands with recreation/environmental values connected with comprehensive transportation system.
- Land claims settled.
- Resolve land claims.
- Treaties for first Nations.
- Series of communities based in Whistler aesthetic\Alpine\West Coast E.g. Furry Creek, Britannia.
- Corridor branding leading to premier pricing for our goods and services.

### **Regional land use strategies**

- Set of sustainable development design guidelines and tools. An understanding of where we want to be and how to get there (implementation tools) specific to individual communities in the region.
- Identify most appropriate areas for settlement.

- Live-work zoning in communities.
- Watershed management planning should be a requirement - an inclusive process.
- Flexibility with our zoning and density in terms of broad land use planning

### **Environment/Ecosystem goals**

- Maintain ecological function across all areas
- Retain health of environment
- Clean water/functioning watersheds
- Restoration of ecosystems, inside and outside of residential areas
- Need to put back trees, etc.
- “Zero-waste” society.
- Using non-polluting forms of energy.
- Solar, wind, grey water, geothermal, feasible.
- Protecting the area so that future generations can hunt, fish, and gather.
- Ensuring a healthy environment-clean air, water, soil, healthy wildlife.
- Showcase for a green building, sustainable development.
- Regeneration of environmentally damaged lands.
- Wildlife corridors, e.g. bears not dead.
- Allows for traditional activities.
- Community forest and waterways.

### **Environment/Ecosystem strategies**

- Watershed Management Plans.
- Visual impact management.
- Develop strong environmental bylaws.

### **Economic goals**

- Encourage local enterprise, small business.
- Diversify economy so all ‘eggs are not in one basket’.
- Diversified local economy.
- Identify and cultivate distinctive economic development opportunities.
- Stimulate and maintain sustainable economic development.
- Reduction of localized poverty.
- Tourism big economic generator-leave money behind in local communities (e.g. more money from cruise ships) - but tourism not the only economic driver.
- Downtown tourist attraction areas e.g. boardwalk.
- 50% increase in population, no/minimum increase in environmental impact.
- Establish clothing and department stores that don’t impact on existing ones.
- Locally produced goods are available & are the mainstay of local consumption.
- Diverse economy; less dependent on single-resource/sector
- Working with the land
- Opportunity for employment advancement.
- Equal participation of First Nations in economic development
- Find ways to prevent economic leakage.
- Procurement/spend locally build community pride.

- Affordability to include everyone in community.

### **Economic strategies**

- Regional plan for economic activities with collaboration.
- Make economic development officers more responsible to community needs/independent from politics.
- SLRD attitude—“open for business”, proactive in supporting new business.
- Economic Development Strategy.
- Sustainable economy: booming but gently “managed”.
- Central tourism marketing—year-round focus.
- Policies, legislation and regulation to make farming feasible.
- RGS has to include Economic Development Policies.
- Consider both long & short-term economics.
- Support “right to farm” legislation.
- Proactively target knowledge-based industries.

### **Social and cultural goals**

- Sense of place.
- Community spirit.
- Know your neighbours.
- Exceptional quality of life.
- Equal opportunity for employment.
- Able to educate young people.
- A great place to raise families.
- Whole extended families live in the region from cradle to grave.
- Retire here and having the grandkids stay here too.
- 80% of people stay – stability of population; people can afford to stay.
- Children born here have the opportunity to continue to live here.
- Maintain healthy individual communities, coordinate common areas of concern/opportunity.
- Whole communities (seniors, families).
- Diversity of population.
- Cultural harmony.
- First Nations have achieved same social and economic status.
- Young people stay in community as adults.
- Heritage of region is understood and appreciated.
- First Nations common identity – spiritual, emotional tie.
- Social and cultural aspects of region maintained and enhanced.
- Culturally rich region (art show, university courses).
- Cohesive and inclusive society, harmony between First Nations and non-First Nations.
- Recognize and celebrate ethnic/cultural diversity.
- Cultural “community asset” mapping strategy.
- Improved public access to resources and information.

## **Human service goals**

- Provide adequate services to encourage support healthy multi-generational and multicultural population.
- Have the facilities so they can work here (e.g. hospital).
- Opportunities exist for life-long learning.
- Healthy communities i.e. recreation and health care facilities
- Social services network.
- Have respectful, convenient services, i.e.: recreation, healthy shopping
- Have opportunity for next generations to have a credible education and lifestyle.
- Health care facilities treat our residents and meet needs of region
- Self-sufficient services.
- Increased opportunity for volunteerism with schools.
- Shared infrastructure for social and medical services.
- Wide range of services and programmes to attract all types of people – multi-age.
- Equitable access to community services (water, sewer, and medical).

## **Transportation goals**

- Expand bus service; develop rail, train, etc.
- Transportation that is efficient to visit people throughout region.
- Transport options, greenways, cycle routes Expand transportation options.
- Transportation safety and accessibility; no none land bridges!
- A two-lane highway into Lillooet to enhance economic development.
- Diverse/sustainable transportation options.
- Community train built/operating (serving all communities).
- Integrated, sustainable, multi-modal transportation system-road, rail, marine, air and trails.
- Alternative modes of transportation, egg. car sharing / pooling, transit, train, shuttle, ferry.
- Alternate routes for motorized & non-motorized (trails, bike paths, etc.).
- Roads connected by frequent public transportation (Road and rail).
- Revitalized waterfronts, in terms of: quality of life, environmental, and economy – Squamish, Britannia, Lillooet.
- Efficient, clean, affordable and connected transportation.
- Regional airport to accommodate small jets.
- Seamless transportation integration between SLRD & GVRD.
- Move throughout corridor without a car; more trails; and more as well beyond the corridor (integrates transportation systems).
- Integration of transportation at different scales—trails, more transportation options.

## **Transportation strategies/targets**

- Regional transportation plan with regional authority, funding mechanisms
- Regional transportation plan with alternative modes emphasized
- Transportation target: 75% of population don't drive to work (either work from home, or walk, bike, bus, etc.) in the year 2025

## **Housing goals**

- Range of housing, e.g. live / work, age in place, close to employment.
- Affordable, sustainable growth housing that allows people to live in their community.
- Smart growth: housing; transit; land use.
- Affordable housing in all communities (financially supported by local government).
- Provide adequate range & supply of affordable housing.

## **Parks and recreation goals**

- Greater access to public lands and waterways.
- Region provides opportunity ability to access diverse/quality recreational activities throughout region.
- Access to non-motorized backcountry opportunities Retain good access to backcountry.
- Recreation destination that offers everything you can imagine.

### **Parks and recreation objectives/strategies**

- Sea to Sky Trail & associate trail systems to be established.
- Establish / implement a regional recreation management / conservation authority to monitor / manage public recreation, (impacts on users, wildlife, water quality, etc) per the Sharing Forum in South SLRD.
- Need environmental stewardship coordinator to serve SLRD.
- Establish a Parks function.
- Developed regional parks system.
- Parks function for SLRD including Stewardship Coordinator.
- Regional district needs parks, recreation, and environment function.
- More referral to communities and more coordination of commercial backcountry recreation.
- SLRD work with Province to purchase more land that provides water access.
- Community stewardship and landowner contact and involvement, e.g. bear programmes.
- Better management of public recreation use—to manage risks.

## **Goals of the RGS**

- Integrate various needs of communities:
  - Transportation
  - Education
  - Job creation
  - Economic development (responsible).
- Long term, multi-generational solutions.
- Establish/implement well coordinated regional growth strategy.
- Create Regional Growth Strategy, and use as a platform for collaboration and planning.
- The RGS should be recognized internationally.
- Apply smart growth principles.
- Embrace smart growth principles.
- Region is “model” of regional coordination/cooperation and sustainable principles – results are visible.
- Embrace adaptive management in response to change.

- Strong regional perspective in planning.
- The importance of compromise in planning; consensus and collaboration.
- Careful planning, have all government buying in and staying with it.
- Through collaboration with community stakeholders, develop strategies that are based on strong environmental, economic and social principles that will ensure a healthy, safe, and high quality of life for all residents and provides a welcoming, first class environment to visitors.

### **RGS implementation and monitoring**

- Collaboration between First Nations/ Local Governments/Provincial agencies/businesses/community groups/public.
- Communicate regional vision to provincial / federal agencies.
- Develop a comprehensive, integrated and sustainable approach to planning and delivering regional community-based services to support and sustain healthy communities.
- Celebrate the successes.
- Be innovative and creative with solutions.
- Monitor quality of life on regional basis for quality of life, social vision.
- Implement plans and follow-up.
- Implementation needs to include review/revision of the growth strategy.
- Continuing education on the RGS.

### Definitions

**Vision:** an overall description of our desired future.

**Goals:** elements of our vision.

**Objectives:** specific initiatives and activities that move us toward our goals.

**Strategies:** ways and methods of moving toward our vision, goals and objectives.

**Targets:** desired levels of achievement within particular time frames.

## **Closing Remarks**

Chair Susan Gimse, Squamish-Lillooet Regional District

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As outlined in our RGS Consultation Plan, the purpose of today was to officially launch the Regional Growth Strategy process by engaging elected officials and community stakeholders in discussion of growth management issues, priorities, ideas and a vision for the region.

The next step is to facilitate wider public input by holding a series of community engagement workshops and surveys. In the next two weeks, staff and our consulting team will begin the first in a series of community workshops in our four member municipalities of Squamish, Whistler, Pemberton and Lillooet. Dates and times for these workshops have been advertised in the local papers; please feel free to attend and to encourage your co-workers, friends and neighbours to participate. Also you can check our website for progress reports, general information and a copy of RGS newsletter.

Following the public workshops, our project team will prepare a report for the SLRD Board based on the results of today's symposium and the public sessions. The results of this report will

also be vetted through an Elected Officials Forum comprised of Regional Board directors and municipal councillors. The meeting is scheduled to be held at the end of October.

The Regional Board will use this information to determine priority issues to be addressed in the initial stages of the growth strategy process. Later in the fall, the task of developing the substance of the plan will begin in earnest. The next phase of the project will be to commence research and policy development in the key issue areas. We will continue working with government agencies through our intergovernmental agency committee...the residents and the community at large through public workshops through-out the process.

We hope to engage First Nations in a meaningful and respectful manner and it is our aim to develop deeper relationships with the First Nations in the region. We want to ensure the strong inclusion of elected officials and other interested parties in the creation of our Regional Growth Strategy, and they will be receiving invitations to participate in Elected Officials Forums at key stages over the next 12 months.

Proceedings from today's session will be available shortly and will be emailed to all on our contact list. If you are not on our list, please sign it on your way out. Thank you and I look forward to your continued interest and assistance in this very important project!

## Regional Ideas Symposium Participants List

<u>Organization / Agency</u>	<u>Name &amp; Title</u>	<u>City, Province</u>
<b>Agricultural Land Commission</b>	Tony Pellet, Planning Officer	Burnaby, BC
<b>Association of Whistler Residents for the Environment (AWARE)</b>	Eckhard Zeidler, Member Karina Andrus, Member	Whistler, B.C.
<b>Aqua-tex Scientific Consulting</b>	Patrick Lucey, Consultant Cori Barraclough, Associate	Victoria, BC
<b>BC Hydro</b>	Charlotte Bemister, Public Affairs	Burnaby, BC
<b>BC Lake Stewardship Society</b>	Irene Calbick, President	Gold Bridge, BC
<b>BC Museum of Mining</b>	Kirsten Clausen, Museum Director	Britannia Beach
<b>Brent Harley &amp; Associates</b>	Brent Harley, President	Whistler, BC
<b>Britannia Beach Residents for Tenure Society</b>	Jane Iverson, Member Martha Enders, Member	Britannia Beach
<b>Canadian Homebuilders Assn (Sea to Sky Branch)</b>	Tim Regan, President	Pemberton, BC
<b>Delta Land Development Ltd.</b>	Bruce Langereis, President	Vancouver, BC
<b>District of Lillooet – Council &amp; Staff</b>	Greg Kamenka, Mayor Christ'l Roshard, Councillor Karen Mellor, Administrator	Lillooet, BC
<b>District of Squamish – Council &amp; Staff</b>	Ian Sutherland, Mayor Corinne Lonsdale, Councillor Gord Prescott, Councillor Lee Malleau, Economic Development Officer Mick Gottardi, Director of Community Development Heather Evans, Planner Sabina Foofat, Planning Assistant	Squamish, BC
<b>Environment Canada, Georgia Basin</b>	Zita Botelho, Program Coordinator	Vancouver, BC
<b>Evergreen</b>	Denise Philippe, Program Manager	Vancouver, BC
<b>Fraser Basin Council</b>	David Marshall , Executive Director Bob Purdy, Regional Director of the Greater Vancouver Squamish Pemberton Region	Vancouver, BC
<b>Glacier Creek Development</b>	Serge Cote, President / Chairman Marlin Tobias, Financial Manager	Pemberton, BC

<b>Goddard &amp; Smith Realty</b>	Neil Plumb, Commercial Realtor	Vancouver, BC
<b>Greater Vancouver Regional District</b>	Ralph Perkins, Planner	Burnaby, BC
<b>Gun Lake Ratepayers Association</b>	Don Sturgess, President	Gold Bridge, BC
<b>Greater Vancouver Transit Authority</b>	Martin Kobayakawa, Planner	Burnaby, BC
<b>Landscape Consulting</b>	Trevor Chandler, P.Ag.	Lillooet, BC
<b>Lil'wat Nation / Mount Currie Band Council &amp; Staff</b>	Raymond Pierre, Councillor Morgan Wells, Councillor John Phillips, Member Sheldon Tetreault, Administrator	Mount Currie, BC
<b>Land and Water BC</b>	Elisabeth Eldridge, Officer	Surrey, BC
<b>Macdonald Development Corporation (Britannia Bay Developments)</b>	Jerry Bordian, Vice President	Vancouver, BC
<b>Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries</b>	Chris Zabek, Agrologist Stan Combs, Regional Agrologist	Abbotsford, BC Kelowna, BC Victoria, BC
<b>Ministry of Community, Aboriginal, and Women's Services</b>	Cynthia Hawksworth, Director, Planning Programs Brent Mueller, Manager, Regional Growth Strategies	
<b>Ministry of Transportation</b>	Henry Lew, Program Planning Engineer	Burnaby, BC
<b>Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection</b>	Vicki Haberl, Assistant Planner	Squamish, BC
<b>Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management</b>	Erin Palmer, Officer Ross Kreye, Officer	Surrey, BC
<b>Natural Resources Canada – Geological Survey of Canada</b>	Murray Journeay, Research Scientist	Vancouver, BC
<b>Pemberton Valley Dyking District</b>	Jordan Sturdy, Chair	Pemberton, BC
<b>Pemberton Valley Trails Association</b>	Jan Naylor, Board Member Rod MacLeod, Board Member	Pemberton, BC
<b>Pemberton Wildlife Association</b>	Hugh Naylor, Member	Pemberton, BC
<b>Raven's Plateau Developments</b>	Douglas Day, President	Squamish, BC
<b>Real Estate Board of Greater Vancouver</b>	Janet Cunningham, Chair – Government Relations	Vancouver, BC

<b>RCMP</b>	Mark Hennigar, Staff Sergeant, Squamish Colin Worth, Operations, Squamish Norm McPhail, Staff Sergeant, Whistler	Squamish, BC Whistler, BC
<b>Regional District of Okanagan Simikameen</b>	Mitchell Edgar, RGS Coordinator	Penticton, BC
<b>Resort Municipality of Whistler – Council &amp; Staff</b>	Hugh O’Reilly, Mayor Caroline Lamont, Councillor Marianne Wade, Councillor Gordon McKeever, Councillor Keith Bennett, General Manager Parks Mike Vance, General Manager Community Initiatives Mike Kirkegaard, Manager, Community Planning Bill Brown, Manager of Current Planning Chris Bishop, Planner Melissa Laidlaw, Planner	Whistler, BC
<b>Samahquam First Nation</b>	Bill Schneider, Chief	Mount Currie, BC
<b>School District No. 48 – Howe Sound</b>	Doug Hackett, Trustee	Squamish, BC
<b>Sea to Sky University at Squamish</b>	Eugene Evanez	Squamish, BC
<b>SLRD - Squamish Lillooet Regional District Electoral Area Directors, Staff &amp; Contract Staff</b>	Susan Gimse, Chair / Area C Director Mickey Macri, Area B Director John Turner, Area D Director  Paul Edgington, Administrator Steve Olmstead, Manager of Planning and Development Lisa Griffith, Planner Willie Macrae, Planning Assistant Allison Macdonald, Admin Assistant Kevin Creery, Planning Technician James Pratt, James Pratt Consulting Sandra Bicego, Dovetail Consulting Susan Stratis, Envision Planning Catherine Berris, Catherine Berris and Associates Ethan Askey, Confluence Environmental Consulting	Birken, BC Pavilion, BC Furry Creek, BC Pemberton, BC  Victoria, BC Vancouver, BC Gibsons, BC Vancouver, BC  Whistler, BC
<b>Smart Growth BC</b>	Jodie Siu, Planning Director, Smart Growth on the Ground Initiative	Vancouver, BC
<b>SNC Lavalin – Highway 99 Upgrade</b>	Tom Tasaka, Project Manager	Vancouver, BC
<b>Squamish Chamber of Commerce</b>	Karen Hodson, Manager	Squamish, BC

<b>Squamish Estuary Conservation Society</b>	Meg Fellowes, President	Squamish, BC
<b>Squamish River Watershed Society</b>	Edith Tobe, Executive Director	Squamish, BC
<b>Thompson Cariboo Shuswap Health Services Area</b>	Linda Basran, Director, Rural and Communities	Kamloops, BC
<b>Tourism Whistler</b>	Barrett Fisher, President Diane Mombourquette, Vice President	Whistler, BC
<b>Upper Birkenhead Watershed Stewardship Group</b>	Rhonda Johnson, Chair	Surrey, BC
<b>Upper St'at'imc Language, Culture and Education Society</b>	Brenda Ireland, Project Coordinator	Lillooet, BC
<b>Urban Futures Institute</b>	David Baxter, Executive Director Andrew Ramlo, Director	Vancouver, BC
<b>Vancouver Coastal Health</b>	Cindy Welsh, Program Director Rob Stewart, Leader Health Status	North Vancouver, BC
<b>Village of Lions Bay</b>	Douglas Miller, Mayor	Lions Bay, BC
<b>Village of Pemberton Council &amp; Staff</b>	Elinor Warner, Mayor Bryan Kirk, Sec/Treasurer Michael Rosen, Planning Consultant	Pemberton, BC
<b>Western Geo-Power Corp.</b>	Kenneth MacLeod, President and CEO Craig Aspinall, Manager, Public Policy	Vancouver, BC
<b>Whistler Blackcomb</b>	Doug Forseth, VP Operations	Whistler, BC
<b>Whistler Chamber of Commerce</b>	Brent Leigh, President	Whistler, BC
<b>Whistler Community Services Society</b>	Janet McDonald, Executive Director	Whistler, BC
<b>Whistler Fisheries Stewardship Group</b>	Heather Beresford, Stewardship Supervisor	Whistler, BC
<b>Whistler Forum – Leadership Sea to Sky</b>	William Roberts, Executive Director	Whistler, BC
<b>Whistler Healthy Communities Council</b>	Steven Milstein, Chair	Whistler, BC
<b>Whistler Housing Authority</b>	Tim Wake, General Manager Marla Zucht, Housing Administrator	Whistler, BC
<b>Whistler Offroad Cycling Association (WORCA)</b>	Boyd McTavish, Member	Whistler, BC
<b>Whistler Real Estate</b>	Pat Kelly, Owner	Whistler, BC

