

# Kitselas Master Land Use Plan

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## Community Member Feedback Report

**Kitselas Lands Management Office**

**11/8/2011**

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## Introduction

The Kitselas Lands Management Office hosted a kick-off meeting for the Master Land Use Plan on September 21, 2011. The meeting presented historical, present and future land management approaches. The Master Land Use Plan project was explained in detail and a number of community planning exercises were carried out. There were 71 (seventy-one) people from the Kitselas community who attended the meeting at the Kitselas Community Hall.

All participants were asked to fill out a Community Member Feedback Form which asked them about their broad scope priorities for community planning and future growth as a community.

There were 36 (thirty-six) people who completed and submitted a Community Member Feedback Form (Appendix A). The Community Member Feedback Form asked a series of questions regarding community planning. The responses are presented in this report.

## Results

The results of the Community Member Feedback Form are presented below. Each of the 6 (six) questions asked of community members are presented. The responses from each question are presented in either a text, table or chart format.

### Question 1

Question 1. Have you ever been involved in a community planning process?

15 (fifteen) of 36 (thirty-six) respondents answered YES. 21 (twenty-one) of 36 (thirty-six) respondents answered NO.

### Question 2

Question 2. Are you interested in being involved in the Kitselas Master Land Use Plan Process? (Involvement can include attending meetings, volunteering and/or participating at community workshops, sitting on the land use planning committee, etc.)

29 (twenty-nine) of 36 (thirty-six) respondents answered YES.

7 (seven) of 36 (thirty-six) respondents answered NO.

Members would like to be involved by:

1. Attending workshops
2. Being on the committee
3. Volunteering at workshops
4. Lunch meetings
5. Catering workshops/meetings
6. Volunteer for clean-up
7. Helping out in any way possible
8. Participating in community workshops/events
9. Oversee land development and create Kitselas Land Code Laws.

### Question 3

Question 3. Would you like to know more about the land use planning process?

NO	YES	Personal/Group Meetings	Community Workshops Only	Receive Monthly Lands Management Newsletter	Additional Information	Email Updates and Information
8	28	18	15	14	7	9

Question 3 also asked how people would most enjoy receiving more information. 18 (eighteen) respondents indicated that they prefer personal/group meetings on land use planning. 15 (fifteen)

respondents answered that they would prefer to attend community workshops only. 14 (fourteen) respondents appreciate receiving monthly lands management newsletters. 7 (seven) respondents would like to receive additional reading material on land use planning. 9 (nine) respondents would appreciate emails with updates and information.

## Question 4

Question 4. What is important to you and your family?

Most Important	Ranking	# of Respondents
Education & Employment	1	32
Culture & Language	2	31
Health	2	31
Economic Development	3	26
Lands	3	26
Housing	3	26
Governance	4	22
Resources	4	22
Social Development	5	21
Infrastructure Development	6	18

Table 1 What is important to you and your family?

The table above shows the number of people who selected from the 10 (ten) options on the Community Member Feedback Form. There were 36 respondents in total and as the reader can see, Education & Employment, Culture & Language and the Health of the community were chosen most by the respondents.

Respondents were also asked to provide a brief explanation why they chose certain options. Those answers are below:

- They are all linked and all important
- Health and Education
- All of the above as it all ties in to build a strong and healthy community enabling us to move forward.
- Like a puzzle w/o one piece, it isn't a complete picture, or like machinery, if a part is missing it doesn't work or function w/o the piece.
- These are a must for my family! Without selected above, we will not survive!
- I would like to see the band keeping moving forward. All these points are important to my family and community.
- Lands act has opened doors for our community; Ec. Dev can't move w/o more jobs, we have the highest % of SA clients, education is vital to our Self-Gov.,
- Develop resources to support ec. dev.
- Courses
- All includes future revenue
- I want my children to know where she's from/I want the best health for my family.
- Language back, develop economy healthy and old. Education. Job. Housing.
- Housing for seniors with caretakers. Fencing around homes. One bedroom ranchers. Fencing around playgrounds, where children play.

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- Basis for the rest of topics.
- We are entering into a new phase of gov't and structure. How will it affect me and my family? By who's choice and decision?
- As far as I know, we only have 3 Elders that can speak fluently of our language. Would be nice to utilize them. Through self-gov't I have not heard anything on Health. There are lands that need to be kept for heritage.
- Healthy persons create a healthy community.
- Self-Governance
- We believe in our culture and the importance to our community.
- C&L -it's important for the future of our grandchildren / H- better services to our people / L - keep our land.
- Develop more workshops for community to get involved in.
- All is important to our family and community. Losing Elders, need our language. Lands are important for housing, economic dev. And resources for future needs.
- Because everything involving our community is important.
- It's all important for the community
- It is all very beneficial to us and our future generations.
- My greatest concert atm is 65+ pop. Our needs are not taken care of under the present system of Indian affairs, when you receive a pension; you are on your own unless you are ill or dead. Separate care for over 65 is none existent.
- It's because I want to see good things happen in Kitselas. I was raised here.
- All of these are important to a community

## Question 5

Question 5. How can the land use plan reflect what is important to you and your family?

- Having a place to call home and belong. Having support of the community, resources to help achieve a better living. Building a better future for generations to come.
- If used wisely, we can make it easier for our children's future, such as Hunting, fishing and proper use of our forest products.
- Once my house is paid off. I can apply for allocation papers (Home and Land Ownership).
- Build the community centre; Develop businesses to support growth. Build a school. Locally development.
- Transportation system for Gitau.
- Casino
- Can provide employment
- If it is good for community.
- By incorporating sustainable use.
- We live here and we need to be self-sufficient
- Openness transparency and accountability of Council and Lands and Community. Promote Community and not just "Super" Committee made up of "Chosen" staff.
- By regarding, in a positive manner, my concern.
- It can have more activities going
- Independence.
- Protecting all the land that belongs to Kitselas
- Meet to plan for future generations
- Maintaining the houses

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- By listening to the people and by reflecting it in the land use plan.
- It will be well organized.
- I am referring to the need for wood, if we have a wood stove; snow removal from driveways is \$20 each time. Infrastructure fee of \$65 includes snow removal for main streets, Elders all pay their share, I would because I love Kitselas.
- By providing detailed information on progress and decisions being made on buildings and land use.

## Question 6

Question 6. Please provide **one** of the following: a goal, objective, or project activity you would like to see in the land use plan; or provide **one** issue/concern regarding land use.

- Employ our people, make sure they are properly trained to the job/work and have clear guidelines, etc.
- We need to educate our young people so they can become a part (an important part) of our economic development. We have so much that we can do to make Kitselas stand out.
- Better educate the members (on/off) the members shouldn't be treated any different. Create more jobs for members; this may encourage members to move back to reserves.
- Hoping to see a Gas Station, Daycare, proper transportation for people living on-reserve. Also would like to see proper use of the "Health Station" in Gitau. We can't get help from our health station because no one has proper training to give Tylenol!
- I would like to see the band start up a sawmill company; separate from or in partnership with Kitselas Forest Products (KFP). Possibly can use an IR for a location. And train band member on how to run and operate a productive sawmill (cedar) & RV Park.
- Drinking water source. Economic Development.
- Language classes
- Teach language and backgrounds of the culture.
- Unity
- To have our very own Indian Bank
- Without a sufficient land base with diverse resources. Plan will be most!
- Sustain ability
- Proper housing that is affordable for our members. Single homes for our single men/women.
- Housing for our senior citizens that are affordable. Homes for disabled, also a home for elders who wish to stay in own community.
- Community participation in Land Use Committee, not just committee, Lands Director needs to identify code issues and Laws that need addressing that would provide opportunity
- Start getting involved in the mining industry
- There can be more people to show up/help out in the community parties and workshops
- Make a swimming pool
- Eventually have our own gas station/corner store
- We need to be continually contacted on our Lands, Land use, etc. Can't leave up to Council on important issues. Thank you! What's happening with Airport Lands?
- Education
- Maintaining our houses
- \$25large garbage removal. There is no provision to financially help Elders. We are more often told there is no money available. Pay attention to our needs. We don't ask for the impossible.

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- A gas station would be beneficial for everyone on community. A swimming pool would benefit adults, youth and Elders.
- Community Smokehouse, Community Greenhouse, Community compost.

## Discussion

Dr. Earl Babbie is a long-time professor of sociological research. His textbook *The Practice of Social Research* (2010, Babie) is on its 12<sup>th</sup> Edition and is used as the staple introduction to social research at universities around the world.

Dr. Babbie has found time and time again that when studying a population, having a study group of 20% or more provides fairly accurate conclusions about the population.

Applying this rule of sociological research to the Community Member Feedback Forms, we can be fairly certain that the responses reflect the views of all the participants at the Kick-Off Meeting.

50.7% of the Kick-Off Meeting participants filled out the Community Member Feedback Forms. This study group is large enough to reflect the rest of the participant's views as well.

Further to this, 71 members were present which is 13.3% of the Kitselas membership. The study group is not large enough to draw any conclusions about the membership at large.

However, we can firmly conclude that approximately 13% of the Kitselas membership feel that land use planning is an important community initiative and this study group considers Education & Employment, Culture & Language and Health to be the most important aspects in community planning.

As one participant stated when asked what is most important to you and your family: "All of the above as it all ties in to build a strong and healthy community enabling us to move forward."

The Kitselas membership is excited about land use planning and their involvement in it because it means that as a community, they are moving forward and making things better for those who follow.

## Conclusion

Considering the successful engagement of the Kitselas membership in the land use planning process, as a government, Kitselas Chief and Council have the opportunity to learn about what is important to the community. There are several options available to each department of the Kitselas Band Council to ensure that realistic ideas can be made possible.

## Sources

Babbie, E. (12<sup>th</sup> Ed.). (2010). *The Practice of Social Research*. Belmont: Wadsworth.

## Appendix A

### KITSELAS MASTER LAND USE PLAN

#### Membership Feedback Form

1. Have you ever been involved in a community planning process?

Yes                       No

2. Are you interested in being involved in the Kitselas Master Land Use Plan Process?  
(involvement can include attending, volunteering and/or participating at community workshops, sitting on the land use planning committee, etc.)

Yes                       No

If you answered yes, please state below how you would like to be involved:

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3. Would you like to know more about the land use planning process?

Yes                       No

If you answered yes to question 3, please check the box or boxes below which would be most appropriate for Sonja to involve you in the land use planning process:

- Personal/Group Meetings (please provide your phone number)
- Community Workshops Only
- Monthly Lands Management Newsletters (please provide your address)
- Additional Reading Material (please indicate below how Sonja can best get this to you)
- Emails (please write your name and email address below)
- Other (please describe below)

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4. What is important to you and your family?

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- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Culture & Language   | <input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Lands                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Governance           | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Development         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health               | <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Employment     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resources            | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing                    |

Please provide a brief explanation why:

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5. How can the land use plan reflect what is important to you and your family?

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6. Please provide **one** of the following: a goal, objective, or project activity you would like to see in the land use plan; or provide **one** issue/concern regarding land use:

Please also check which area your answer pertains to:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Culture & Language   | <input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Lands                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Governance           | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Development         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health               | <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Employment     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resources            | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing                    |

**List a Goal, Objective, Project Activity, or Issue/Concern here:**

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