



XAT'SULL FIRST NATION

3405 Mountain House Road
Williams Lake, BC V2G 5L5

Tel. 250-989-2323

Fax. 250-989-2300

March 6, 2008

Notice to Xat'sull Members **Comprehensive Community Planning**

For about a year now, Xat'sull has been working on a "Comprehensive Community Plan".

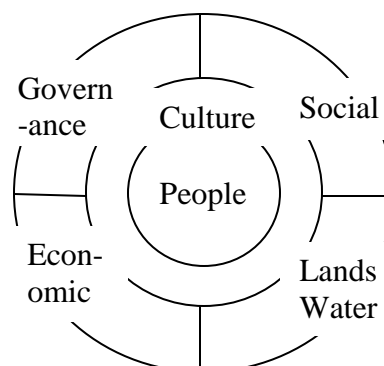
A Comprehensive Community Plan incorporates all aspects of Band business: from stewardship of the territory, to improving health, education and social development services and economic opportunities for the community. It addresses the preservation and enhancement of aboriginal culture, title and rights, as well as good governance and financial management.

We began the planning process early in 2008 by reviewing the various planning exercises that the Band has participated in over the last several years and doing a "situational analysis"-- looking at the environment of the Band and its strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.

At meetings last summer, community members developed a Vision Statement for the Band, which was approved by Council on August 13, 2008, as follows:

"We, the Xat'sull people of the Shuswap Nation, will empower ourselves by continuing to own and take care of our territory and by respecting and enhancing our traditional ways and cultural values through strong, accountable, determined self-government and by creating an abundant sustainable economy for our future generations".

Community members also chose a planning "framework" so we could develop a plan that deals with different components of the Vision. The chosen framework pictures the **people** in the middle, surrounded by **culture**, with **social, land and water, economic** and **governance** goals and objectives. The framework can be represented as follows:



Community members identified elements of the long term Vision in each of the components covered by the planning Framework—cultural, social, lands/water, economic and governance.

Band staff then took the Vision and Framework developed by community members, applied them to their own departments, and came up with draft Mission Statements, representing departmental roles in achieving the community Vision. Staff then identified a number of departmental goals and strategies in support of the Mission, necessary to attain the overall community Vision.

Over the past 2 months, Band staff have met as a group to discuss and reach consensus on the Goals and Strategies for all Band departments. This exercise has really shown the interrelationship between the departments and how they can work more closely together to achieve the Vision of the community.

A copy of the draft Goals and Strategies is enclosed with this letter. They are also posted on the Xat'sull website, www.xatsull.com.

A community meeting is scheduled for **5 pm, Thursday, March 12, 2009, at the Deep Creek Hall** to review the draft Goals and Strategies and provide community input and direction.

We recognize that not everyone will be able to attend the March 12 meeting. Nor will this meeting be the last opportunity for community members to provide input on the draft Goals and Strategies.

If you cannot attend the meeting, please review the draft Goals and Strategies and either:

- (1) Provide your input to someone who will be attending, or
- (2) Provide your input to Cliff Thorstenson by phone to 250-315-8095, email to cthor@uniserve.com, or by dropping your comments off to his attention at the Band Office.

by March 27, 2009.

Input will be incorporated into the draft Goals and Strategies, and reviewed again at a future community meeting, probably once the new Band Council is in office.

Once we have a “working draft” of the Comprehensive Community Plan, Band staff will develop “operational workplans” to implement it. The Plan will be a living document, which will be reviewed and amended from time-to-time.

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact Cliff Thorstenson at the phone number or email address noted above.