



# Sq'ewá:lxw Sqwélqwel

## The Newsletter of the Sq'ewá:lxw First Nation Vision Project Issue #8 July 2018

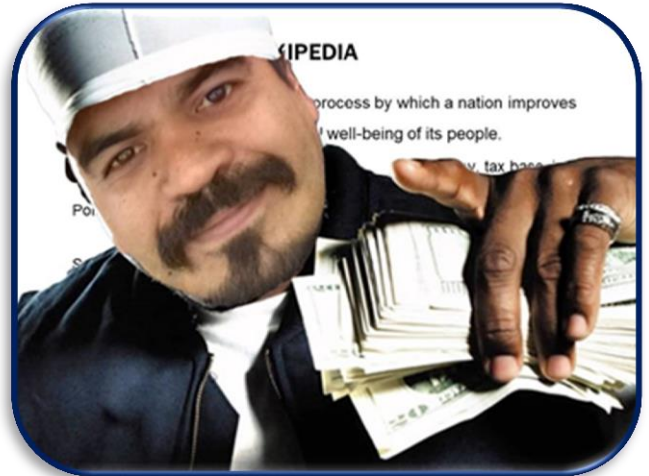
### Economic Development

Our June Sq'ép was focused on economic development. Mike Bellegarde led the group through a funny and insightful round up of what economic development is and what it means for Sq'ewá:lxw.

What is economic development? Many different definitions were brought forward including building stability for our children and grandchildren, self-sufficiency, jobs, band owned businesses that hire members, and building a tax base to support services.

Multiple studies undertaken over the years have all led to the conclusion that our location is a serious barrier to doing business. We have an out-of-the-way location that has low traffic and low local income levels. What can we do? One approach is creating a new destination to attract visitors. This is being done through Syéxw Chó:leqw Adventure Park which provides a natural environment, beauty, art, and activities.

Now, how can we leverage the park? We see the park acting in a support role to the gallery, empowering our youth, displaying art, and attracting visitors, interest, and dollars.



For further information please contact Sharron Young our Sq'ewá:lxw Nation Vision Champion!  
(604) 796-9129 [sharron@skawahlook.com](mailto:sharron@skawahlook.com)

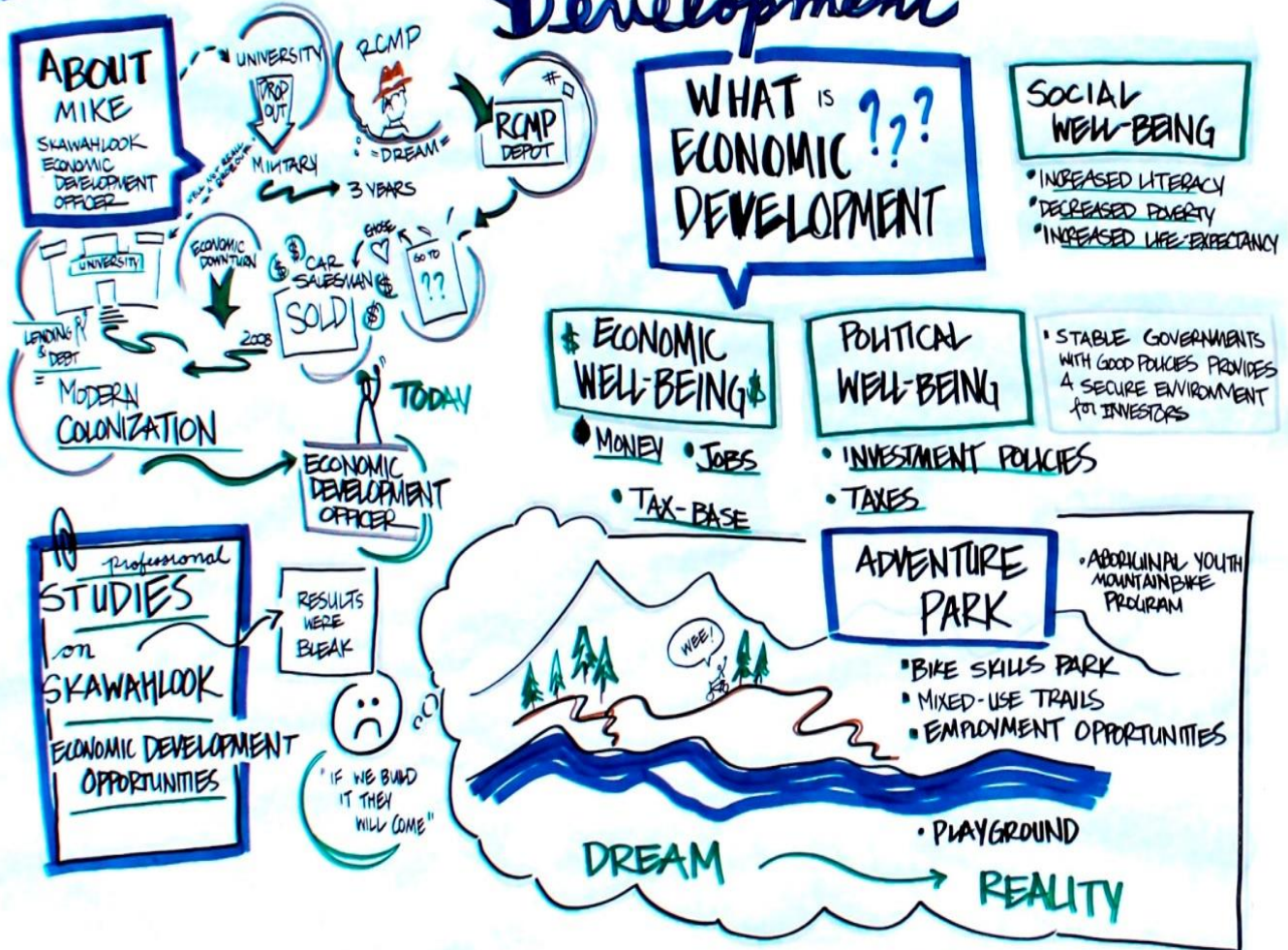


JUNE 9, 2018

Sq'ep

# ECONOMIC

## Development



Drawing Together 2018

Across this page and the next three is Melissa's graphic summary of the economic development discussion.





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## SQ'EWÁ: LXW FIRST NATION CCP

### CHALLENGES for ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- MONEY → COST → RAISE FLOOD PLAIN
- LOCATION → TRAFFIC
- SMALL LOCAL POPULATION
- COMMUNICATION INFRASTRUCTURE
  - TRANSPORTATION - ACCESS
- RAILROAD · PIPELINE
- MOSQUITOES · FLOODING
- ACCESS OVER THE TRACKS

### WHAT are WE **AWESOME** at?

- AWESOME STAFF (8")
- ARTISTS · PARTNERSHIPS
- HALL/GALLERY/KITCHEN
  - RENTALS · STRONG FAMILIES
- SOCIAL MEDIA
- HIGHLY EDUCATED · FUNERALS

### OPPORTUNITIES for ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- BLANKETS → CEREMONIAL SUPPLIES
  - BAGS
  - SCARVES
  - HEADBANDS
  - HATS · WOOL
- WEDDINGS/MEMORIALS
- HOUSING INSURANCE
- RESORT & AMPHITHEATRE
  - STORIES & CULTURAL PERFORMANCES
- FISH HATCHERY → ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION
- FIRE HALL ■ CHAINSAW CARVING
- CAMP/ROUNDER ■ CAFÉ → ICE CREAM
- SEASONAL ATTRACTIONS → HAUNTED FOREST
- PIT HOUSE MODELS → EDUCATION
  - SCHOOL CONTRACTS → TOURS
- BANNOCK → FOOD DESTINATION



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## EXPLORING opportunities

### RISKS

- FAILURE
- HOSTILE COMPANY TAKEOVERS
- DESTRUCTION of NATURAL LANDSCAPES
- BAILOUT REQUIRED or LOSE MONEY
- STAFFING → LACK TALENT or SKILL
- LAWSUITS  
STANDARDS NOT MET

### SUPPORTING ENTREPRENEURS

- GRANT WRITING
- EDUCATION & TRAINING
- MICROLOANS / LENDING
- SPEND \$ ON RESERVE

SUPPORT OUR ARTISTS

### OIL & GAS INDUSTRY

HOW DOES THIS AFFECT US & HOW DOES THIS AFFECT OTHERS??

WHO OWNS the OIL??

WHAT ARE THE ENVIRONMENTAL RISK??  
IS IT WORTH the MONEY??

IF WE USE OIL ARE WE HYPOCRITES???

YOU HAVE TO LIVE IN THE WORLD THAT EXISTS TO FIGHT for the WORLD THAT WE WANT

COMMUNITY NEEDS TO BE INVOLVED & HAVE A SAY!!

RISKS ARE TOO GREAT!

### CANNIBIS

DO WE SUPPORT??

YES

- RESEARCH & PERSONAL EXPERIENCE IN HEALING & HEALTH
- TAX REVENUE

\* AS LONG AS THEY'RE RESPECTFUL of CULTURE

### ALCOHOL

DO WE SUPPORT??

- WHAT AUDIENCE DO WE ATTRACT??

! APPROACH WITH CAUTION

- TARGET SPECIFIC GROUPS WITH PRICE & IMAGE
- CONSIDER LIABILITY → SOCIAL LIABILITY

## Sq'ép (Gathering)

The *Halq'eméylem* word *sq'ép* means a meeting or a gathering. Our planning takes place within community engagement sessions which we are calling *sq'ép*.





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WITH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES  
Let's KEEP the DIALOGUE GOING  
~ IN CONSULTATION WITH COMMUNITY ~
















How can we help entrepreneurs? Ideas brought forward included: proposal writing; training; education, mentorship; micro-lending; keep revenue on the reserve; spend money on reserve; support home based business; and offer social media services to small businesses.



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The following are take-home messages we heard:

-  Social and environmental goals are good but we need to make money.
-  Oil and gas is contentious with high risk of environmental damage.
-  Look at ownership of oil and pipelines as a title and rights issue.
-  Recreational cannabis may be lucrative, but the community emphasizes the medicinal side.
-  Open to exploring the idea of cannabis business ventures.
-  Although alcohol sales can increase profits, caution is suggested because some members struggle with this issue and the example we set is important.
-  The use of Sasquatch, in business marketing is appropriate so long as we do not monetize the traumatic event to the family.
-  Sasquatch is part of our heritage, as it is for many communities. We can use the concept, and build our own brand, so long as we don't infringe on other's imagery or particular intellectual property.
-  The ability to balance land use and the natural environment has been demonstrated elsewhere. Promote business development while keeping with protection measures for the environment.
-  There is pride in the gallery; it puts us on the map. Showcase members' work and quality products.
-  When it comes to hiring for community businesses the members put a high importance on members and cultural fit.
-  Members showed little appetite for continuing money-losing businesses to retain employment.
-  Consider opportunities off reserve. How does that jive with creating a sustainable community? Make money off-reserve to support community services (if not jobs).










# Sq'ewá:lxw Sqwélqwel

**We the Sq'ewá:lxw People have gathered in sq'ép to share our values, traditions, history, thoughts, and visions - each of which are symbolized by a single strand of cedar. Our cedar strands are woven together, transformed into the Sq'ewá:lxw hat and collectively honoured and held up by the People of Sq'ewá:lxw.**

## Prizes!

We have door prizes at each sq'ép. In addition we are offering a grand prize of \$1,000 at the end of the year with entries accumulated by members by:

-  Attendance at each sq'ép including attendance via Facebook Live;
-  Submission of the feedback form from each sq'ép;
-  Filling out surveys either online or in hardcopy;
-  Submitting pictures, stories, *etc.*; and
-  At the discretion of the planning champion in recognition of valuable contributions.

We also will be giving a guaranteed prize of \$50 for the ones who attend all meetings and complete all surveys.



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## Health Sq'ép - Saturday July 21st, 2018

At our next sq'ép we will be exploring the health services available to members and how we might provide for future services.

### Stó:lō Government House

We will come together at 11:30 am, have some lunch, and finish up at 3:30 pm.

