

“Stories From Home” Event Recap



Gabriola Island Housing Advisory Planning Commission



Source: Tobi Elliott

Event Overview: Pecha Kucha Night

What?

Local knowledge-holders and experts shared their stories and experiences with housing, the environment, and cultural heritage on Gabriola Island, using a fast-paced and fun presentation style.

Why?

To explore housing options and environmental impacts on Gabriola Island.




Left: Dave Bodaly beginning the evening with a song. Right: Steve Earle presenting about climate change and housing. Source: Tobi Elliott.


Stories From Home
Exploring Key Themes to Address Gabriola's Housing Needs While Protecting the Environment

Please join us!


Snuneymuxw First Nation member Dave Bodaly, the Gabriola Housing Advisory Planning Commission, the Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee, and local knowledge holders in dialogue about housing options and impacts.



Monday, November 4, 2019
7:00pm to 8:30pm
Phoenix Auditorium, The Haven
240 Davis Road, Gabriola Island



The GERTIE Community Bus will be picking up and dropping off passengers at no charge before and after the event!
For more information or to RSVP, please email
northinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca or call 250.247.2063



Everyone Welcome - Child Friendly - Light Refreshments Provided!

Project Overview: Three Key Themes




Increasing the diversity of housing options, especially secure and affordable rental housing, is a central theme to this project.

Housing Diversity and Affordability

People At Risk


The most vulnerable people in our community are often the most impacted by the lack of appropriate housing options. Many are already dealing with physical and mental health issues that may preclude them from securing safe and appropriate housing.



The project will evaluate potential impacts of increased housing options to Gabriola's natural environment as well as cultural sites and archaeological resources.

Environment and Cultural Heritage

Event Presenters and Themes



Patricia Maloney, Planner and resident
Overview of the Housing Needs Assessment for Gabriola

John Woods, HAPC Member and resident
Housing agreements in Islands Trust


Warren Fraleigh, Executive Director of the Haven - Housing needs in the community

Housing Diversity and Affordability

People At Risk

People for a Healthy Community Audio Pieces:
Interviews with local community members with lived experience with housing instability (played throughout the evening) (Prepared by Tobi Elliott)

Karin Kronstal, Social Planner, City of Nanaimo
Speaking about housing and homelessness policies



Wayne Bourque, Ecosystem Protection Specialist at Islands Trust Conservancy
Biodiversity and conservation efforts on the Island

Steve Earle, HAPC member and resident
An overview of sustainable housing projects

Dave Bodaly, Snuneymuxw First Nation
Final story

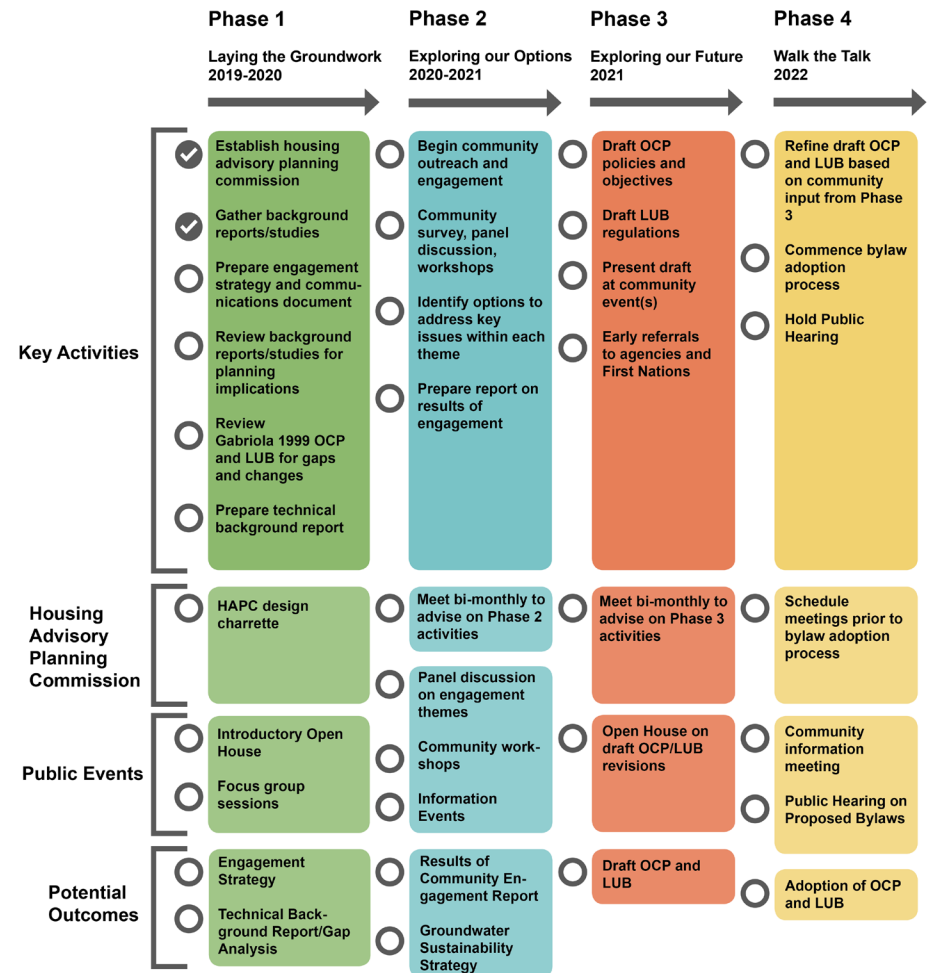
Environment and Cultural Heritage

Project Timeline

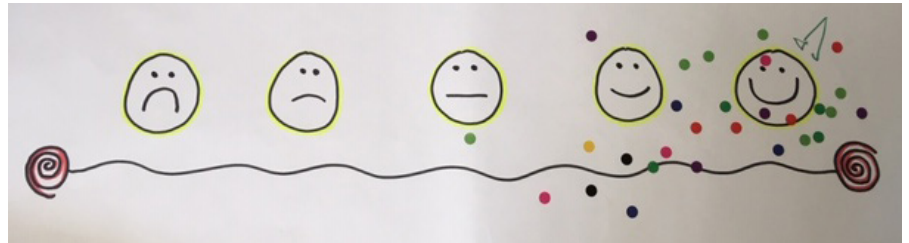
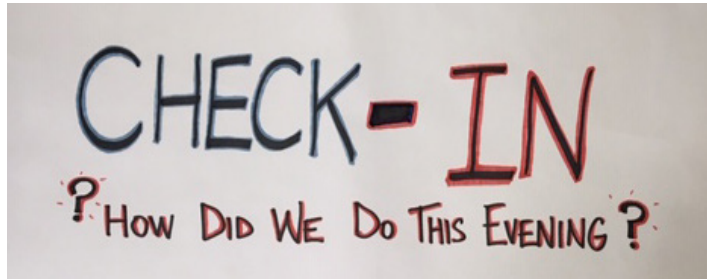
- ✓ Establish housing advisory planning commission
- ✓ Gather background reports/studies
- Prepare engagement strategy and communications document
- Review background reports/studies for planning implications
- Review Gabriola 1999 OCP and LUB for gaps and changes
- Prepare technical background report



Gabriola Housing Options and Impacts Review Project Timeline: 2019-2022



Revisiting Event Objectives



How This Was Achieved



Explain WHY the Housing Advisory Planning Commission has been brought together



A brief presentation from Trustees Langerreis and Colbourne



Share ideas about home and place (both human and ecological)



Each expert or local knowledge holder spoke to a different theme and told their own story



Elicit initial feedback about ways to engage with the community as the project moves forward in 2020



In-person at the event, and through email after the event ended

Successes

Number of Attendees: 70-80 People

Excellent promotion and advertising, effectively getting the word out in the community.

Accessibility and Gertie Bus Use

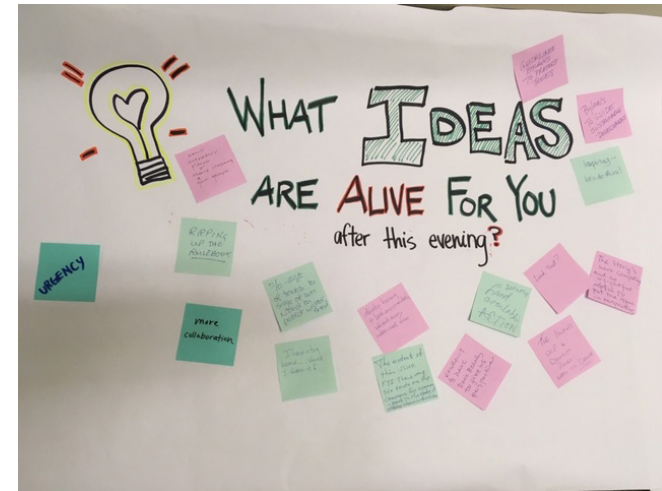
At least 6 attendees used Gertie for transportation. A community member streamed the event through social media, making it accessible to many more people than those physically in attendance.

Variety of Presenters and Views

Heard from: People with lived experience with housing instability and/or homelessness, First Nation community member, housing and social planners, sustainable housing expert, environmental conservationist, and a local employer.

Audio Pieces: Voices of the Community

The most effective part of the evening was hearing directly from people with lived experience with housing instability in the Gabriola community.



Top: A poster from the event filled with feedback.
Bottom: Wayne Bourque presents about biodiversity.
Source: Sonja Zupanec, Tobi Elliott

What We Heard

What ideas are alive for you this evening?

“Ripping
up the rule
book”

“More
collaboration”

“The stories were
compelling and so
insightful, helpful
to put the issue into
perspective”

“I have a big
house, should
I share it?”

“Inspiring,
let’s do this!”

“Bylaws
to guide
sustainable
development”

What We Heard ...Continued

What ideas are alive for you this evening?

“OCP and density rules need to change”

“Seniors land availability”

“Develop housing in least environmentally valuable areas makes most sense”

% of trees to size of lot

“Excellent to have Dave Bodaly to give us perspective”

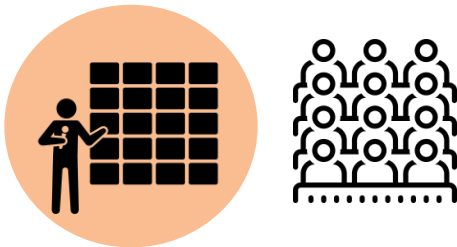
“Need to protect watershed”

Preferred Methods of Engagement

Favourite ways to be *INFORMED*

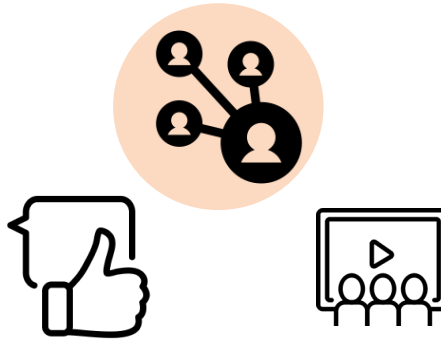


Social Media

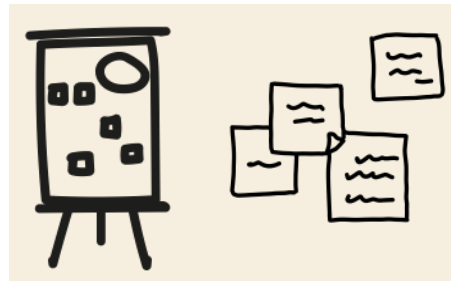


In-Person Events

Favourite ways to be *CONSULTED*



Online Presence



Design Charrettes

Favourite ways to be *INVOLVED*



Online Surveys



Small “kitchen-table” Discussions

Lessons Learned For Next Time



Source: Tobi Elliott

Time

- Presenters felt rushed
- Too many presenters, too little time
- Allow time between presentations for questions

Communication

- More emphasis on the themes
- Maintain consistency between themes and presentations
- Missed opportunity to speak about water issues

Managing Expectations

- Community expects a degree of interaction at engagement events
- This event, in contrast, gave the chance to learn and listen
- Some audience members felt grateful, others felt that interaction was missing

What’s Next?



Key Activities

- Prepare engagement strategy and communications document
- Review background reports/studies for planning implications
- Review Gabriola 1999 OCP and LUB for gaps and changes
- Prepare technical background report

Housing Advisory Planning Commission

- HAPC design charrette

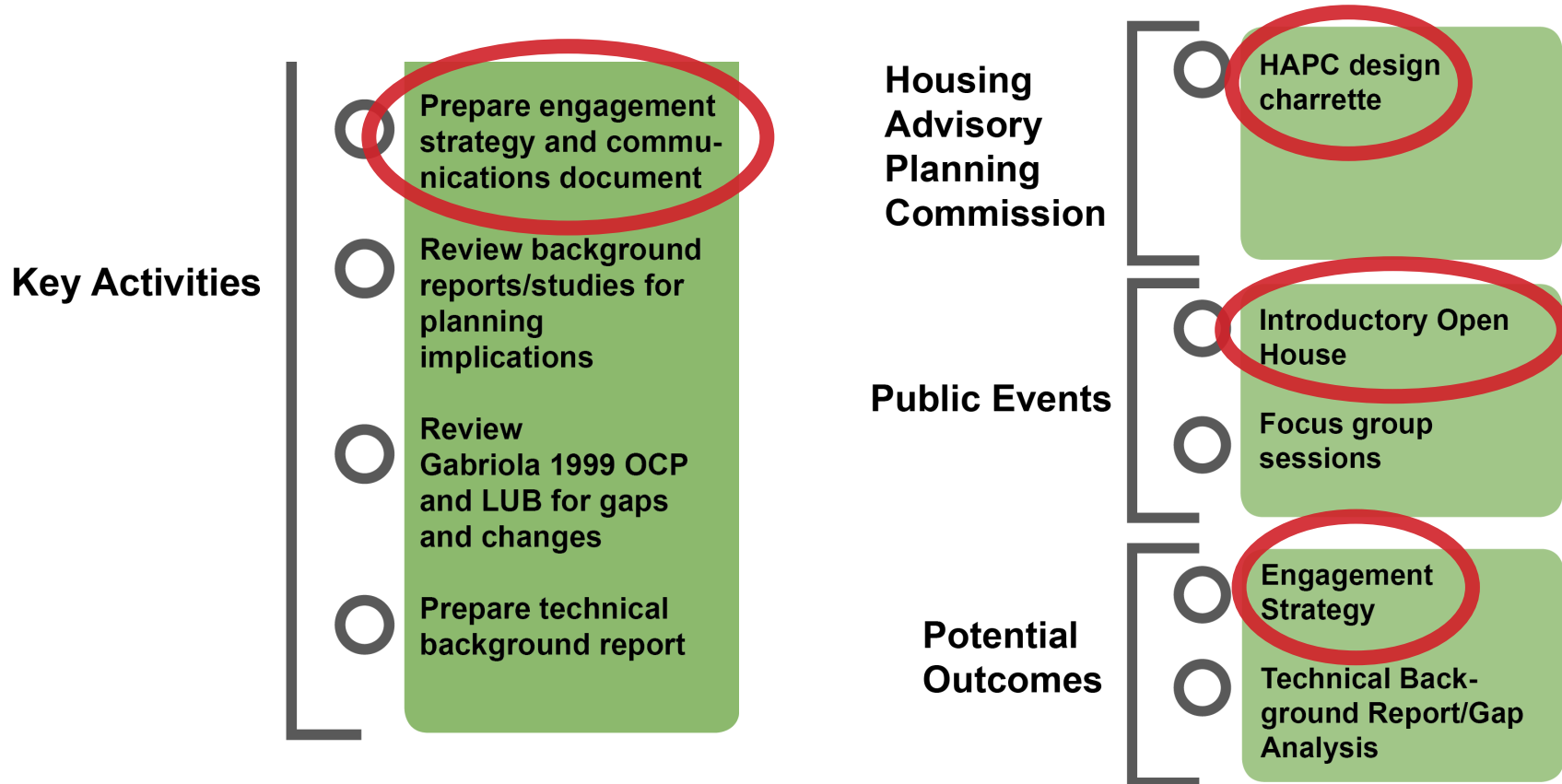
Public Events

- Introductory Open House
- Focus group sessions

Potential Outcomes

- Engagement Strategy
- Technical Background Report/Gap Analysis

What's Next?



Special Thanks To:

Housing Advisory Planning Commission Members:

- Dyan Dunsmoor-Farley
- Steven Earle
- Tobi Elliott
- Angela Thomson
- Heather Cameron
- John Woods
- Howard Houle
- Dave Neads

Islands Trust Staff:

- Sonja Zupanec (szupanec@islandstrust.bc.ca)
- Bronwyn Sawyer (bsawyer@islandstrust.bc.ca)