

Welcome!

Whistler Creek West Public Engagement



Event Guidelines

It is important that we create a space where everyone can contribute. Please remember to **be respectful**.

- » Every participant brings information, points of view and ideas to contribute. Treat everyone here with the same respect and tone you would want for yourself, your child or your parent.
- » Threats, insults, intimidation and abusive language will not be tolerated.
- » Photography and video recording are limited to the presentation materials. Photographing and/or recording of participants or conversations are not permitted (without advance permission).



Study Area & Neighbourhood Context

The Plan Area is located on the shared, unceded territory of the Lil'wat People, known in their language as L'ilwat7úl, and the Squamish People, known in their language as Skwxwú7mesh



Unceded Territory

These lands have been the shared territory of the Lil’wat People and Squamish People since time immemorial.

Before it was known as Whistler, it was originally Cwítima/Kacwítima to the Lil’wat People, and Skwíkw to the Squamish People.

The Squamish and Lil’wat People share a long and rich history on their Traditional Territories. Together, the Squamish and Lil’wat have lived on these territories since before recorded time, their individual histories are interwoven through the relationships built on these shared territories.

As oral societies, the Squamish and Lil’wat People instilled an immense importance of being the historians of their communities through storytelling. Both Nations have ancestral stories based on major events or people that were pivotal to their histories.

The Spo7ez Story - The Earth Bled

Spo7ez was a village at the confluence of Rubble Creek and the Cheakamus River shared by Squamish and Lil’wat People. For many years members of both Nations lived peacefully engaging in trade and commerce; however, over time conflict unfolded.

The Thunderbird decided to act - he flapped his wings causing the volcano to erupt with a massive rockslide that buried the ancient village. Hundreds were killed instantly as the massive rockslide swept down the mountainside to the ocean.

The survivors were sent home with a message, that we’re friends, family and neighbors and we need to work together.

After the Thunderbird caused the volcano to erupt at Black Tusk both communities were told they could only have seasonal camps in the Whistler area. They were told that as you came into the valley and could see Black Tusk that would be the beginning of the shared territory.

Learn more about the history of the Squamish Nation and the Lil’wat Nation by visiting the Squamish Lil’wat Cultural Centre in-person or online here:



Story Courtesy of the Squamish Lil’wat Cultural Centre

L’ílwat7úl (Lil’wat)

- Interior Salish People** – They are a mountain community; their territory is like what you see in Whistler.
- They speak Ucwalmícwts which translates to “the language of the land.”
 - Their clothing, food, housing and transportation has adapted to the temperature change found in the mountain ranges.

Ancestry
The L il wat7úl are Ucwalmícw which translates to “the people of the land.” They are one of eleven communities that form the Státimc Nation. Srap7úl was their original name but newcomers referred to them as Lillooet because they came from “The Lillooet Tribe of Indians.” Srap7úl meaning “the real tree,” the majestic Douglas Fir, whose ancestors believed when it grows to its fullest, they are closer to the Creator. Today they are known as L il wat7úl.

Territory
Lil’wat Territory is vast, covering an area of nearly 8,000 km², extending from Rubble Creek, north to Gates Lake, east to Upper Stein Valley and west to the Pacific Ocean.

Activities in the Study Area
For the Lil’wat People, the lands in and around the study area, including Nita Lake and Alpha Lake were used as a seasonal settlement in the warmer months for hunting, gathering and fishing. Two permanent settlements were located north and south of the study area closer to Green Lake and to the Cheakamus River.

Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish)

- Coast Salish People** - The majority of their territory is found along the ocean.
- They speak Sk wx wú7mesh Snichem,
 - Their clothing, food, housing and transportation has adapted to the temperate rainforest.

Ancestry
The story of their Ancestor beings with T’sekánchtn who lived in Chkwelhp (near Gibson’s, BC). Je heard a loud noise and discovered a man named Sxeláltn dancing a ceremonial rite on his roof. He was invited down but Sxeláltn continued to dance until the ceremony was complete. These two men (brothers) eventually parted ways and Sxeláltn formed a second village across the creek at Schenk where he raised his own family. They survived on the riches of the sea and forest. Their descendants would spread over the land, across the water to Vancouver Island and up and down the coast.

Territory
Covering over 6,700 km², Squamish Territory stretching from trecthes from Point Grey in the south to Roberts Creek in the west, and the area north of Howe Sound to north of Whistler.

Activities in the Study Area
For the Squamish People, the lands in and around the study area, were used to harvest and hunt. It is in close proximity to a known Squamish Cultrual Site known as Penem and Wild Spirit Place known as Kwayatsut.

Development Timeline

As part of the original townsite established with the first gondola, the neighbourhood was pivotal in establishing Whistler as a destination.

1914

Pacific Great Eastern Railway is built to Pemberton



1936

Harry Horstman sells a quarter section of land on the south end of Nita Lake to Russ Jordan for \$2,000



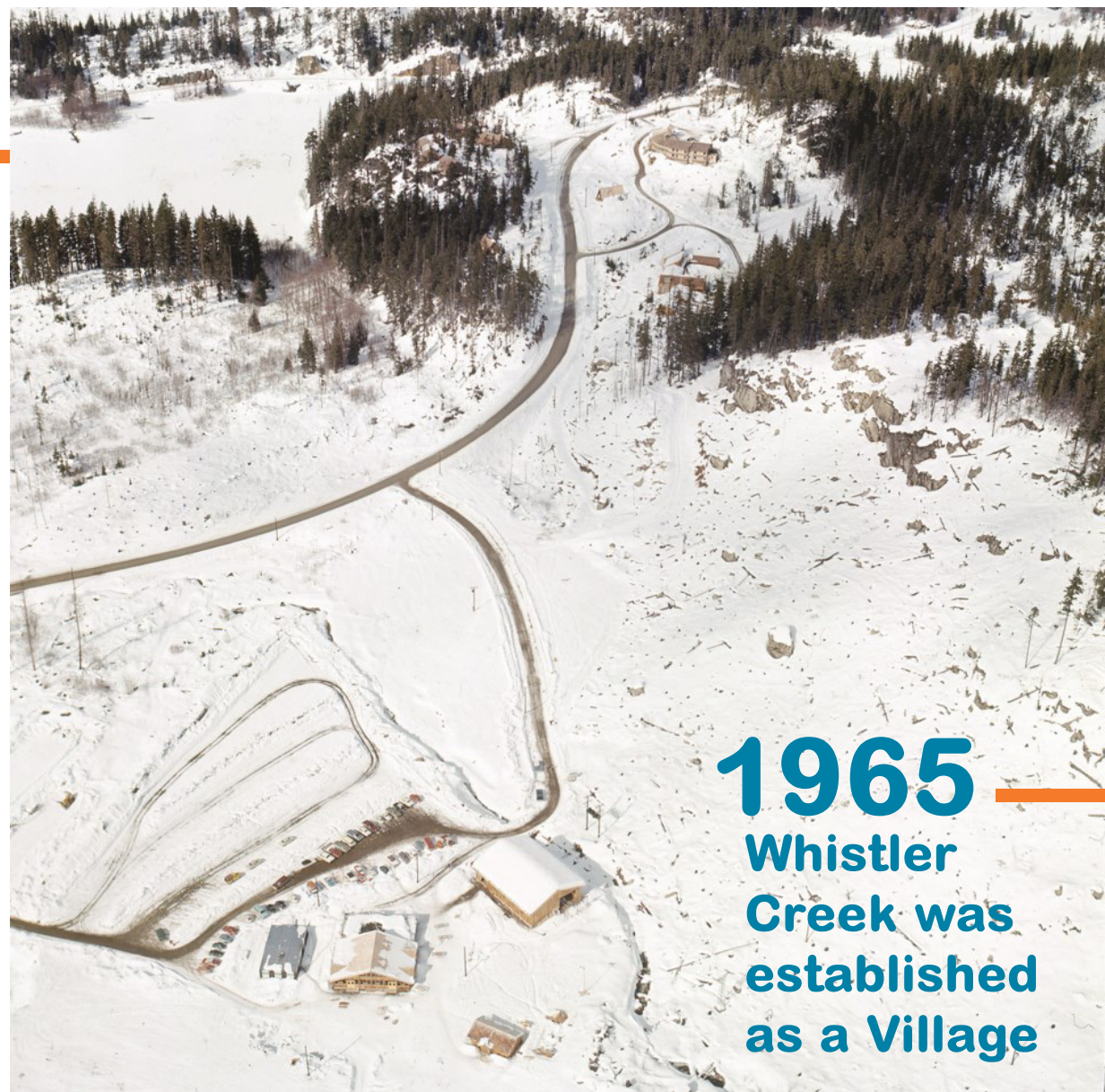
Jordan hires Bill Bailiff to construct the Jordan Lodge property included the main building, cabins, and a barn

1966

Highway 99 is paved from Squamish to Mons



Whistler officially opens for skiing with a four-person gondola (Gondola Barn), a two-person chairlift and two T-bars



1965 Whistler Creek was established as a Village

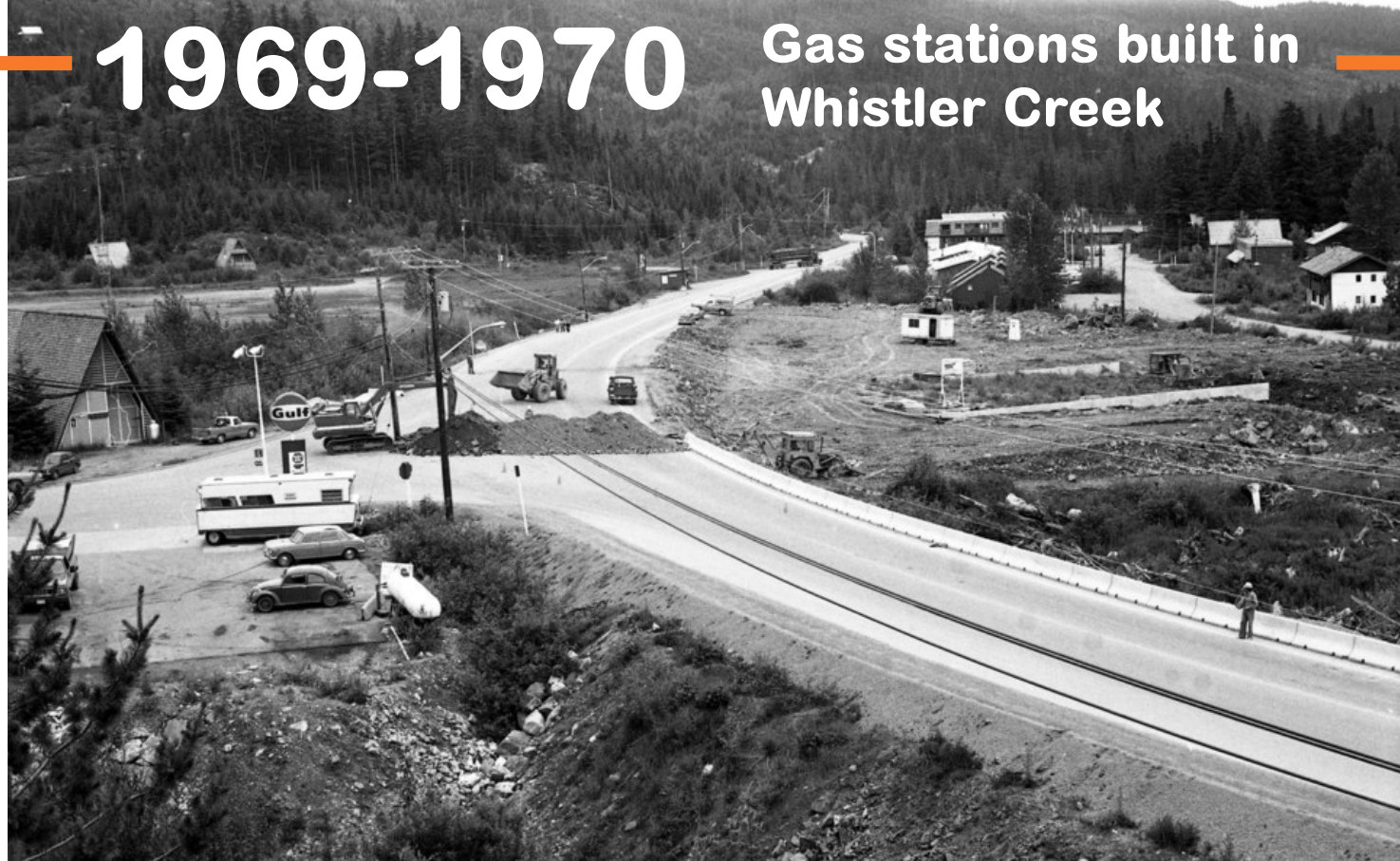
1962-1965



Garibaldi Lifts Ltd developed areas of Whistler Creek, developing lift access for skiing on Whistler Mountain

1969-1970

Gas stations built in Whistler Creek



The first gas station, Gulf, opened in 1969 on the east side of Highway 99 and Husky opened in 1970 at Lake Placid Drive and Highway 99

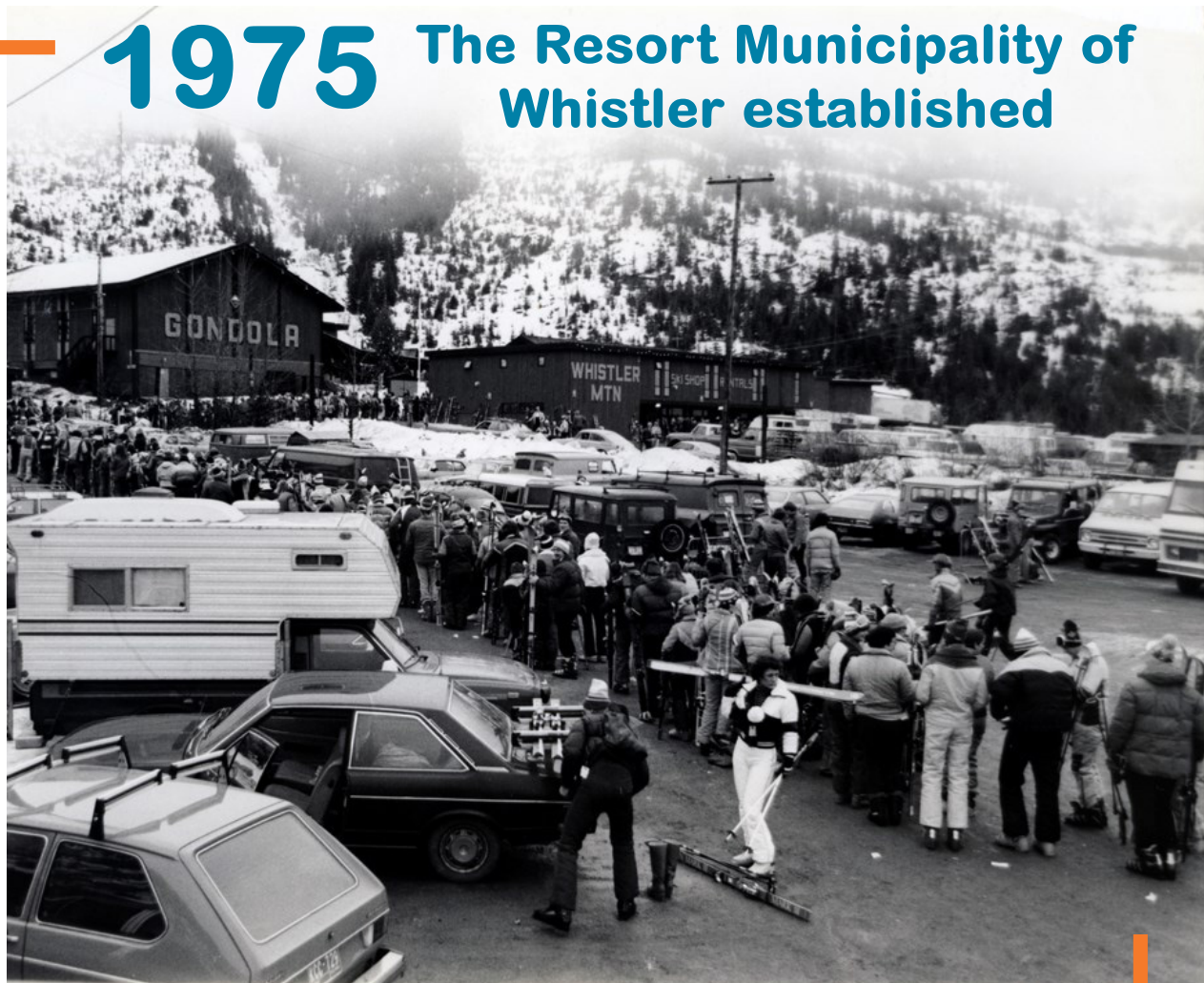
1970



The iconic Southside Diner building completed

1975

The Resort Municipality of Whistler established



1978

Construction starts on Village Centre

1982

RMOW purchases land on Alpha Lake from John Taylor for \$93,000 to develop Alpha Lake Park

1991

Whistler Creek Grown Study

1996

Creekside Gondola Installed

2002

High speed 4-seater Garbanzo Express chair installed

Franz's Trail and the Creekside parkade is completed

2004

2005



Nita Lake Lodge is completed on the old Jordan Lodge site - an addition is added in 2009

2010

Whistler hosts the Olympics with 10 competitions held at Creekside

A temporary chairlift was installed at Creekside to carry spectators, athletes and officials from the base area to the timing flats.



2016

Creekside is open for summer mountain biking



2022

The creekside lift is upgraded to a new 10-passenger gondola

Municipal Policy

Development in Whistler is guided by community plans and policies that promote a holistic and sustainable approach to development.

Official Community Plan (OCP)

The OCP establishes our highest-level policy goals, objectives and policies to address growth management and land use in Whistler.

The OCP supports developing a sub-area plan for Whistler Creek to address evolving resort and community needs:

- » Encouraging renovation and redevelopment to enhance the attractiveness, character, and experience of this sub-area.
 - » Strengthening a sense of place and vibrancy of the core commercial sub-area as a mixed-use destination for visitors and residents anchored by the Creekside ski base and Whistler Creek neighbourhood area
- » Integrating Creekside Base, Creekside Village commercial, highway gateway commercial and Lake Placid Road extension, to Nita Lake Lodge
 - » Investigating the potential for Lake Placid Road to evolve into a commercial and residential mixed-use street.

OCP Land Use Designation in the Plan Area



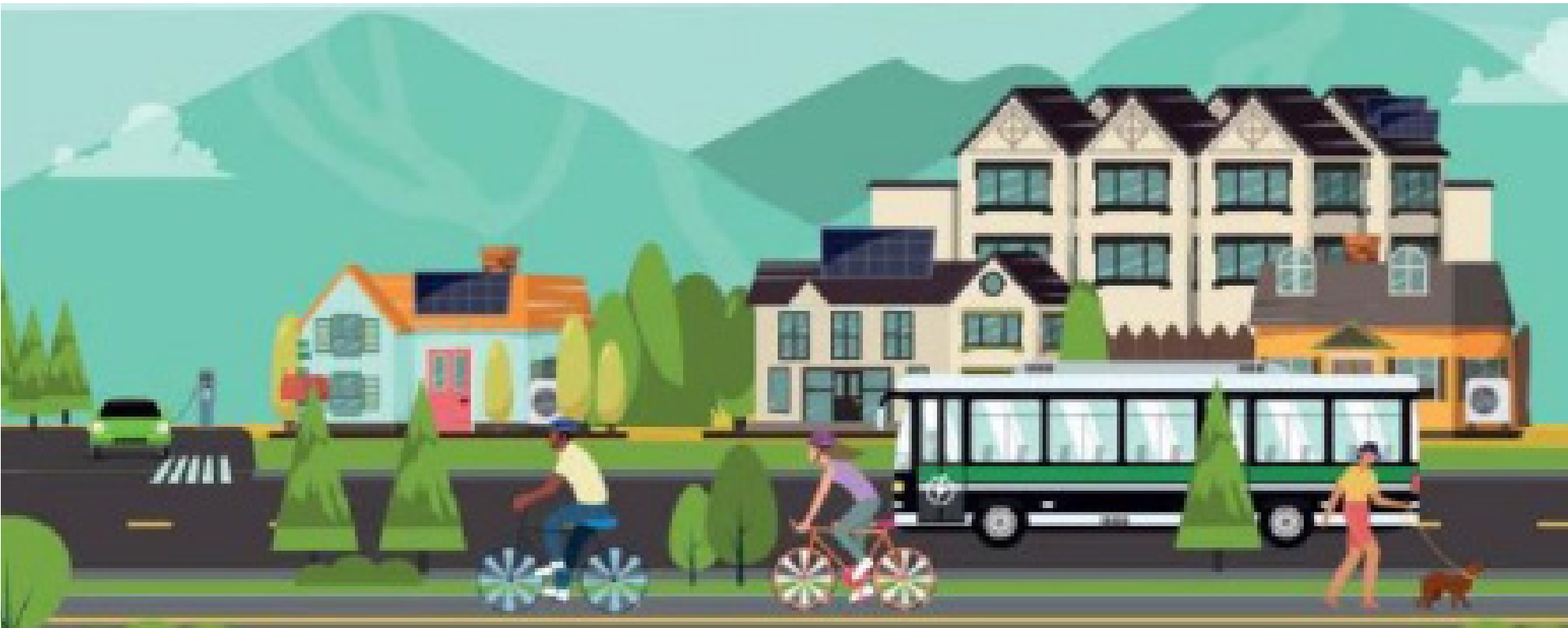
- Core Commercial – Whistler Creek Centre**
which represents the resort community’s multi-use commercial centres, which include visitor accommodation, restaurants, retail shops, entertainment, leisure and convenience goods and services, primarily serving adjacent visitor accommodation and residential neighbourhoods.
- Residential Low to Medium (Detached Multiple)**
which represents lands for detached/duplex dwellings and also medium density multiple residential dwellings, particularly where served by nearby services and amenities.

Big Moves Climate Strategy

The Plan Area is centrally located to commercial, service, retail, healthcare and recreation service. It is well-connected to Whistler’s trail network and public transit and offers a good opportunity to implement the goals of the Climate Action Big Moves.

Whistler Creek West Neighbourhood Plan will support Climate Action Big Moves by:

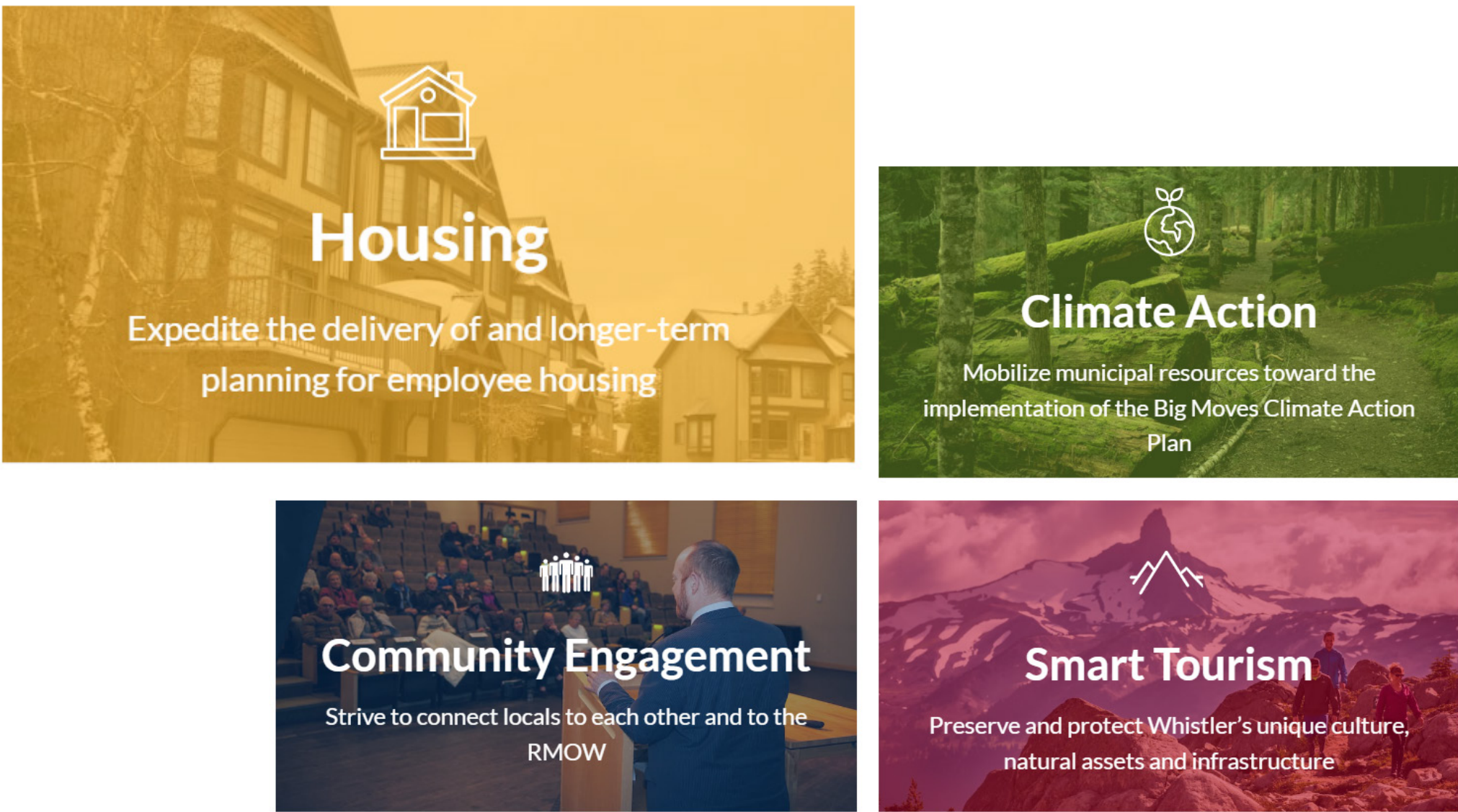
- » Moving beyond the car by enabling more active transportation, and developing compact and low carbon communities
- » Incorporating sustainable site design elements to conserve potable water, manage stormwater, maximize green space, and enhance the natural environment and biodiversity
- » Delivering low emission buildings by implementing sustainable building practices included with the BC Energy Step Code



Council Priorities

Council’s four-year strategic plan identifies housing as one of the top priorities in Whistler.

Several initiatives are being worked on to expedite the delivery of long-term planning for employee housing, including a Housing Action Plan and multiple phases of Cheakamus Crossing. Council has identified innovative problem solving and approaches as a specific focus to addressing housing in Whistler, as well as working with community partners on long-term housing.



Housing Needs in Whistler

Local governments are required to complete a Housing Needs Report that describes current and anticipated housing needs.

The 2022 Housing Needs Report outlines housing needs in Whistler detailed through quantitative and qualitative data on population, dwellings, and households The summary of Housing Needs in Whistler highlighted by the report include:



Increased supply of purpose-built rentals

A significant demand exists for more affordable rental homes to provide secure and stable housing, allowing community members to continue living and working in the area.



Housing for low income and vulnerable persons

Purpose-built housing is essential to support vulnerable populations and reduce the number of households facing severe housing challenges.



Equitable housing opportunities for families

Lower-income families, including single-parent households, require affordable larger homes to meet their needs.



Accessible housing

While data on the need for accessible units is limited, Whistler’s population is aging, and it is likely that accessibility needs will increase with time and planning for these needs now will be important to meet future needs.

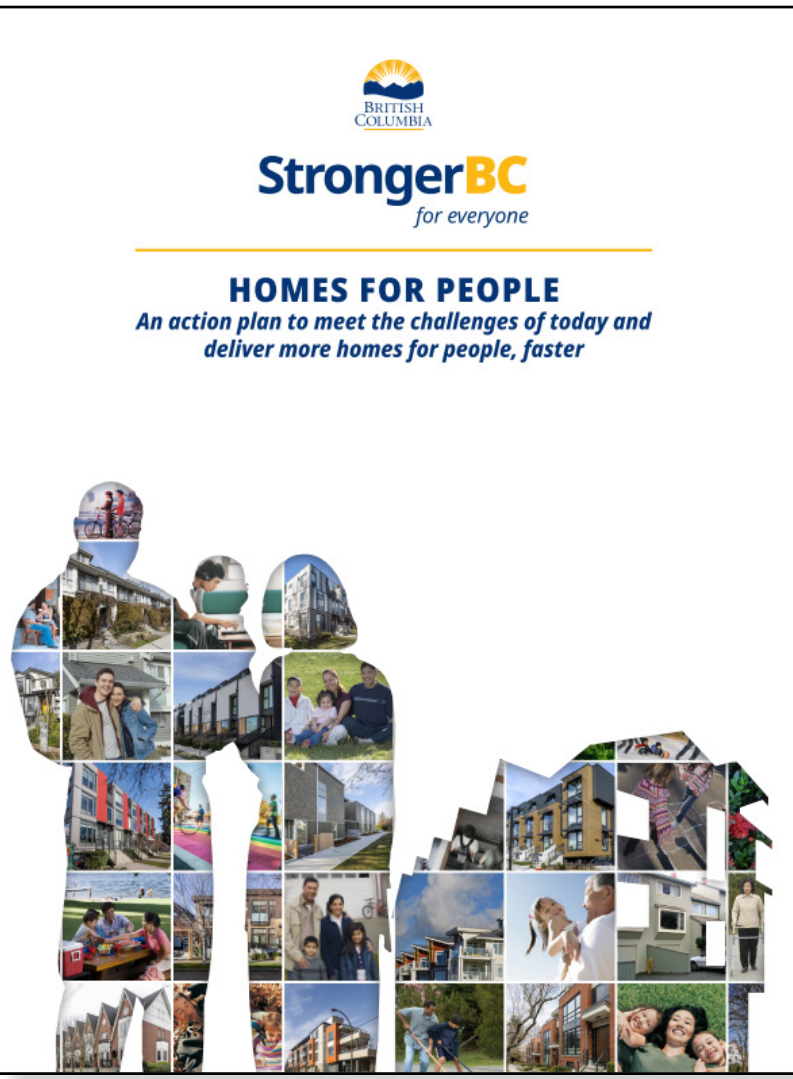


Smaller dwelling units for the young and seniors

Rising demand for smaller homes is expected from both young adults entering the housing market and seniors downsizing.

Provincial Policy

In 2023, the Province of B.C. released the Homes for People Plan and passed legislation to increase housing supply across the province.



Learn more about how the new provincial legislation may affect your home or homes in your neighbourhood:



Homes for People Action Plan

The new provincial rules and policy guidelines introduced **Small-Scale Multi-Unit Housing (SSMUH)** through Bill 44 change the land use planning framework for local governments, including Whistler. These changes support the RMOW’s strategic priority of increasing housing in Whistler. We have updated our regulations to follow the provincial rules.

Key Changes

- » SSMUH regulations increase density on single-family and duplex lots - this allows up to four small-scale units per single-family or duplex lot, depending on the lot size. In Whistler, some of these additional housing units are required to be designated for employee housing use.
- » To support more proactive planning, the RMOW will update the housing needs report and OCP (including community engagement) every five years and to proactively zone for projected future housing needs.
- » No more public hearings for residential projects that are consistent with our OCP.

Small-Scale Multi-Unit Housing

What is Small-Scale Multi-Unit Housing (SSMUH)?

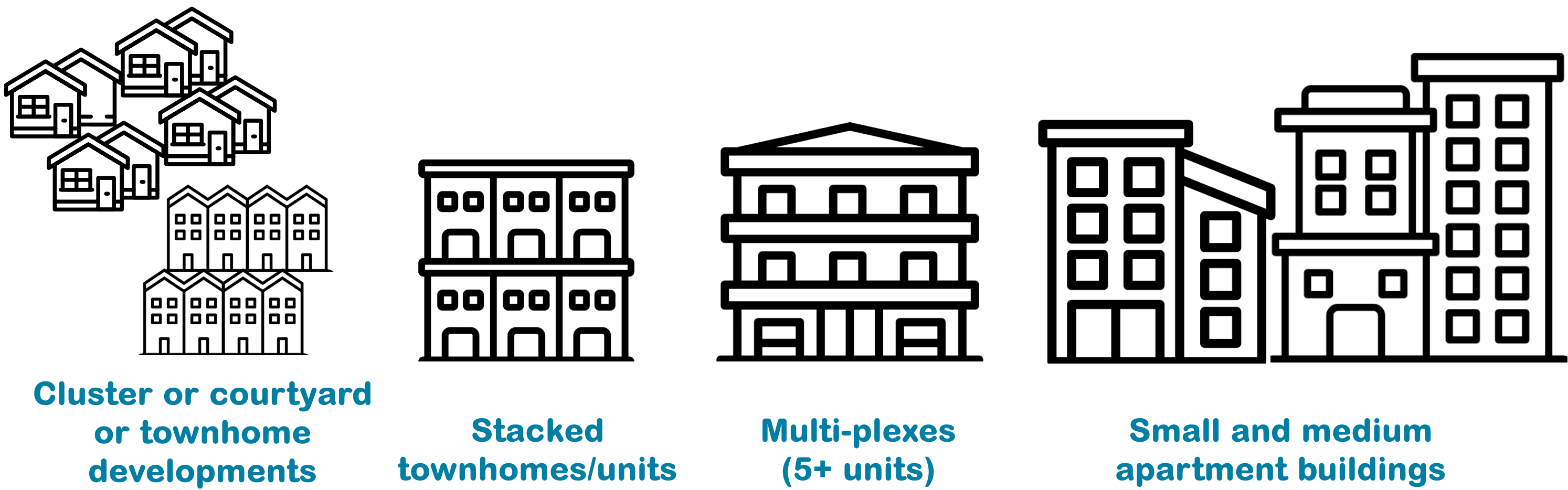
SSMUH refers to a range of housing unit configurations that can provide more affordable and diverse options than single-family homes.

Examples: Secondary suites in single-family homes, detached suites (e.g., accessory residential dwelling units or ARDUs), duplexes, townhomes, and house-plexes.



Missing Middle Housing

In this context, missing middle housing refers to a density of housing in between small multi-plex and large apartment.





Phase One: Visioning

You will help to refine the core values and the big ideas, and to confirm the Plan Area.

We are asking for your feedback on the proposed plan area, draft core values and big ideas to help develop a long-term vision for Whistler Creek West in 2050.

Why are we here?

- » To learn about the neighbourhood planning process for Whistler Creek West and the various opportunities for input
- » To review background and context information
- » To provide input on the core values, big ideas and neighbourhood assets

How will input be used?

Your input is important as it will be used to confirm the core values, big ideas and will help to shape the development of a concept that will be explored in Phase Two.

Visit our
project page
for more
information



Questionnaire



Neighbourhood Planning

Whistler Creek West is one of the oldest and most eclectic parts of Whistler with significant development potential on the horizon.

What is a neighbourhood plan?
Neighbourhood plans guide future development for an area, including the development standards, locations of public spaces, and transportation solutions. Neighbourhood plans are linked to the higher-level planning of the Official Community Plan and the regulatory detail of a zoning bylaw.

Embracing Our Past to Plan for Future

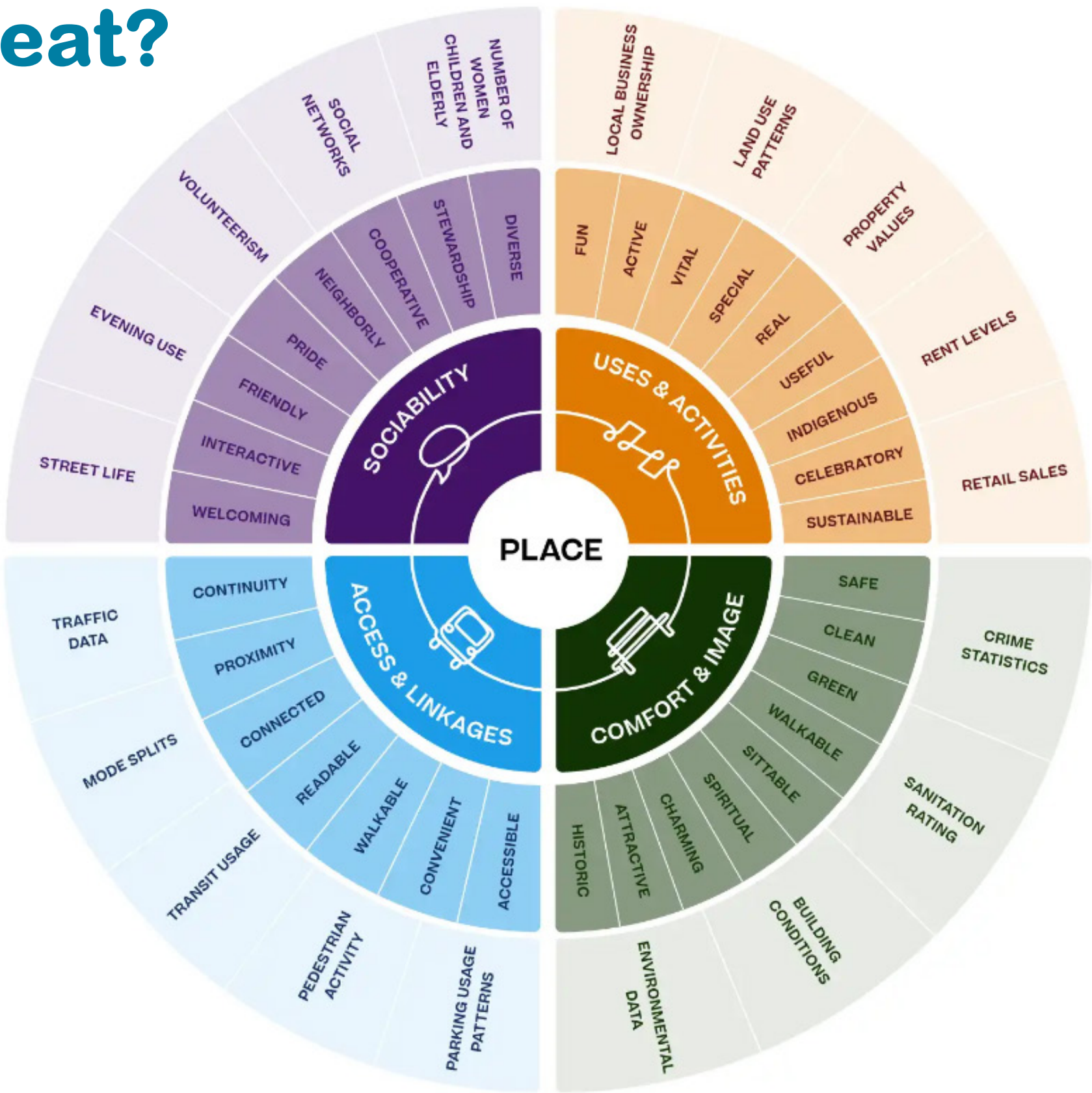
This area being the historical gateway to Whistler and its status as a walkable and bustling part of Whistler underscores the importance of carefully managing its growth and development to preserve its unique character while accommodating future needs.

Purpose

To provide a vision for 2050 and guidance to facilitate future rezoning and development applications in the neighbourhood.

What makes a place great?

Project
for Public
Spaces



What

The Plan will provide parameters for future development to address several interconnected topics that will shape the future look, feel, and function of the neighbourhood, including ways to integrate more housing and preferred modes of transportation like walking or rolling.

How

The Plan will outline priorities and establish guidelines that lay the roadmap to achieve the future vision and objectives, support a vibrant mixed-use neighbourhood with diverse housing and accommodation options, a variety of eclectic local businesses and community amenities that serve residents and visitors.

Process & Anticipated Timeline

Visioning	Concept	Draft Plan	Adoption
Fall and Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
<div>» Technical data collection and analysis</div> <div>» Inform the public about the project and why it is being undertaken</div> <div>» Public engagement to collect ideas, input on key issues and confirm the project core values and big moves</div>	<div>» Present scenario concepts for public review and input</div> <div>» Feedback from the community will be considered prior to resolution of the Draft Plan</div>	<div>» Share Draft Plan</div> <div>» Present to Council for adoption</div> <div>» Public process for any OCP amendment or rezoning</div>	<div>» Public communications to share about the changes</div> <div>» Implementation</div> <div>» Consolidating bylaw changes</div>

Core Values

To create a vision for Whistler Creek West, we need to understand what our values are.

Core values are our beliefs and priorities. They define what we care about most and will guide the overall direction of the Plan for the future.

What do you think of the draft Core Values?
Share your thoughts on the following boards!

Core Value		What a future with this value looks like in 2050
	Livable, Inclusive and Diverse	A mix of housing types and tenures provide affordable and livable options that allow a diverse local population, including employees, the ability to live, work, shop and play in the community. A variety of commercial uses adds to the local vibrancy and livability.
	Walkable and Well-Connected	Walking and rolling are the preferred methods of transportation. The streets, sidewalks and buildings are designed to support active transportation with strong linkages between the Whistler Mountain Creekside Base, Franz Trail, Nita Lake, Alpha Lake, and other areas of Whistler.
	Quality Streetscape and Shared Spaces	A high standard of streetscape design provides human-scale harmony between the street and the buildings. Public and shared spaces are thoughtfully integrated into the fabric of the neighbourhood, considerate of solar access and mountain views.
	Eclectic Community Character	Development respects the local character, context and history of the neighbourhood. A sense of place is defined through diverse buildings, public and shared spaces, thriving local businesses, and a strong local community networks.
	Connection to Nature and Surrounding Environment	Residents embrace the mountains, parks and lakes, with views to Whistler Mountain prominently featured on Lake Placid Drive. Landscaping, snow management and local materials are thoughtfully integrated into neighborhood and building development.

Core Values

We want to hear from you!

Share your thoughts with
post-it notes in the boxes below:

What do
you think
of the
draft core
values?

Livable, Inclusive and Diverse

PLACE POST-IT HERE

Walkable and Well-Connected

PLACE POST-IT HERE

Information shared via sticky notes and comment cards will be collected by the Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW) for the purpose of gathering feedback from members of the community on the Creek West Plan and will be reviewed for anonymized use in a future Plan proposal. The collection of information by the RMOW is authorized per s26(e) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and it will be securely stored on a Canadian-based server for the duration of the project. At no point will personal information be collected and, if submitted, will be removed by the Project Lead prior to being thematically included for review. If there are questions or concerns regarding the collection and/or use of personal information, please contact privacy@whistler.ca.

Core Values

Share your thoughts with
post-it notes in the boxes below:

Quality Streetscape and Shared Spaces

PLACE POST-IT HERE

Eclectic Community Character

PLACE POST-IT HERE

Connection to Nature and Surrounding Environment

PLACE POST-IT HERE

Big Ideas

When it comes to planning for the next 25 years, it's helpful to think about the objectives and big ideas that could guide the evolution of Whistler Creek West.

We identified some big ideas or project objectives that over time, could transform Whistler Creek West. The big ideas align with the core values to ensure the neighbourhood evolves in a way that aligns with the community's priorities.

These ideas are a starting point and will be explored futher through the planning process, and may change with feedback from the community.

1 Promote diverse housing and increased density in Whistler Creek West	2 Enhance the streetscape and public realm along Lake Placid Road	3 Improve connectivity of the area	4 Embrace a distinct neighbourhood character	5 Repurpose and reimagine underused spaces
6 Honor heritage and historical roots	7 Create a welcoming gateway	What is your big idea?	What is your big idea?	What is your big idea?
What is your big idea?	What is your big idea?	What is your big idea?	What is your big idea?	What is your big idea?
What is your big idea?	What is your big idea?	What is your big idea?	What is your big idea?	What is your big idea?
What is your big idea?	What is your big idea?	What is your big idea?	What is your big idea?	What is your big idea?

What do you think of the big ideas?
Share your thoughts on the following boards!

Big Ideas

Share your thoughts on the big ideas using the provided stickers (green for those you like and yellow for those you don't)

1

Promote diverse housing and increased density in Whistler Creek West

PLACE STICKERS HERE

2

Enhance the streetscape and public realm along Lake Placid Road West

PLACE STICKERS HERE

3

Improve connectivity of the area

PLACE STICKERS HERE

4

Embrace a distinct neighbourhood character

PLACE STICKERS HERE

5

Repurpose and reimagine underused spaces

PLACE STICKERS HERE

6

Honor heritage and historical roots

PLACE STICKERS HERE

7

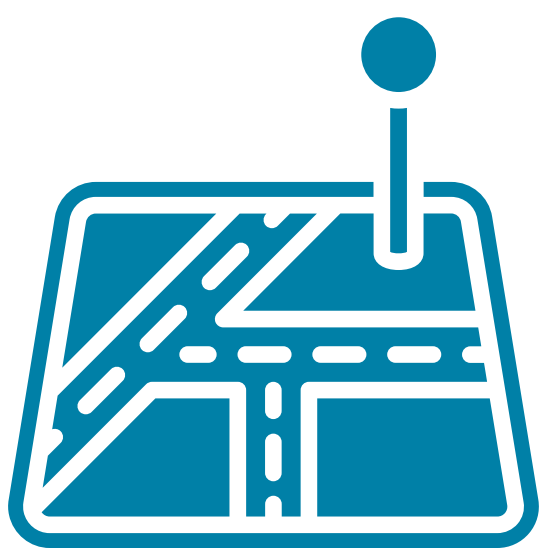
Create a welcoming gateway

PLACE STICKERS HERE

Asset Mapping

We want to hear what places you value or feel are important to Whistler Creek today, or what could be there in the future.

These could be anything - places you love, facilities you use, views you enjoy, or anything else that you think may have value to you or the community. You can also share specific things you think are missing in the neighbourhood or could be improved in the future.



Tell us what places and things you care about in Whistler Creek West

1. Think of what you like about or in Whistler Creek West.

Take a moment to identify some of the assets you think Whistler Creek West has today or could have in the future.

2. Place the post-it on the map.

Take a post-it note and place it on the map to identify the spot you are thinking of. Use a tac or push-pin to secure your post-in on the location to identify the specific spot you are thinking of.

The colours are colour-coded. Pink is for something you love. Blue is for something that could be better or something that you would like to see in the future.

