August 18, 2021

Spuzzum Village

Landscape Resilience - DRAFT

**Vision**

Respectful and thoughtful site master planning will contribute to the sustainable development, self-reliance, and pride for the Spuzzum Nation. The Village will be the symbolic place to tell and learn the stories. By working collaboratively with the Spuzzum Nation development team, Land Strategies, Human Architecture, and Panther Creative, we have developed a longer-term design plan for the Village. This plan will facilitate and reinforce a symbolic place of Welcome and Gathering.

Spuzzum is located within the spectacular Fraser Canyon. The canyon is rich in history, stories, wildlife. It is both rugged and awe inspiring. It is the regional landscape, cultural identity, and the strength and fragility of the people and their traditional stories that has inspired the site and building program.

Our site landscape strategy is bold and inspired by the spectacular regional landscape, geography, and ecology of the region. Our site design will educate and inspire responding to social health and wellness, climate resilience and biodiversity, while providing access to nature and the outdoors.

We believe we can heal relationships and forge generations and stories using landscape. The reinvigorated Village will inspire and engage and invite others to visit. Our integrated site design was influenced by place authenticity, climate resilience, and inclusivity.

**Our Challenge**

Global climate predictions indicate that if society fails to adapt and take measurable actions towards low carbon resilience, communities may be more likely to experience the detrimental impacts of extreme weather and natural events. The landscape design strategy for Spuzzum Village highlights 6 key target areas

* Sustainable Site Design
* Habitat Diversity
* Rainwater Management and Permeability
* Green Mobility
* Sustainable Food Systems
* Health & Wellness

**.1 Sustainable Site Design**

* Native tree and plantings and retention of significant trees
* Reduced ambient temperatures
* Infiltration Rain Gardens collecting roof runoff and hard surface runoff
* Green Roof (on the Administration Building)
* Accessible outdoor space with direct access to nature
* Improved bicycle and pedestrian trail network
* Amenities with emphasis on social gathering and interaction for all ages

**.2 Habitat Diversity**

Exclusive use of regionally biodiverse and climate adapted native plantings. Native plantings are drought tolerant, provide food for wildlife and people, improve pollinators, and require less water and maintenance. The Village core will be designed around the existing large conifer and fruit trees

**.3 Rainwater Management and Permeability**

Reduced impermeable surfaces with large areas of absorptive green space, and provision of a vegetated green roof. Roof water and parking runoff will be directed into rainwater infiltration gardens to filter particulate. Permeable absorptive surfaces and green roofs slow down the volume of rainwater events and improve quality of water before it enters streams and rivers.

**.4 Green Mobility**

Improved pedestrian and biking trail network will minimize vehicle trips into the village core. A south facing gathering and arrival place is created by reducing quantity and alignment of surface parking. The space will be programmed to allow for festivals, events, and markets.

**.5 Sustainable Food Systems**

Community gardening plots are provided around the large conifers and existing fruit trees. The gardening area can be a place to relearn traditional medicinal and food plants. The traditional based plant medicines can be demonstrated.

**.6 Health & Wellness**

Outdoor activity program has been designed to be inclusive of all ages and abilities.

Arrival And Gathering

* Symbolic and seamlessly connect Administration and Governance, ceremony and traditions, health and wellness, and children with elders
* Welcoming, flexible for sanctioned events, outdoor meetings, announcements, festivals, weddings and banquets, and afterhours – become a place to tell stories and focus for village life.
* Events capacity 50-200+ people.

The Elders Shelter

* Covered shelter with outdoor kitchen used year-round
* Picnic tables, seating, and or art carving activity.
* A composting toilet will also be included.

Firepit

* Small Amphitheatre and centralized wood burning firepit is the focus for traditional storytelling and outdoor events
* Tensile structures can also be placed among the trees to provide cover for a staged or music event.

Adventure Trail

* An accessible and interactive trail connects the Gathering Place to the Daycare using local materials, boulders, and wood,
* Children can reconnect with play in a more imaginative and natural environment.
* A covered outdoor classroom allows for more variety of indoor-outdoor activities.

Daycare

* Adding drop off and layby parking and trail connection will improve access to and from the Daycare.