



k'yuwaatl'aagee / k'yuwaatl'aagaay

The Haida Gwaii Trails Strategy

Terms of Reference

As an Islands Community we are stronger than separate communities. Developing a shared vision of the different aspects of our social and economic needs create strong bonds between our communities and residents and enable us to more effectively move to action.

Through k'yuwaatl'aagee (OM) / k'yuwaatl'aagaay (S) – “the path out of the woods” / the Haida Gwaii Trails Strategy (“Strategy”), we will create certainty for sustainable recreational trail usage and management.

The objectives of this Strategy are to:

1. Complete a comprehensive review of previous strategic trail discussions and engagement processes undertaken by various groups and organizations over the last 10 years so as to incorporate as much of this work as possible and identify any gaps.
2. Undertake a public and stakeholder consultation process, along with in-depth documentary research on trails and trail-related land use on Haida Gwaii that will provide a broad and inclusive base for the development of the Strategy.
3. Discuss and propose a common vision for recreational trail management and usage on Haida Gwaii under the principles of the Heritage Tourism Strategy and Strategic Land Use Agreement.
4. Discuss and propose common trail standards (including signage and trail difficulty ratings) amongst the various jurisdictions, for branding and accessibility benefits.
5. Provide a single detailed inventory of recreational trails on Haida Gwaii.
6. Identify priority lists for maintenance and upgrades to existing trails (both Islands-wide and community-specific), along with known and potential funding sources for long term maintenance planning.
7. Collate all the above into a concise strategy document, which will be available to final public input and submitted to the local governing bodies and CHN for adoption.
8. Provide an opportunity for dialogue on future trail planning considerations that is within the parameters of the Haida Gwaii Strategic Land Use Agreement, Land Use Orders, and the Haida Protected Areas/Conservancy Management Plans.

The Strategy will benefit islanders and visitors in terms of health, recreation, education, research, cultural connection, job creation, and sustainable economic development.

A balanced approach to trail management and usage is fundamental to sustainability.

TIMELINE: November 15th, 2010 to March 31st, 2011