

Texada EDAP 2018 – Action Item Survey

October 16, 2018

Following is a list of action plans, in no particular order. These have been developed over a six-month period where we listened to residents of all ages; from kids to seniors, life-long residents to newcomers, organizations, solo entrepreneurs and larger businesses, and met with Tla'amin Nation to discuss ongoing opportunities for promotion and collaboration. Participants provided us with the compass to better activate the island's economic and social potential.

Please review and identify your top three to five action plans you feel are important and the Chamber should pursue. Thanks Joseph and Cindy

Reply to:

Email: texanomic@gmail.com

Text if you have my number

Be sure to include your name.

TLA'AMIN NATION ENGAGEMENT

1. Write a letter to the qathet Regional District to ask that the Tla'amin Nation's funding request to qRD for initiatives at ly'som (Shelter Point Regional Park).
2. Open a dialogue between the Tla'amin Nation, Tourism Powell River, TACT (Texada Arts Culture and Tourism), the Texada Island Chamber of Commerce and private tour operator
3. Facilitate introductions between Tla'amin Nation and Texada Arts Culture & Tourism and the past directors of the Kids for Saving Earth (KSE) camp.
4. Continue the dialogue between the Tla'amin Nation and the Texada Island Chamber of Commerce to identify future economic development opportunities

TRAILS, SIGNAGE AND MAPS

5. Encourage Texada residents who have knowledge of the trail networks to work with *Sunshine Coast Trails* and *Cycle Touring Vancouver Island* from Courtenay, BC. Sunshine Coast and Texada Island trails.
6. Develop a printable map of known trails that are suitable for each purpose. Identify the GPS location of each trail head and note on the maps.
7. Develop a mobile friendly version of the map and add corresponding QR Codes to the printed map.
8. Produce and install trail signs to correspond with the map. Contact and work with the ORUG (Outdoor Recreational Users Group) from Powell River for volunteer-based trail upkeep.

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GROUND TRANSPORTATION

9. Develop a ride share program such as Uber.
10. Create a Car Stop program as on Mayne Island or Bowen Island.
11. Modify the Powell River BC Transit route 13 to encourage Powell River residents to visit Texada.
12. Pursue the potential to transfer an existing taxi license from Bowen Island and/or Powell River.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

13. Encourage home co-sharing (think Golden Girls).
14. Write to the BC Government about releasing properties currently held for back-taxes.
15. Create Modular housing – work with community leaders to make this happen, despite insufficient numbers of skilled trades workers.
15. Support Davis Ventures housing idea in Van Anda and the not-for-profit housing society.

FOOD PRODUCTION AND FOOD PRESERVATION

16. Utilize the Texada Food Hub to process locally grown plant/animal/fungi into made-on-Texada food products.
17. Create one-day food preservation workshops and advertise them off-island.

MARKETING PROJECTS

18. Increase maps and signs of points of interest, sites, trails, water access points, OGMAs (Old Growth forest Managed Areas).
19. Shop Local. Improve business locations signage (e.g., create 3 large business directory “billboard” signs) Locate the signs in Van Anda, Gillies Bay and Blubber Bay.
20. Encourage businesses to develop marketing materials, from the basics like rack cards, to road-side signs so that when tourists arrive on Texada, businesses are more easily findable.
21. Hold workshops to help businesses learn how to market online, using Facebook, for example.
22. The Chamber could apply for marketing funds to better-market local businesses off-island.
23. Help businesses become visible as 90% are invisible.

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24. Create day 'a-la-carte menu' program ideas for tourists, which could form an important foundation for marketing "what there is to do on Texada".
25. Promote ourselves off-island to attract tourist and future residents.
26. The Texada Island Chamber of Commerce will write a letter to the Ministers of Justice, Health and Business to indicate support for the legitimization and operation of the Cannabis industry on Texada.
27. The Chamber could advertise available jobs in the cannabis market, should the industry ask for this support.
28. Explore potential for using post-processing waste from cannabis production for the textile industry.
29. Promote Texada Cannabis tourism in conjunction with the Sunshine Coast once all parameters of legalization have been determined.
30. Continue advocacy work with BC Ferries so that they write "Texada" in blue font on their coastal ferry maps. It continues to remain in white font.
31. Create a 4-colour printed business directory to market all island businesses and print a sufficient number of copies to share on-island and off-island.
32. Create a new 4-colour product called Texada Day-Visit Programs, which would offer ideas for what there is to do on Texada.
33. Create a suite of cohesive-looking products that are specific to each kind of day-visit program.
34. Create a tasteful and cohesive street-front signage program by sector, that are unified in colour and style by a professional designer.

LONG-TERM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN GOALS

37. Water security for the GBID (Gillies Bay Improvement District) and VAID (Van Anda Improvement District).
38. Energy security. Reduce dependence on fossil fuels. Develop solar, wind, geo-thermal
Food security.
39. Improved internet / communications. Upgrade cable television and telephone land line cabling network.
40. Cannabis production and distribution.

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41. Healthcare – Consult with Vancouver Coastal Health to determine future needs.
42. Destination gathering place, retreat.
43. Electric vehicle charging stations.
44. Education - Attract ESL and trades schools within Texada Elementary School. Seasonal housing would be required.
45. Airport master plan. Support the TAAC (Texada Airport Advisory Committee).
46. Create a new forest walk park with boardwalks, bridges, and tree canopy walks. Include interpretive signage.
47. Install and operate a zip line as a tourist attraction.
48. Install a roadside bike lane from Blubber Bay to Shelter Point Regional Park.
49. Create a rodent extermination plan. Rats are causing significant economic harm to residents' property (livestock, vehicles, houses, and businesses).