

Cheslatta Carrier Nation

Land Use Planning Update

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Cheslatta Carrier Nation underwent their community-centered, comprehensive community planning and land use planning processes over the last 5 years. Chief & Council, Staff and Cheslatta Members identified a number of goals and priorities, with a particular focus on the need for increased housing, jobs and child care.

Since then, Cheslatta has embarked on a number of initiatives and projects which aim to meet the long-term community vision.

Cheslatta Carrier Nation Land Use Planning

Cheslatta Carrier Nation started the development of their Land Use Plan in 2018 through a community-centred process with the support of technical Contractors and completed the LUP in 2020.

The Land Use Plan currently outlines a wealth of community information and data about the community's development and land use goals and interests. It also provides further direction on the additional land use planning work that needs to be completed.

Some next steps include:

1. Doing a land use designation exercise where Cheslatta identifies how it wants to use its lands (housing development, business, cultural use areas etc.), and where/what other acceptable activities can occur; and,
2. Developing land use policies for the following:
 - Community core area (general, residential, community and commercial services, recreation and infrastructure and development)
 - Ootsa Lake & The Cheslatta Forest Products site (recreational & residential, industrial/ economic, and cultural and spiritual)
 - Cheslatta River to Cheslatta Falls (natural areas, natural resources, cultural and spiritual areas, recreation, and tourism)

General Land Use Planning Fact Sheet

What is land use planning?

Land Use Planning (LUP) is an exercise done by a community or organization to take a look at the 'lay of the land'. It can look at how the land, water, and resources were used in the past. It can look at how what existing project and activities are happening today. Finally, it can look at how the land could be used, managed and/or protected in the future.

Why is land use planning needed?

Land use planning paints a picture through stories, research and maps of the past, present and future land uses and interests of a community or organization. Planning helps with identify what value components (economic development, environmental stewardship, community development etc.) matters most to them. These VCs are then are used to develop the foundation and/or strategy for land use planning, management and protection within an identified scope.

How can land use plans be used?

It can be used as a tool for community engagement, decision making, negotiation and communication. It can guide the further development of department strategic and operation plans that work toward meeting the community or organizations goals and vision. It can aid in protecting culturally and environmentally significant areas. It can help foster inclusion in the broader economy.

Examples of the different types planning

- **First Nations Planning:** A holistic comprehensive community planning approach to community development that often includes the integration of culture, health, social, education, governance, lands and resources, and economic development.
- **Resource Management Planning:** Major project development (mining, energy, forestry etc.), infrastructure development (buildings, water, sewer, roads etc.), impact/ environmental assessments, watershed planning, and regional assessment planning.
- **Northern Rural Community Planning:** Improves the quality of the built environment while reducing the impact of human activities on the natural world

Who might Land Use Planners work with?

Project developers, community groups, scientists, health care professionals, social service providers, lawyers, government, corporate businesses, academics, and engineers, among many others.