



# KITSUMKALUM

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## Community Land Use Plan

**Community Profile & Background Report**



KITSUMKALUM FIRST NATION

JULY 2017



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# 1. WHAT'S HAPPENING?

## PROJECT INTRODUCTION

This Background Report provides a 'snap shot' of current conditions in our community. It is intended to provide a starting point for preparing the Kitsumkalum Community Land Use Plan. In addition to looking at what is happening now in our community, this profile provides some direction on areas that we may need to pay special attention to in our Community Land Use Plan. Most of all, it is meant to share information with members on how we are doing and help get discussions going about where we want to go as a community and how.

We are developing a Community Land Use Plan for our three main reserves: Kitsumkalum Village, Dałk Gylakyaw (Robin Town) and Zimagord. Our fourth reserve, Spokeshute (Port Essington), is also of considerable importance to our community and therefore of relevance to this Plan. However, because we share this reserve with Kitselas First Nation, more detailed land use planning for Spokeshute will require a separate, collaborative planning process with Kitselas.

The Community Land Use Plan will:

- Establish a shared community vision for management of Kitsumkalum reserve lands;
- Develop land classifications that outline the kinds of uses we can consider for specific areas on reserve lands (e.g., housing, community facilities, commercial uses, cultural use, industrial, etc.); and
- Establish a clear and consistent process for staff and Chief and Council to make decisions about development on our reserve lands.

The need for a Community Land Use Plan was identified in our draft Comprehensive Community Plan. It was also identified by our leadership as an important step in continuing to improve land management for Kitsumkalum.

### Q&A

#### **Q: Why do we need a Community Land Use Plan?**

**A:** A Community Land Use Plan will provide clarity around land management on our reserve lands. It will outline where we want to see certain types of development and what we want protected, and it will enable our community's leadership to make decisions about land development. Once we have this plan in place, we can move forward with important capital projects and upgrades (e.g., new housing, a new school and community building, quarry expansion, road upgrades, etc.). It will also help us take a more strategic, long-term approach to growing our community.



Map: Kitsumkalum Reserves:

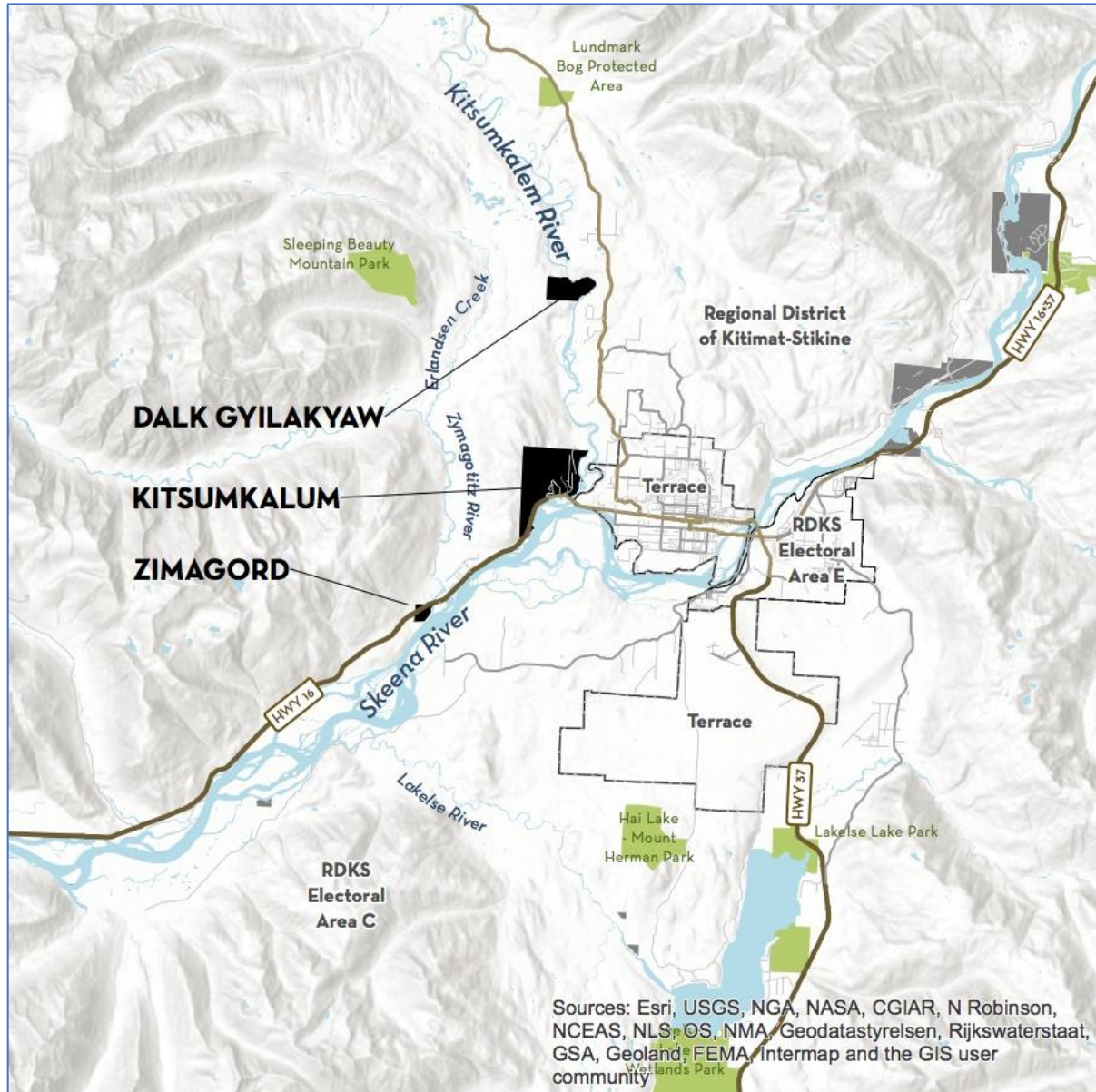


## Q&A

### **Q: Didn't we just do this?**

**A:** Last year we created a land use plan for our traditional territory (i.e., our Treaty Land Use Plan). The Treaty Land Use Plan supports negotiations for Treaty Settlement Lands and guides management of Kitsumkalum lands and resources. Our Treaty Land Use Plan provides guidance for land use on our reserves. This new Community Land Use Plan will follow that guidance and add details to how we will use, protect, or develop specific areas on our reserves. This plan will provide a lot more detail about specific locations.

Map: Kitsumkalum Reserves 1,2, and 3



## Q&A

### **Q: How is this different from our Land Code?**

**A:** This Land Use Plan is being developed in coordination with our Land Code. If adopted by our community, our Land Code will give Kitsumkalum the responsibility for land management on our reserve lands, which in turn will make our Community Land Use Plan even more important. Basically, the Land Code will give more teeth to our Land Use Plan and make it the tool for land management on Kitsumkalum reserves.

## 2. WHERE ARE WE NOW?

This chapter provides an overview of the current situation on our four reserves. This includes lands, people, housing, facilities, and projected needs.

### LANDS

This project is primarily focused on three of Kitsumkalum's four reserves: Kitsumkalum Village; Dałk Gyilakyaw (also commonly known as "Robin Town"); and Zimagord. Spokeshute (Port Essington) will also be discussed over the course of the project.

#### *Kitsumkalum Village*

Kitsumkalum Village is located at the confluence of the Kitsumkalum and Ksan (Skeena) rivers, about five kilometers west of the City of Terrace. A historic village site and a favourite fall camp / fishing spot, Kitsumkalum Village is currently the principal galts'ap (village) for Kitsumkalum members. Kitsumkalum Village is approximately 455 hectares (1,125 acres) in size. There are 115 housing units and 330 residents, including 250 members.

Businesses located in Kitsumkalum Village include Tempo Gas Station, Kalum Rock Quarry and the House of Sim-oi-Ghets gift shop. The Kalum Rock Quarry is owned and operated by Kitsumkalum and produces various aggregate material used for local industrial and residential products. Tempo Gas Station is also owned by Kitsumkalum. Kalum Ventures Ltd., the forestry arm of the Kitsumkalum Band, has an office in the community and runs a commercial forestry operation.

#### *Existing Infrastructure and Facilities*

Village facilities include the Kitsumkalum Health Center, the 'Na Aksa Gyilak'yoo School, the Gila Kyew 'Nluulk Headstart & Daycare, the Band Office, the Treaty Office, a community hall, and an economic development building. These are described in more detail in the facilities section below.

#### *Current Land Uses and Constraints*

The map illustrates the location of existing buildings and facilities and shows the general land uses for developed areas. A cluster of community facilities creates a community centre near the highway on West Kalum Road. Housing subdivisions of mostly ½-acre lots are west, north, and north east of this centre. A gas station and car wash are directly east from the community buildings. Land development options on the reserve are severely constrained by slopes or flood hazards.



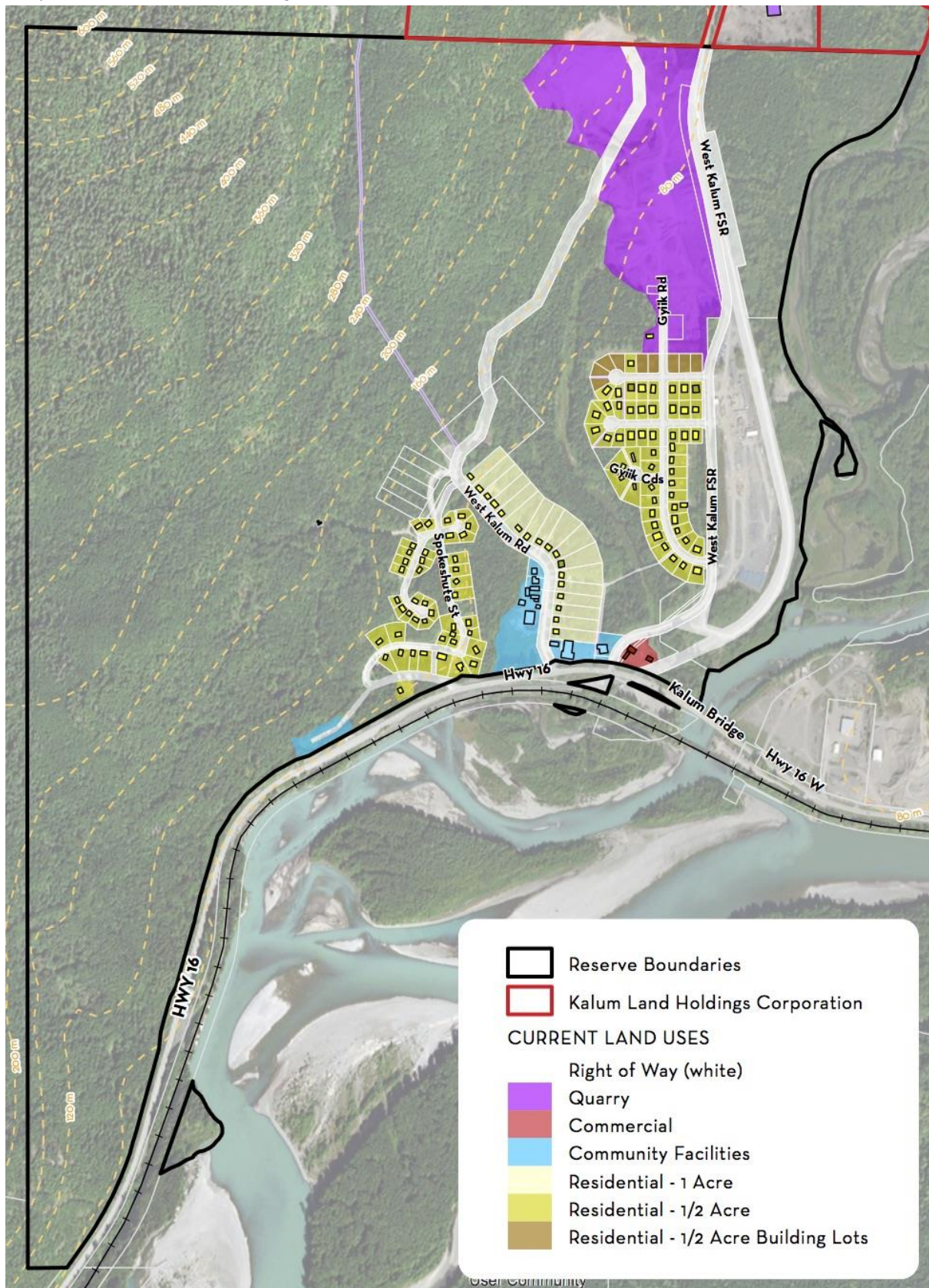
**Slopes:** Most of the land to the north and west of the village is steep and undevelopable. Even within the existing residential area, there are undeveloped lots due to steep slopes. While development is possible in some areas, the cost to develop is prohibitive. A proposed 'benchland' subdivision for 33 lots above the existing residences was denied due to the high cost per lot.

**Floodplain:** The eastern portion of the village is in the 200-year floodplain of the Kitsumkalum River. This floodplain includes a recent subdivision, a quarry area, and a recently developed lay-down yard adjacent to a new rail spur.

**Culturally sensitive areas:** Kitsumkalum Village is a historic village site. There are several sites of cultural significance, including known archaeological sites, and culturally-significant sites which require protection.

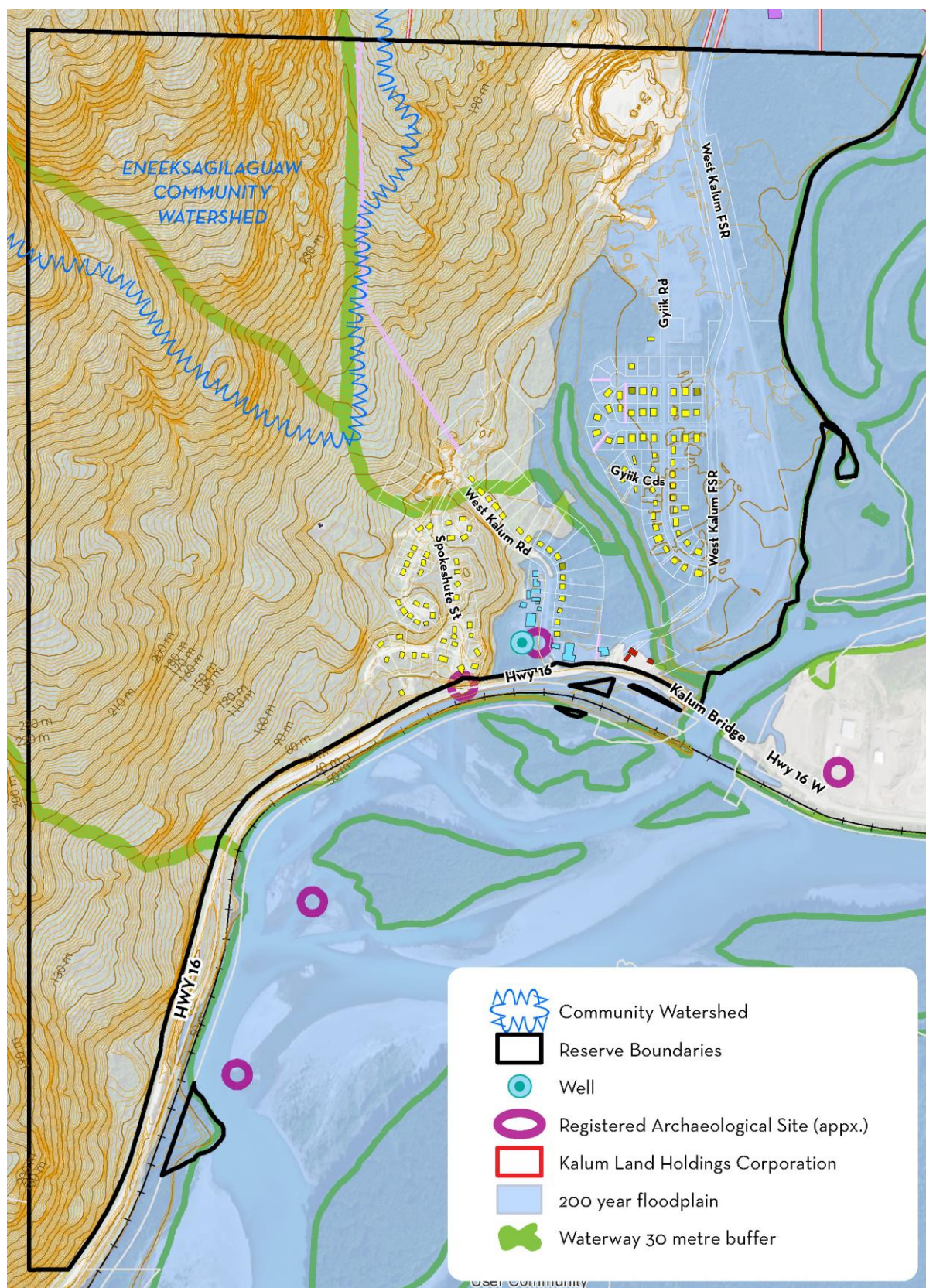


Map: Kitsumkalum Village – Current Land Uses





Map: Kitsumkalum Village – Development Constraints



### *Dałk Gyilakyaw (Robin Town)*

Dałk Gyilakyaw is also a historic site. It's where our name "the People of the Robin" comes from, which is why we often call this reserve "Robin Town". The original village was located at the canyon on the west side of the Wil kxaal da awks (Kitsumkalum River), and was primarily used in winter. In the late 19th century, most of our ancestors moved to Kitsumkalum Village at the mouth of the river or to Spokeshute (Port Essington), and Dałk Gyilakyaw was largely abandoned. Due to a forest fire after the village was abandoned, the buildings and carvings at the site were lost.

In addition to the historic and cultural significance of Dałk Gyilakyaw, the 74-hectare (183 acre) reserve is used by community members as a gathering, fishing and hunting area. It is located approximately seven kilometers north of Kitsumkalum Village, and is accessible via the West Kalum Forest Service Road. A 40-hectare (100 acre) Interim Treaty Agreement (ITA) land parcel will ultimately connect Dałk Gyilakyaw to Kitsumkalum Village.

A significant portion of Dałk Gyilakyaw was logged in the past and it is now largely covered in second-growth forest. Commercial forestry has since occurred on the western portion of the reserve, but the area around the village site has not been logged.

During the Treaty Land Use Plan process and the 2001 Physical Development Plan process, our members expressed interest in Dałk Gyilakyaw becoming home to a new village site. However, because of the area's cultural importance and archaeological significance, any future development would need to protect cultural heritage resources, including the old village site. An existing bench provides a natural break between the western portion of this reserve and the eastern portion closer to the Kitsumkalum River. It has been suggested that new community development could take place on this upper bench, thereby leaving the location of the historic village protected. Extending services and/or providing services and infrastructure to the area would be extremely expensive.

#### *Existing Infrastructure and Facilities*

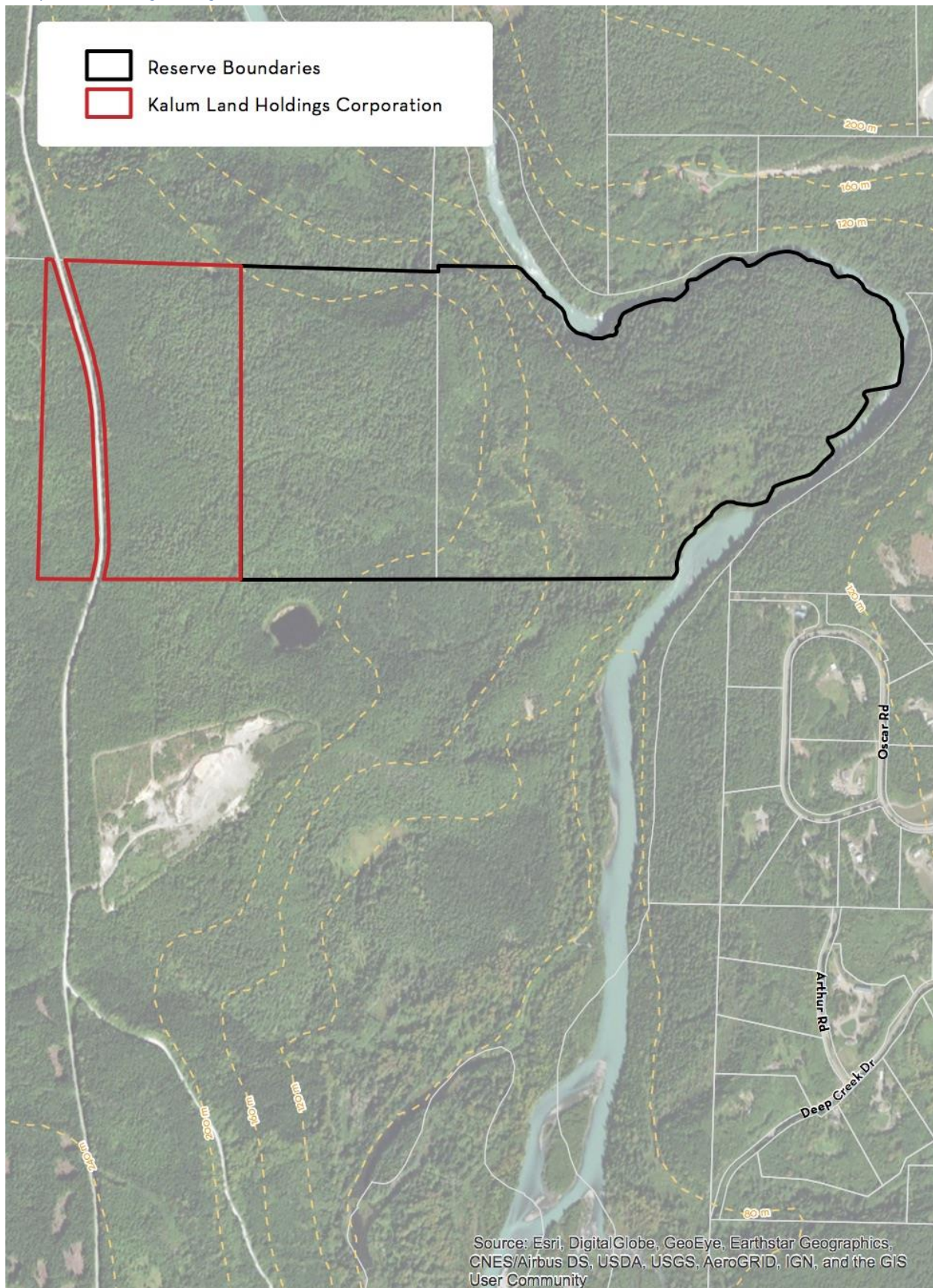
There are no community facilities located at Dałk Gyilakyaw.

#### *Existing Land Uses and Constraints*

The maps shows the boundaries of Dałk Gyilakyaw and the adjacent lot owned by Kitsumkalum holdings. This area has significant culturally sensitive features which are not shown. The area is not within the historic 200-year floodplain and is gently sloping.

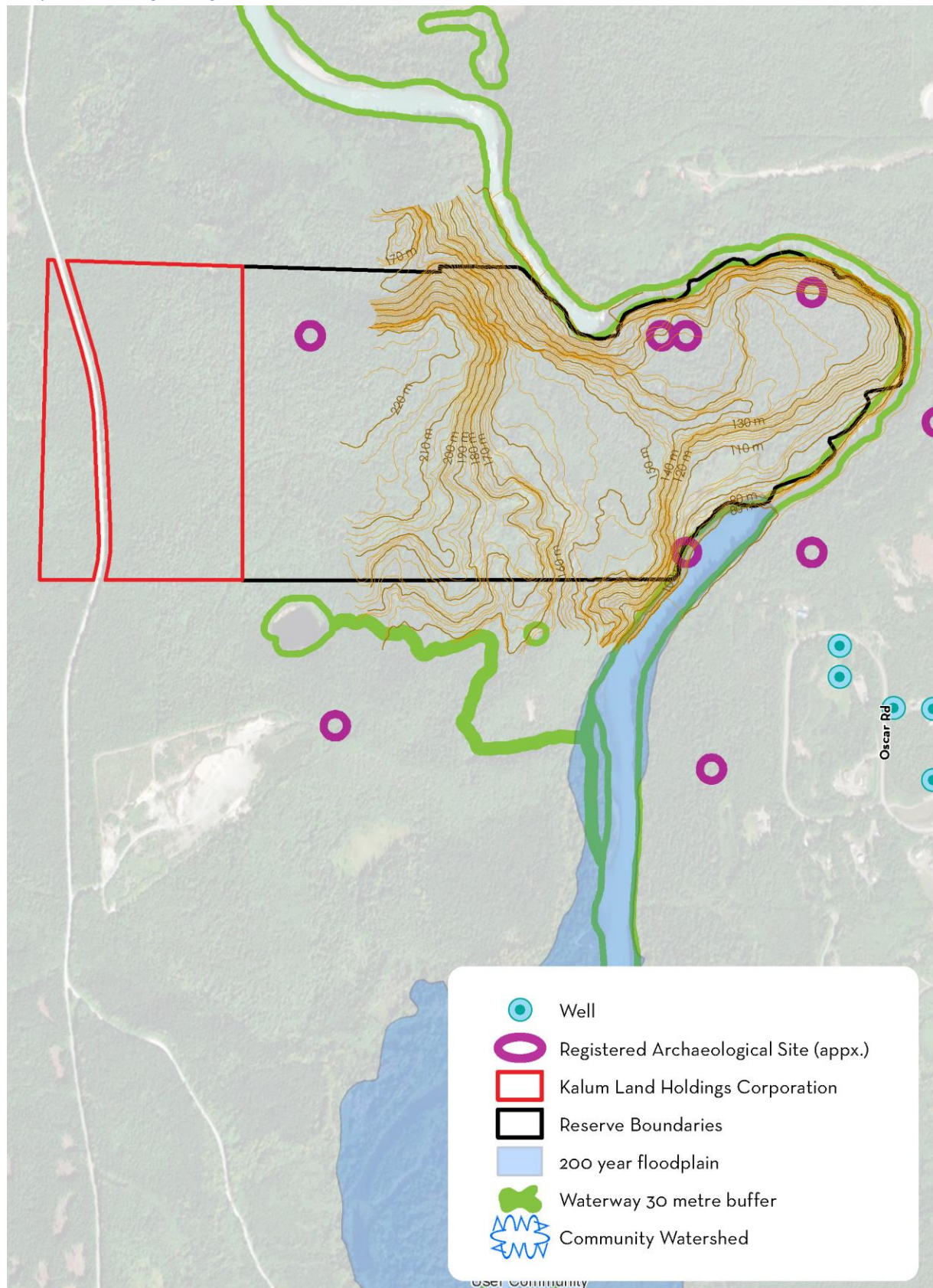


Map: Datk Gyilakyaw





Map: Datk Gylakyaw Land Use Constraints



## *Zimagord*

Zimagord is located approximately six kilometers west of Kitsumkalum Village and about ten minutes' drive from the City of Terrace. The total area is approximately 30 hectares (74 acres). While most of the land is undeveloped, there are two occupied houses on this reserve. These houses have their own wells and septic fields.

Kitsumkalum community members have identified hunting, trapping and gathering as land use interests in this area. Cultural heritage is also an important value in this area. Past traditional use studies have identified traditional dwellings and archaeological sites that may have cultural significance.

Much of Zimagord is forested. The forest is composed of primarily second growth stands ranging from 40 to 80 years of age. A very small portion of Zimagord is designated as Agricultural Land Reserve.

Our 2001 Physical Development Plan suggested that Zimagord is a possible location for community expansion. Feedback from members during our Treaty Land Use Plan project also identified the potential of new community uses there. The need to service and provide infrastructure was noted as a challenge to future community development.

### *Existing Infrastructure and Facilities*

There are no community facilities located at Zimagord.

Zimagord has two existing wells for the two residents. One well is functioning the other is contaminated. Our public works staff member is currently delivering water to the resident that is without potable water.

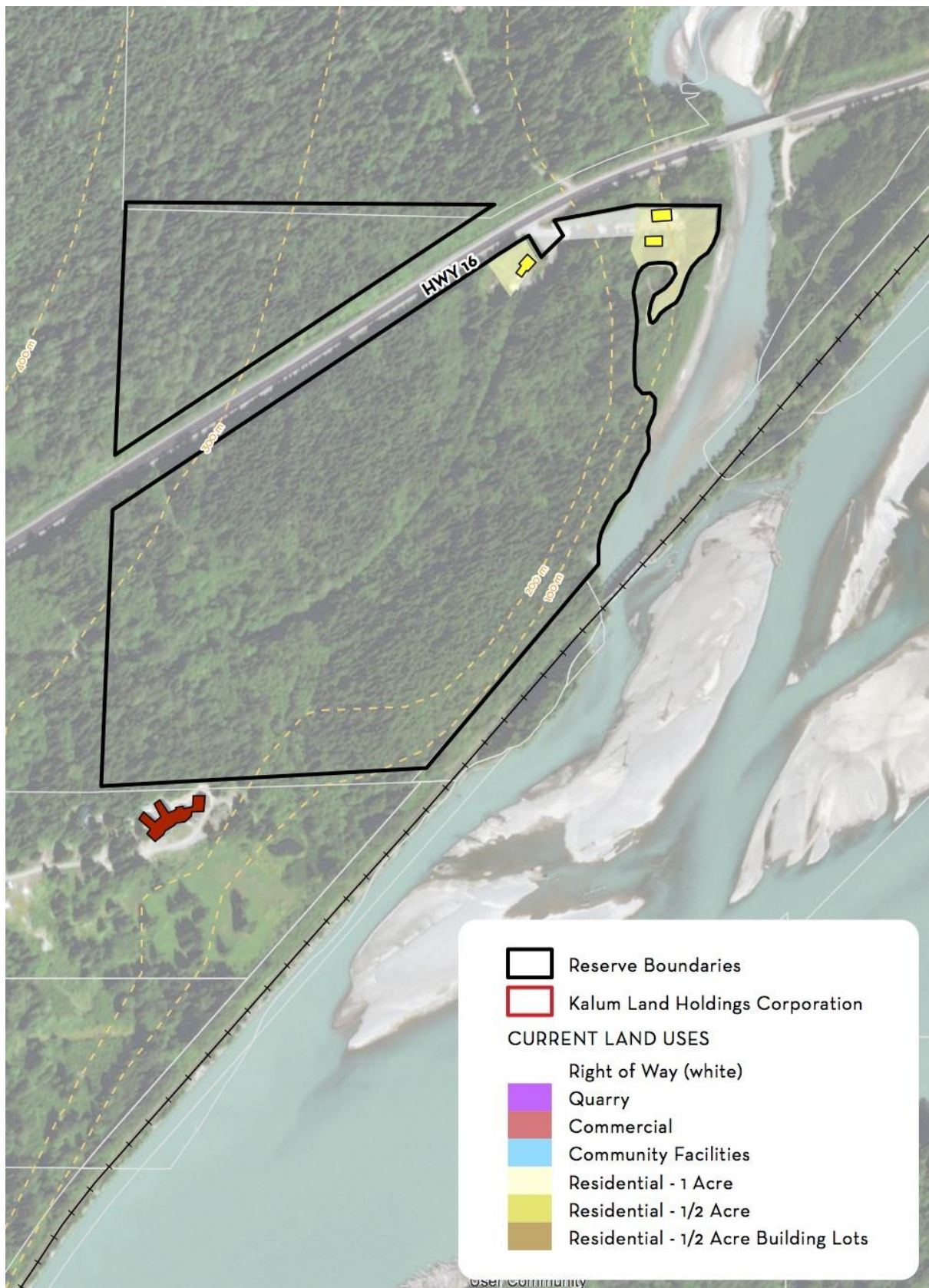
### *Existing Land Uses and Constraints*

The map shows the residences on Zimagord and the adjacent fishing lodge (in red). Most of the land is undeveloped, slightly sloping, and above the historic 200-year floodplain.

There is an extremely high water table in Zimagord. A preliminary subdivision application that was being developed in the 80s was ruled out due to ground/surface water constraints.

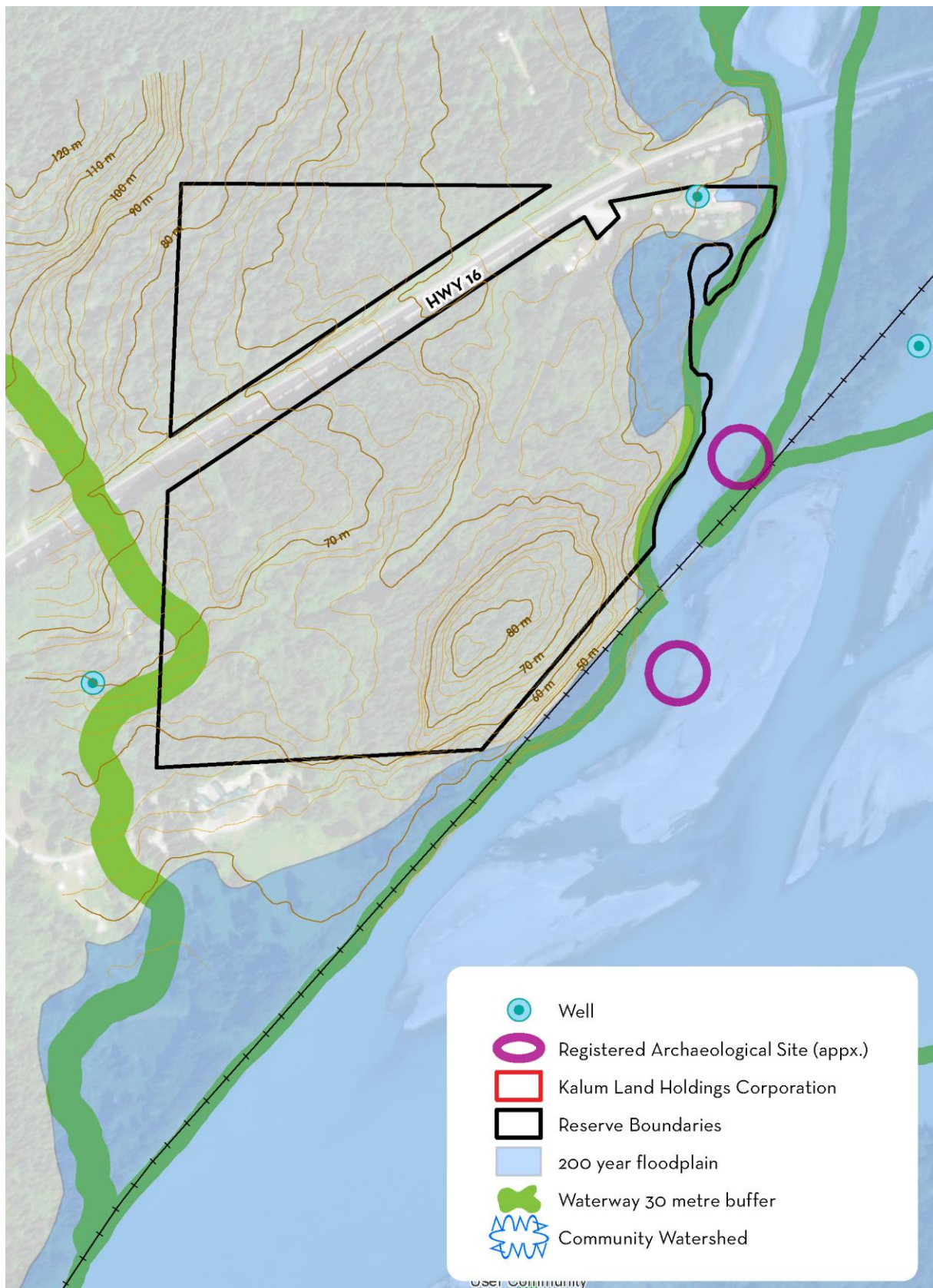


Map: Zimagord





Map: Zimagord Land Use Constraints





## *Spokeshute (Port Essington)*

The Spokeshute reserve is located on the south bank of the Skeena River, where the Skeena meets the Ecstall River. Jointly administered by Kitselas First Nation, this reserve is of considerable cultural and historic importance to Kitsumkalum. Kitsumkalum people have always relied heavily on the coastal areas near Spokeshute, and today, this reserve is our Nation's primary coastal connection. The reserve land itself is a traditional resting area where historically, Kitsumkalum people would stop prior to undertaking the long two-day journey inland.

During the Omineca Gold Rush, the town of Port Essington was established at this site. Port Essington was a cannery town that was at one point the largest settlement in the region. The first cannery was built in 1876, and by the early 1900s, there were seven canneries in the area. The town was also home to a Hudson's Bay Company store known as the Skeena Post, a hotel, a town hall, and other amenities. Many Kitsumkalum people lived at Port Essington during these years, as did many Kitselas people. In addition, the town had a large European, Japanese, and Chinese population.

In 1914, the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway was completed along the north bank of the Skeena River, opposite Port Essington. Port Essington gradually became less commercially relevant as riverboat traffic was replaced with rail traffic. By the 1950s, very few people were living in Port Essington, and the canneries had shut. A series of fires in the 1960s further damaged the town, and today, it is commonly considered a "ghost town".

Kitsumkalum members have expressed interest in reconnecting members with the community and exploring limited development opportunities there, including supporting opportunities for limited tourism-based activities there. The former town site remains a valued historic site and our draft CCP identifies many potential actions for it and the surrounding area. The CCP also makes it clear Spokeshute's critical importance to our people and Kitsumkalum's commitment to strengthening our connection to this area and the cultural and marine activities it could support.

### *Existing Infrastructure and Facilities*

There are no community facilities located at Spokeshute.

### *Existing Land Uses and Constraints*

The map shows the boundaries of Spokeshute. This area has significant culturally sensitive features which are not shown. Other constraints would be mapped and researched as part of a larger, joint planning project for the shared reserve with Kitselas First Nation.

Map: Spokeshute



## PEOPLE

### *Population and Demographics*

As of 2016, our total registered population was 751, with 249 members living on reserve and 502 living off reserve. According to a 2016 community survey, our on-reserve registered population dropped slightly from 251 in 2006 to 249 in 2016. However, overall the total population at Kitsumkalum Village increased from 281 to 331.

Looking at the big picture, some population trends of note include:

- Kitsumkalum's off-reserve population is growing faster than Kitsumkalum's on-reserve population, and may continue to do so in the future if current trends continue. This is likely due to the availability of on-reserve housing.
- Kitsumkalum members who live off-reserve primarily live in Terrace, Prince Rupert and Vancouver.
- Kitsumkalum's on-reserve non-member population has grown faster than our on-reserve member population.
- Kitsumkalum's population growth rate for on-reserve members is relatively slow, but steady.
- Kitsumkalum's overall historical growth rate (on- and off-reserve) has been about 1.5%-2% per year.

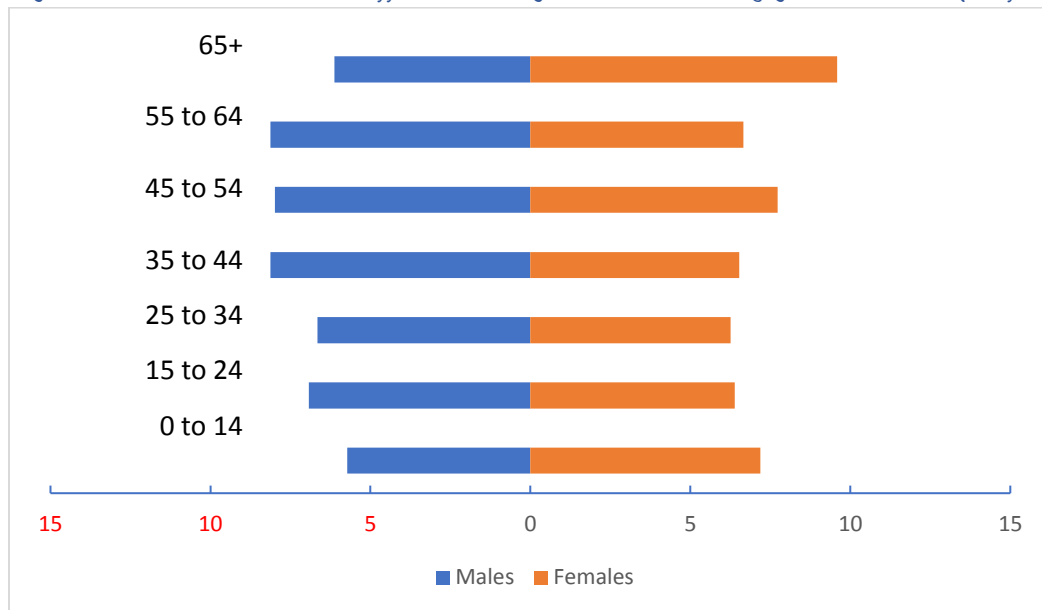
The table below provides a breakdown of population growth and projections.

*Table: Kitsumkalum Population and Projections*

	<b>2000</b> (2000 Community Profile)	<b>2016</b> (2016 Community Survey)	<b>2031 forecast range</b>
<b>Total registered membership</b>	592	751 (1.6% annual growth rate)	870 to 1010 (between 1 -2% annual growth)
<b>% members living on-reserve</b>	37%	33%	
<b>On-reserve members</b>	221	249	290 – 335 (assumes 33% on-reserve)
<b>Off-reserve members</b>	371	502	
<b>On-reserve population</b>	281 (28% above on-reserve membership)	331 (34% above on-reserve membership)	388 – 446 (assumes 34% increase over on-reserve membership)

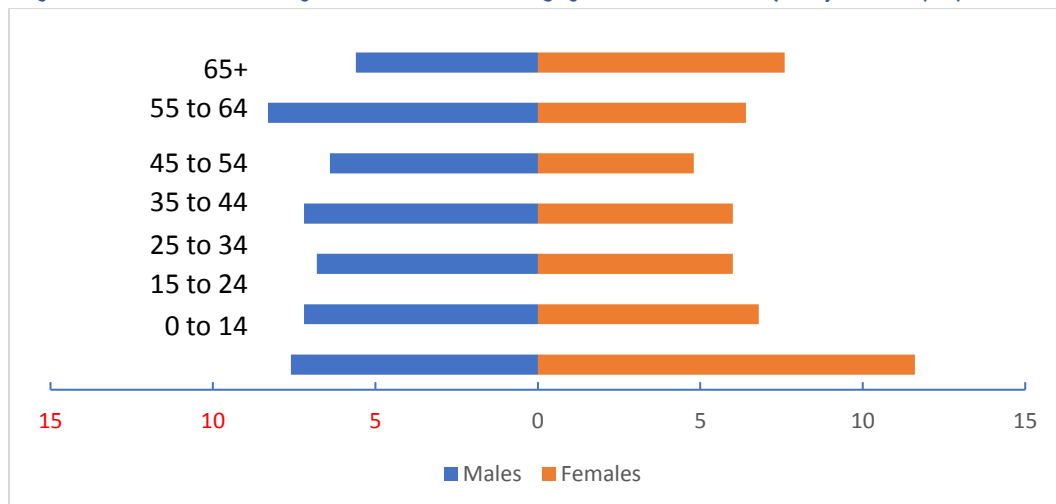
The figures below show age and gender distribution for Kitsumkalum members, both on and off reserve, as of 2016.

*Figure: Combined on- and off- reserve age distribution by gender, 2016 (% of total population)*



Source: Kitsumkalum, 2017

*Figure: On-reserve age distribution by gender, 2016 (% of total population)*



Source: Kitsumkalum, 2017



## HOUSING – KITSUMKALUM VILLAGE

Finding land suitable for housing remains an ongoing challenge for Kitsumkalum. While we have seen the development of 33 new homes over the past 15 years, our housing waitlist remains at 20 families.

*Table: Kitsumkalum Housing Projections*

	<b>2000</b> <i>(2000 Community Profile)</i>	<b>2016</b> <i>(2016 community survey)</i>	<b>2031 forecast</b>
<b>On Reserve Population</b>	281	331	388-446
<b>On-Reserve Housing Units</b>	82	115 (109 single family homes, 3 duplexes)	20 - 30 new units (1 or 2 per year)
<b>Average people per household</b>	3.43	2.88	2.8
<b>Housing needed</b>		20 (based on wait-list)	20-40 (based on population growth and average people per household)
<b>Undeveloped Building Lots</b>		8	
<b>Total new Building Lots needed</b>		12	32-52

There are 8 serviced building lots and two proposed subdivisions, Benchlands Subdivision (33 lots) and Gyiik East (8 Lots). The cost to develop the Benchlands was previously considered to be prohibitive given the road building, steep slopes and potential relocation and repair of the water tanks. If the Benchlands subdivision is abandoned, **land is needed for at least 16 to 36 building lots.**

There are some lot subdivision and infill opportunities that could be explored. The development of a new school facility and/or administration building that consolidates existing offices could also create new housing and lot development potentials.

Kitsumkalum's Housing Manager has identified a few other important housing issues for the Community Land Use Plan to consider, including:

- Maintenance of current units
- The rapid decline of older homes (difficult northern and marine environment)
- Seniors access to services and accessible housing




## INFRASTRUCTURE AND FACILITIES – KITSUMKALUM VILLAGE

Water is supplied by a well and treated by the Kitsumkalum Water Treatment Plant. Sewage service is provided by Terrace. The water system requires substantial upgrades. The tanks above the village are known to be leaking and water pressure to houses at higher elevations is inadequate.






Eneeksagilaguaw Creek is a provincially designated Community Watershed located on Kitsumkalum Mountain, northwest of Kitsumkalum Village. It is the backup water supply for our community. The creek has been steadily drying up since the mid to late 70s to the point that it is virtually dry between May and October, which points to the need to develop a new backup water supply.

There are several community facilities located at Kitsumkalum Village. The table below shows our Nation-owned facilities.

*Table: Kitsumkalum Village Facilities*

Facility	Notes	
Band Administration Office	Built in 1980, this building is considered too small to accommodate Council and staff needs. Proposals to develop a new professional building have been raised over the years.	
Kitsumkalum Community Centre	Built in 1996, our community centre is in in good shape with another 30 years of expected life.	
Kitsumkalum Economic Development Building	This small building is home to Kitsumkalum's Economic Development team, which encompasses both Quarry and Forestry operations. It also houses the Lands and Resources team and the Fish and Wildlife department.	

*Table: Kitsumkalum Village Facilities (cont.)*

Facility	Notes	
Treaty Office	Located in two small buildings, this facility is considered too small and substandard. Proposals to develop a new professional building to house Treaty and General Band Administration have been raised over the years.	
Kitsumkalum Health Centre	Built in 2013, the 4,200-square foot facility is Kitsumkalum's newest facility. This facility provides health care services to the Kitsumkalum community, and has space for a community policing officer.	
Na Aksa Gyilak'yoo Learning Centre	Built in 1975, this facility needs major upgrades and/or replacement.	
Gila Kyew Nluulk Daycare and Headstart	Built in 1980, this facility's estimated remaining life is about 20 years.	
Public Works – Maintenance	A maintenance compound is located south of the Quarry. It includes an old Quonset hut which is in a poor state of repair and requires replacement.	

### 3. DIRECTION AND GUIDANCE

In recent years, we have developed several plans and policies and undertaken extensive community engagement to better understand community values, interests and objectives. To ensure that the Community Land Use Plan we are developing now aligns with community values and makes best possible use of community input from past projects, we have reviewed these documents and compiled the most relevant information. This section provides a brief overview of what we found. Past community input will inform how we approach engagement for our Community Land Use Plan.

#### LAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (LMC)

In 2017, we established a Land Management Committee to guide land code development and land use planning. Currently, this Committee is made up of eight community members interested in land and resource management in the community.

We anticipate that the Land Management Committee will play a vital role in the creation and implementation of our Community Land Use Plan. The Land Management Committee has developed a set of guiding principles for land and resource management on Kitsumkalum reserve lands, which will inform how we approach this project. These are outlined below.

Land and resource management on Kitsumkalum reserve lands will:

- Be driven by Kitsumkalum First Nation as leaders, stewards, and decision makers on the land.
- Foster and nourish Kitsumkalum culture, identity, and tradition today and into the future.
- Ensure healthy and functioning ecosystems- providing for a productive natural environment that supports an abundance of fish, animals and plants for the Kitsumkalum way of life.
- Promote economic activity, providing employment opportunities and contributing to a prosperous self-sufficient community.
- Evolve and adapt to changing environmental conditions and environmental hazards.
- Emphasize our people as stewards of the land conserving and protecting sensitive environmental and cultural places.
- Promote economic activity, providing employment opportunities and contributing to a prosperous self-sufficient community.
- Be guided by a framework providing greater certainty across the land base and upholding the values and considerations of membership.
- Pursue ways to increase our land base and further provide for our membership.
- Seek ways to develop recreational infrastructure (trail, parks, etc.) in the community.



## COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY PLAN (CCP)

In 2016, we completed a draft Comprehensive Community Plan, or CCP. This plan outlines our community's interests across a range of different priority areas, including education, housing, infrastructure, and more. Its guiding vision will help guide the Community Land Use Plan.

*Kitsumkalum has a strong culture, which we will keep alive throughout all of the generations. We are a self-sufficient and prosperous nation, with well-educated and successful community members. We prize our good health, and take good care of our elders. We also take care of our land, as it has taken care of us since time immemorial. We are proud to live in a community that is safe, accessible and beautiful. We have good leaders and staff, and together we use the strength of our past to lead us to a successful future.*

The draft CCP also outlines several relevant community objectives. Some of the most relevant CCP priorities and objectives are listed in the table.

*Table: Relevant CCP Objectives and Actions*

CCP Area	Objectives	Actions
Infrastructure and Housing	Our community will be clean and beautiful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More green spaces</li> <li>• Community garden</li> </ul>
	Our community will have excellent places to gather and play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All ages community centre with lots of rooms so many activities can happen at once</li> <li>• Sports complex</li> <li>• Playgrounds</li> <li>• Safe spaces for children and families</li> <li>• Updated community hall</li> <li>• BBQ pit</li> <li>• Buy/acquire first lots on West Kalum road closest to highway for community space development</li> </ul>
	Community members will have access to suitable, good housing on reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More affordable housing and more housing in general</li> <li>• Develop multiple types of housing to accommodate different housing needs (including multi-generational needs)</li> <li>• Place people in appropriate houses/make best use of available housing</li> <li>• Build with better quality materials</li> <li>• Explore green options</li> <li>• Strategy to handle vacant lots/abandoned houses</li> <li>• Strategy for arrears</li> </ul>
	Homes will be accessible and safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renovate/build in accessibility</li> <li>• Create better access for Elders</li> <li>• Elders housing</li> </ul>

*Table: Relevant CCP Objectives and Actions (cont.)*

<b>CCP Area</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Actions</b>
<b>Infrastructure and Housing</b>	Our community will have the proper utilities and infrastructure to service current and future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cell booster tower</li> <li>• Plan/increased water for growing community</li> <li>• Hydro lines/cables in ground</li> </ul>
	Our community will have safe, beautiful transportation corridors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paved streets, sidewalks and ditches for proper water drainage</li> <li>• Safety measures for pedestrians</li> <li>• More streetlights (look into solar powered units)</li> <li>• Clean streets</li> <li>• Hiking and walking trails</li> <li>• Flower gardens</li> <li>• Traditional food/plant gardens</li> </ul>
	Our community will have good emergency services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fire hall</li> <li>• Place to gather when there are power outages or major emergencies</li> </ul>
<b>Lands and Resources</b>	Leadership will take care of our lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement “green measures” where appropriate</li> <li>• Pass policies/by-laws to encourage less waste and respect the land</li> </ul>
	We will assert our aboriginal rights and title	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use lands in traditional ways, practice rights, apply traditional practices</li> <li>• Protect the land</li> <li>• Place crest poles in areas to tell our story and connections to the land</li> <li>• Place flags on the land</li> </ul>
	We will be stewards of our traditional territories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Involve community in choosing priorities for projects and upgrades</li> <li>• Focus on sustainability</li> </ul>
	We will practice resource-based economic development in a way that is in keeping with our traditional values of stewardship and long-term thinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Smart” logging, no clear cutting, no logging by non-community members</li> <li>• Land Use Plans</li> <li>• Waterway policy</li> <li>• Re-planting</li> </ul>

*Table: Relevant CCP Objectives and Actions (cont.)*

<b>CCP Area</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Actions</b>
<i>Lands and Resources</i>	Port Essington will be an important place for all our community members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build the basics so band members can visit on their own (e.g., a dock or a place to land boats, cabins)</li> <li>• Bring people to Port Essington, create opportunities for visiting</li> <li>• Re-build/build areas for camping and cabins</li> <li>• Make available for guided and self-lead visits: cultural camps; boat tours; camping; cabins; history lessons; visits with elders and youth; fishing</li> <li>• Tourism</li> </ul>
<i>Health</i>	Community members will have access to recreation opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask youth what they would like to see built/have access to</li> <li>• Support/fund/build access to healthy activities and recreation opportunities (e.g., sports facilities, playground, parks/green spaces, walking and sport trails, community</li> </ul>
	Community members will have food security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community greenhouse and garden</li> <li>• Community smoke house</li> </ul>
<i>Culture</i>	Community members of all generations will have good knowledge of how to harvest and prepare traditional foods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smoke houses/community smoke house</li> </ul>
	Council will support the culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide space for cultural activities and events</li> </ul>
	Community members of all generations will be artists and carvers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carving shed</li> <li>• Rebuild Robin Town</li> <li>• Rebuild Spaxksuuts (Spokeshute)</li> </ul>

## KITSUMKALUM (TREATY) LAND USE PLAN

2016 was a busy year! In addition to our draft CCP, we also completed a land use plan for our traditional territory. Our Kitsumkalum (Treaty) Land Use Plan contains a lot of useful, up-to-date information that is relevant to our Community Land Use Plan. First, it identifies a vision for land use planning in general (see text box). Second, it identifies guiding principles for land use planning, which will inform the development of this Plan. These include:

### **Kitsumkalum (Treaty) Land Use Plan - Vision**

*Kitsumkalum Lands will provide for the current and future well-being of Kitsumkalum people, communities and culture. Kitsumkalum Lands will provide opportunities that will empower all Kitsumkalum generations and foster future leaders in the community.*

- Manage the land and resources respectfully to honour traditional knowledge.
- Ensure the land and resources provide for Kitsumkalum cultural and sustenance uses.
- Ensure conservation of the land and resources to allow continued and future use by Kitsumkalum.
- Provide opportunities for economic and community growth through suitable Kitsumkalum commercial and recreational uses of land and resources.
- Recognize that Kitsumkalum lands and resources may provide opportunities to share mutually beneficial interests with Kitsumkalum neighbours.

### **Kitsumkalum (Treaty) Land Use Plan Community Input**

During community consultation for our Treaty Land Use Plan, it became clear that Kitsumkalum members support the social and economic growth of the community. Members had a wide range of suggestions for growth opportunities, including:

- Increased services (e.g., health and education);
- Improved infrastructure (e.g., new sidewalks and street lights);
- More programs and facilities particularly for elders and youth;
- Areas for recreation and tourism (e.g., swimming pool, community grounds and museum);
- Programs and facilities for cultural activities (e.g., cultural longhouse and feasts); and
- Commercial and industrial development (e.g., hotels, tax-free stores and industrial park development).

Members also indicated that they would like agricultural opportunities on Kitsumkalum lands. Suggestions for these opportunities have included a community garden and greenhouse and farming on Dałk Gyilakyaw (Robin Town). Members suggested that training opportunities and access to a community garden may help increase food security and access to healthy,



nutritional food sources in the community, while also encouraging members to take care better care of the environment.

Finally, members indicated that more houses or areas for new housing are needed. As mentioned earlier, several members suggested that a new village site could be developed in Dałk Gyilakyaw while still protecting the historic village site at Dałk Gyilakyaw (Robin Town).

Please note that our Treaty Land Use Plan did not address the Spokeshute (Port Essington) reserve.

### **Treaty Land Use Plan Direction for Kitsumkalum Village**

The plan identifies the Kitsumkalum Village area as a “community area” and a place for “culture and heritage”. Secondary land use values identified in the plan include “gathering,” “wildlife,” and “fish”.

Our Treaty Land Use Plan identified the following high-level goals and supporting objectives for Kitsumkalum Village.

#### **Goals**

1. To provide for a range of community uses including residential, commercial and industrial.
2. To conserve culture and heritage values.
3. To conserve a drinking water source for the community.
4. To provide sustenance for the Kitsumkalum community consistent with Goal 1.
5. To allow activities which are consistent with Goals 1 to 4.

#### **Supporting Objectives**

- Encourage community growth, in conjunction with other planning processes (e.g., Comprehensive Community Plan).
- Promote economic growth through commercial development.
- Explore opportunities and locations for industrial development.
- Respect the cultural history of the area and, where necessary, protect associated cultural heritage resources.
- Conserve a drinking water source for the community by maintaining the integrity of the Eneeksagilaguaw Community Watershed, specifically the quality, quantity and timing of water flow within the watershed.
- Allow continued community uses of gathering, fishing and hunting that are consistent with the community objective for this Emphasis Area.
- Ensure planned or proposed activities within the Emphasis Area are carried out such that they are consistent with the other objectives for this Emphasis Area and in accordance with the general policy direction.

## Treaty Land Use Plan Direction for Dałk Gyilakyaw (Robin Town)

The plan identifies the area as a “community area” and a place for “culture and heritage”. Secondary land use values identified by the plan include “gathering,” “wildlife,” and “fish”. The Treaty Land Use Plan also identified the following goals and objectives for Dałk Gyilakyaw:

### *Goals*

1. To conserve and promote culture and heritage by protecting the historic village site of Dałk Gyilakyaw.
2. To allow expansion of the Kitsumkalum community to take place consistent with Goal 1.
3. To provide sustenance for the Kitsumkalum community consistent with Goal 1.
4. To allow activities which are consistent with Goals 1 to 3.

### *Supporting Objectives*

- Protect the historical village site of Dałk Gyilakyaw and associated cultural heritage resources.
- Promote cultural education opportunities for the Kitsumkalum community.
- Promote economic activities that incorporate the culture and heritage aspects of this Emphasis Area (e.g., cultural tourism operations), while ensuring protection of the historical village site of Dałk Gyilakyaw.
- Put aside land for a future community settlement (‘new village site’). Community development plans will ensure protection of the historical village site of Dałk Gyilakyaw.
- Allow continued community uses of gathering, fishing and hunting consistent with the other objectives for this Emphasis Area.
- Ensure planned or proposed activities within the Emphasis Area are carried out such that they are consistent with the other objectives for this Emphasis Area and in accordance with the general policy direction.

The Treaty Land Use Plan also identified the following **non-permitted uses** in the Dałk Gyilakyaw:

- No subsurface resource exploration or development including, but not limited to, mining and quarrying. Non-intrusive geothermal activities might be considered.
- No commercial or industrial scale forest harvesting in the historical village site of Dałk Gyilakyaw.

## Treaty Land Use Plan Direction for Zimagord

The plan identifies this area as a place for “culture and heritage,” “gathering,” “wildlife,” and “fish”. Secondary priority land use values include “community areas”. The Treaty Land Use Plan also identified the following goals and objectives for Zimagord:

### *Goals*

1. To conserve culture and heritage values.
2. To conserve wildlife and fish habitat.
3. To provide sustenance for the Kitsumkalum community.
4. To allow expansion of the Kitsumkalum community to take place consistent with Goal 1 to 3.
5. To allow activities which are consistent with Goals 1 to 4.

### *Supporting Objectives*

- Respect the cultural history of the area and, where necessary, protect associated cultural heritage resources.
- Identify wildlife, fish and botanical species requiring management.
- Conserve identified wildlife habitat, including connectivity and function.
- Conserve identified fish habitat, including function and quality.
- Conserve identified wildlife, fish and botanical forest products.
- Maintain and enhance opportunities for a range of sustenance activities such as gathering, hunting, trapping and fishing for the Kitsumkalum community.
- Not to restrict access for sustenance activities by the Kitsumkalum community.
- Consider opportunities for community development, including residential and industrial development that ensure cultural heritage resources are protected where necessary; and do not cause undue harm to wildlife, fish and botanical forest products and their associated habitat.
- Ensure planned or proposed activities within the Emphasis Area are carried out such that they are consistent with the other objectives for this Emphasis Area and in accordance with the general policy direction.



## KITSUMKALUM LAND CODE

Kitsumkalum is participating in a project called the First Nations Land Management Initiative. This means that we will be developing a structure to independently manage our lands and resources, and, if approved by membership, take these responsibilities (and liabilities) over from the *Indian Act*.

The two-year planning project will include consultation with membership and coordination with our Community Land Use Plan project. If adopted, our Land Code will be of significant relevance to our Community Land Use Plan project (and vice versa!). It will:

- Set out the general rules and procedures for the use and occupation of Kitsumkalum reserve lands;
- Provide the procedures for making and publishing land laws, including zoning;
- Set out procedures by which Kitsumkalum can grant interests in land or acquire lands for community purposes; and
- Delegate land management responsibilities.

We will be coordinating closely with the Land Code project given its obvious and considerable importance to the Community Land Use Plan project.

## KITSUMKALUM PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

In 2001, a Physical Development Plan was completed for our three reserves. The plan included a phased, five-year capital plan for proposed development and infrastructure upgrades. The plan identified a feasibility study for Spokeshute Benchlands Subdivision. This subdivision has not been developed due to the high costs of land development and the need to repair and relocate the water tanks.

## 4. LAND USE PLAN CONSIDERATIONS

A review of past and current planning work and community development initiatives has identified several issues the Kitsumkalum Community Land Use Plan will likely need to address and consider with the community. Some of these issues are outlined in the table. Specific questions for the land use plan to consider are highlighted in *italics*.

*Table: Community Land Use Plan questions and considerations*

<b>Housing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>Where to plan for the development of 32 to 52 building lots by 2031?</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There are 8 serviced building lots and two proposed subdivisions, Benchlands Subdivision (33 lots) and Gyiik East (8 Lots) in Kitsumkalum Village (IR1). The cost to develop the Benchlands has previously been determined to be cost prohibitive and would require the relocation and repair of the water tanks. If the Benchlands subdivision is abandoned, other land will be needed.</li> <li>○ Past planning processes have identified both Dałk Gylakyaw (IR2) and Zimagord (IR3) as <i>potential</i> locations for further development. Given the significant challenges facing development in either area (e.g., servicing and infrastructure, environmental and culturally sensitive areas, access, etc.), further analysis and community consultation would be required to determine residential development capacity at both sites.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b><i>How to best accommodate different housing needs?</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Community members have indicated that houses (existing and future) need to be made with Elders' needs in mind. Accessibility is a key issue</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b><i>What should be done with vacant lots and abandoned houses?</i></b></li> </ul>
<b>Facilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>Where to locate new facilities, and what facilities to prioritize?</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Community members have identified several facility needs through past planning projects (e.g., CCP), including a new school, a new admin building, a community smoke house, a community greenhouse, a new playground, and a new sports/recreation complex. This plan will help to prioritize these projects and identify potential locations for their development.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b><i>What about upgrades and maintenance of other facilities?</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Past planning projects and facility assessments have identified needed maintenance and upgrades for several buildings and facilities, including the Band Office, Treaty Office, Learning Centre, and Public Works.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Infrastructure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Repair/relocation of the water tanks</li> <li>• Upgrades to the streets (lighting, sidewalks, drainage ditches)</li> <li>• Improved <b>green infrastructure</b> including green spaces, community garden, hiking and walking trails</li> </ul>

*Table: Community Land Use Plan questions and considerations (cont.)*

<b>Economic development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is the potential to expand the Kalum Rock and Quarry which abuts a residential area.</li> <li>• The Kalum Rock and Quarry Logistics Park plan also includes a 110-acre industrial space for lease or investment with underground hydro, water and sewage to the lot line and flexible zoning.</li> <li>• Additional highway development has also been identified as a potential opportunity along with potential lease hold development.</li> <li>• <b><i>Are there other, higher or better uses of the former lay-down area?</i></b></li> </ul>
<b>Dat̓k Gylakyaw (Robin Town)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect the historic village site <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b><i>Are there any appropriate uses for this land other than conservation and protection (e.g., land set aside for new village site)?</i></b></li> <li>○ <b><i>Are there appropriate uses of the fee simple land adjacent to this area?</i></b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Zimagord</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With a high water table and other constraints an earlier subdivision proposal was abandoned for the area</li> <li>• <b><i>What is the best use of this land?</i></b></li> </ul>
<b>Spokeshute</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>How should we approach land use planning for this reserve?</i></b></li> </ul>
<b>Hazards</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>What about flood risk and climate change?</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Flooding is an issue that will need to be closely examined. Some areas may no longer be suitable for development because of flood risk, while other areas may become more at risk in the lifespan of this plan as the climate continues to change.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Interim Treaty Agreement Land Acquisition – Addition to Reserve</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• While outside the scope of this project, plans for these lands will impact the availability of land for community needs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b><i>What are the anticipated time lines and plans for use of these lands and how can the Community Land Use Plan best incorporate these plans?</i></b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>LMC role post Community Land Use Plan development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>Is there an opportunity to support Community Land Use Plan implementation by establishing an ongoing role for the LMC after this Plan is complete? What could this look like?</i></b></li> </ul>



## 5. WHAT'S NEXT?

Our Community Land Use Plan project will include community input at each step along with Kitsumkalum leadership review. This collaborative process is important for building community support for the plan.

Community engagement will take place at several points during the planning process.

- Targeted focus group sessions and interviews with Land Management Committee members, Kitsumkalum staff, and leadership will set the stage for this project and provide much needed background information for a community needs assessment and development feasibility study.
- Community-wide engagement through an open house midway through the project will inform the Plan's objectives and priorities, and ensure that community preferences guide the development of land use designations and goals. A final open house at the end of the project will provide an opportunity for feedback and review.

Overall, the Community Land Use Plan process will:

- Build on and incorporate past planning work;
- Address important information gaps identified in past studies;
- Confirm and build on past community input; and
- Address gaps outlined in this report.

The graphic illustrates the overall planning process for this project.

*Figure: Community Land Use Plan - Project Timeline*

