

britannia beach community visioning charrette final report

## **Executive Summary**

### **Project Development**

In the fall of 2002, The University of British Columbia held two workshops at the Britannia Beach Community Centre for the purpose of engaging all stakeholders at the site in establishing goals and design guidelines for the Canadian Environmental Mining Research Centre (CEMR) to be built by UBC at Britannia Beach. These events were part of a process called a "Charrette" which was to culminate in a four to five day intensive design workshop that allows the wider community to work with a team of architects to develop detailed designs to discern how projects such as CEMR would be integrated into the existing and future elements of the community.

A total of 70 people were invited to the workshops from over 15 different organizations. During the two workshops, 30 Goals & Objectives were developed with the agreement of all participants. A series of design guidelines evolved from this list of Goals & Objectives, which would comprise the targets to be met by the design team. (This initial Design Brief and the corresponding Goals & Objectives are available as appendices in the back of this document.)

Due to the success of the project to this point, the Charrette was postponed to allow for more interest and input to be explored. In addition to the UBC-CEMR Centre project, there are several other initiatives also under consideration for Britannia Beach by the following organizations:

- The BC Museum of Mining museum operations and assessment of potential for future expansion/redevelopment.
- Britannia Bay Properties Ltd. community development opportunities.
- BC Ministry of Highways Highway 99 Expansion Project
- BC Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection / Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management – Britannia Site Rehabilitation Project
- Natural Resources Canada Britannia Centre for Mining Innovation and Heritage Park.





Talks were held with representatives from each of these groups to examine ways to expand the Charrette to include the entire site development. All parties agreed to participate in the charrette to address these larger planning issues, and the Museum of Mining agreed to host the event.

The following is a description of the Charrette process and the groups who were involved. It was necessary to rerun the two workshops held in the fall of 2002 in order to develop goals and design guidelines for the broader site issues.

#### Combined Stakeholder Workshops #1 and #2

This stage involved past participants from the fall of 2002 with a wider group of stakeholder constituents interested in the CEMR Centre, NRCan's Centre for Innovation proposal, the BC Museum of Mining, the Water Treatment Plant, the development of commercial property and other future development potential at Britannia Beach.

The purpose of the workshops were to integrate existing project objectives with those of the wider group, with a view to defining a comprehensive set of Goals & Objectives and a Design Brief for the entire site, given this much larger scope. Both of these documents are included here as appendices.

Workshop 1: goals & objectives overview (3 hours) Date: Thursday, September 4th, 2003.

Workshop 2: final goals & objectives and draft design brief (3 hours) Date: Thursday, September 18th, 2003.

### **Design Charrette**

(full day sessions) October 15th-16th, 2003 (Midcourse Correction on the evening of the 16th), October 22nd–23rd, 2003 (Final Presentation on the evening of the 23rd).

The charrette commenced with a "Kick-off" briefing session on October 15th, involving the broader group of participants. Stakeholders were given time to provide short overviews of the issues as seen from their perspectives.





Following this session, the Charrette continued with the participation of stakeholder representatives at the design table. The design table was divided into teams, and each team presented their works-in-progress to the larger stakeholder group at the Midcourse Correction. This presentation allowed the groups to address issues of concern, to validate current directions, and/or to ask questions of each other, the sponsors, and the stakeholders.

The Charrette concluded with a final presentation to a wide audience. Representatives from stakeholder groups in addition to others with an interest in the site were invited to the final presentation, which served to be an important venue to discuss issues of implementation, future challenges and next steps.

Although not a legal document in the sense of an OCP, the results of this Charrette constitute the consensus vision and hopes of all stakeholders involved in this process. The Charrette produced an exciting and achievable vision for Britannia Beach that focuses on the synergy between people, places, and products unique to the area. There is currently much happening in the planning stages of development, and there is a need to maintain the energy fostered by the Charrette process and generated by its many participants.

We would like to thank the many stakeholder groups for the opportunity to work with them on this project, and also to thank the many people who generously lent their time and resources.

#### **Charrette Sponsors**

Britannia Bay Properties Ltd. BC Museum of Mining Centre for Environmental Research in Minerals, Metals, and Materials (CERM3) Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) Squamish Lillooet Regional Planning District





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The following section is an adaptation of the Charrette results produced as a Powerpoint presentation during the Charrette and presented at the Final Presentation on October 23, 2003.

This section is also available on the Britannia Charrette website:

http://www.sustainable-communities.agsci.ubc.ca/britanniabeach/

