

REDESIGN RUPERT



Initial Meetings



Acknowledgements

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Finally, a very special thank you to the members of the Redesign Rupert Advisory Committee, Carmen Elduayen, George Emes, Scott Farwell, Laurie Gray, Sandra Jones, Jacquie Ridley, and Paul Vendittelli for your time, advice, and support. Your involvement enriched the project and leaves a lasting legacy for the community to draw upon.

Marleen Morris, Krystin St. Jean, and Greg Halseth

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Accessing This Report

The reports from this project may be accessed through the Community Development Institute's website at: <http://www.unbc.ca/community-development-institute/research-projects>. Seven reports make up the final Redesign Rupert Report:

- Executive Summary
- Redesign Rupert Report 1: Project Governance
- Redesign Rupert Report 2: Initial Meetings
- Redesign Rupert Report 3: Community Mapping
- Redesign Rupert Report 4: Redesign Rupert Recharge Community Workshop
- Redesign Rupert Report 5: Redesign Rupert Action Groups
- Redesign Rupert Report 6: Community Profile

For further information about this topic and the project contact Marleen Morris or Greg Halseth, Co-Directors of UNBC's Community Development Institute:

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Redesign Rupert: Initial Meetings

In order to provide an opportunity for traditional, non-traditional, and emerging community leaders to identify and talk about opportunities and challenges facing the community the Redesign Rupert project began with a number of initial one-to-one or small group meetings.

These meetings allowed the Community Development Institute (CDI) project team to take the pulse of the community and begin to build relationships with formal and informal leaders and opinion-makers. The meetings explored the assets and strengths that could be built on in the community and the relationships that exist between organizations. From this information, an understanding of the opportunities for and challenges impeding economic diversification and community resilience were developed.

Thirty-one meetings were held, involving 39 participants. The meetings were held October 2015-March 2016. Generally, meetings were held in the participant's office or at a community location such as a local coffee shop. Conversations typically lasted 45-60 minutes. A list of meeting participants can be found in Appendix 2A.

Meeting participants were asked to reflect on and share their thoughts on opportunities for economic growth and diversification and for building community resilience. The conversations were open ended and participants took the conversation in directions that were important and meaningful for them.

From these initial meetings, the following themes emerged with regard to opportunities for economic growth and diversification:

- Tourism: including eco-tourism, adventure tourism, regional tourism, and Aboriginal tourism.
- Downtown revitalization: including retail revitalization.
- Arts and culture: building on the existing artistic community, festivals, and events.
- Port expansion.
- Mobile workforces and visiting business people: especially those associated with LNG projects.
- LNG plant approval.

The themes that emerged with regard to opportunities for community resilience were:

- Engaging and supporting children and youth: especially pre-school programs (ages 0-5) and after school programs.
- Supporting families: especially single parents, residential school survivors, parents working away.
- Education: including encouraging high school graduation and post-secondary attendance.
- Housing: including housing for people travelling from First Nations communities to Prince Rupert and affordable housing for families and seniors.
- Providing support for and encouraging collaboration between social service providers.
- Being prepared for the social issues that would emerge from an LNG plant approval.

Many of these themes continued to emerge throughout the Redesign Rupert project and became framing points for the community mapping process and the Redesign Rupert Recharge community workshop.

Redesign Rupert: Appendix 2A
List of Initial Meeting Participants

Initial Meetings: Redesign Rupert

First Name	Last Name	Organization
Maynard	Angus	Prince Rupert Port Authority
Derek	Baker	Pacific Northwest LNG
Simone	Clark	Prince Rupert Chamber of Commerce
Doug and Debbie	Davis	Adventure Tours
Olivia	Delloch	North Coast Community Services Society
Carmen	Elduayen	Ministry for Children and Family Development
Scott	Farwell	Tourism Prince Rupert / Crest Hotel
Devlin	Fernandez	Ecotrust
Jamie	Gerrie	Prince Rupert Chamber of Commerce
Laurie	Gray	Prince Rupert Community Arts Council
Colleen	Hermanson	Kaien Anti-Poverty Society
Anna	Horianopolus	Friendship House Society
Sandra	Jones	School District 52 (Prince Rupert)
Zeno	Kerkic	City of Prince Rupert
Keith	Lambourne	Prince Rupert Chamber of Commerce
Harold	Leighton	Metlakatla First Nation
Bob	Long	City of Prince Rupert
Christopher	Melenburg	Northern Health Authority
Rosa	Miller	BG Group
Blair	Mireau	Gitmaxmak'ay Nisga'a Society
Brian	Musgrave	Rainbow Chrysler
Frank	Parnell	Tricorp Development Corporation
Polly	Pereira	District of Port Edward
Herb	Pond	BG Group
Sandy	Pond	Charles Hayes Secondary
Dawn	Quast	Prince Rupert Recreation Commission
Jacquie	Ridley	Tricorp Development Corporation
Ann	Rowse	North West Community College
Ken	Shaw	Transitions Prince Rupert
Gary	Sheils	Salvation Army
Willa	Thorpe	City of Prince Rupert
Kate	Toye	Success by Six
Paul	Vendittelli	City of Prince Rupert
Marion	Weir	Prince Rupert Senior's Centre
Donny	Wesley	Lax Kw'alaams
Lori	Wilson	Canfisco
Peter	Witherley	Prince Rupert Community Arts Council
Shauna	Wouters	Hecate Straight Employment Development Society
Paul	Yew	Prince Rupert Port Authority