

WE are the home team. In this, we use the ideas of ‘home’ to guide our visioning for Squamish. These ideas stem from an emotional sense of what is needed not only to have fundamental needs met, but what is needed to feel **security, comfort, familiarity** and **enjoyment** within a place. While what this means will vary for each individual, how these emotions are broadly transferred to the physical place can provide for a diverse community.

When these emotions are transferred to the physical, at varying scales and degrees of public and private (from the front door, to the kitchen, to the bedrooms of Squamish) **a positive sense of place is provided for the people of Squamish, those that visit, and living systems within the surrounding the area.**

KEEPING IT TIGHT: A common thread throughout the principles and policies is to contain the growth of Squamish within it’s most obvious physical bounds (framework), building on what is there (community), filling in those spaces that sit void (purpose), and finally connecting these spaces together with a central heart (the nourishing kitchen). Obviously, this theme touches on the emotional and physical sense of ones place.

Below are our:

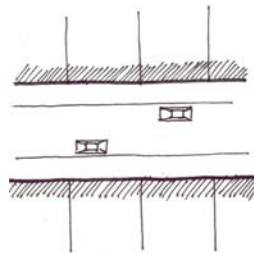
design principles

design faux pas/design delights (in diagram)

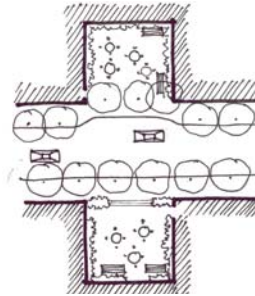
policy (how to really make if feel like home)

Create a sense of identity

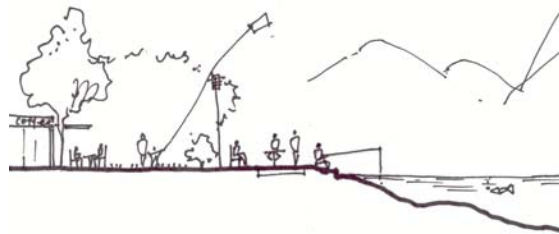
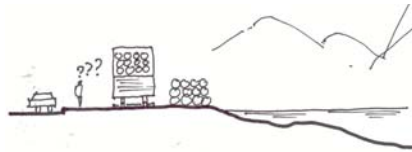
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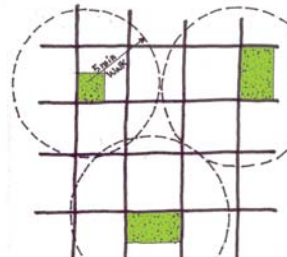
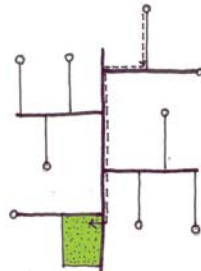


Create outdoor rooms to provide a sense of home in public areas. Home is not just a term that describes a structure it is also experienced as places out of doors.

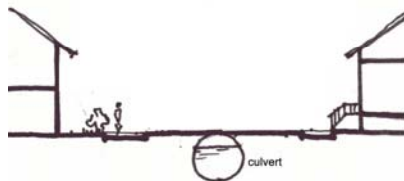


Design a publicly accessible waterfront park with views to the local landscape. Squamish's local landscape is what gives it such a great sense of identity and home, by connecting with the landscape, people are also connecting with their home.

Provide for a diversity of needs



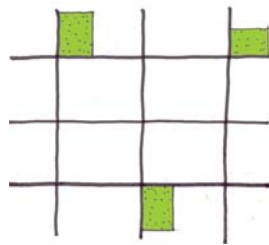
Outdoor parks and/or recreational opportunities should be within five minutes walking distance to every home so that people feel a connection with the environment that also creates the sense of home in which they live.



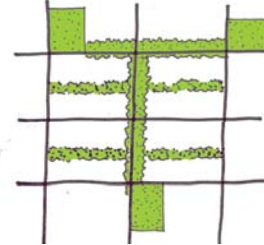
Outdoor spaces should provide opportunities for multi-use. Diversity of needs not only includes humans of varying abilities and different interest, it also includes wildlife and their need for nature.

Connect public spaces and corridors

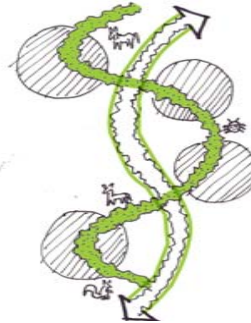
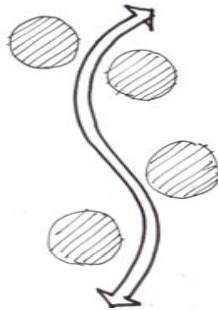
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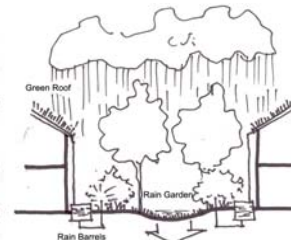


Create a greenway as a corridor that connects the home with public spaces. Connections between the house and public space extend the experience of home beyond the front door.

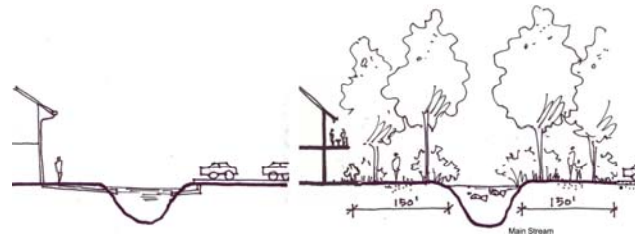


Weave wildlife habitat throughout communities as corridors for movement and places to live. Animals of all kinds need homes too.

Integrate natural systems



Make natural features prominent where possible to enhance the home. A closer connection to the environment experienced at the house scale can create respect for the environment which is our ultimate home.



Provide for use of natural systems at the home. Natural systems need to function properly in order for our outdoor home to continue to successfully nurture us.

Provide for a diversity of needs

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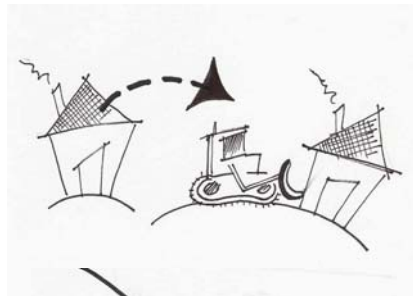


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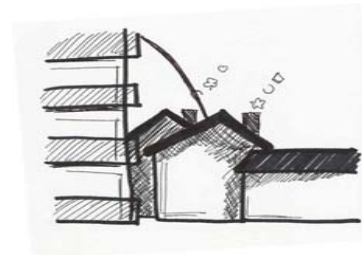
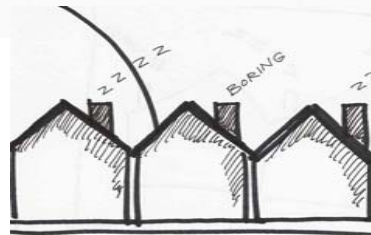


A diverse housing stock that caters to people of different economical, social, cultural and physical needs should be included within each neighbourhood to promote equity and diversity.

Provide for a sense of identity



Flexibility of built form that will allow for home to be work, work to be home and future needs to be accommodated without further development.



A strong community should allow for the celebration of local culture and personalization of spaces by residents. It should contain a range of housing types that caters to different lifestyles while creating unique neighbourhoods.

Maximize local economy



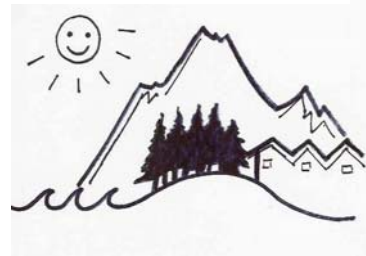
Close proximity and strong pedestrian connections between home and amenities is a must. Allow people to live and work within the same block. "Lunch is ready darling!" "I'll be home in five".

Integrate natural systems

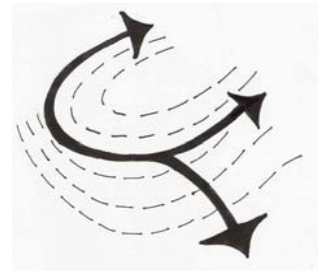
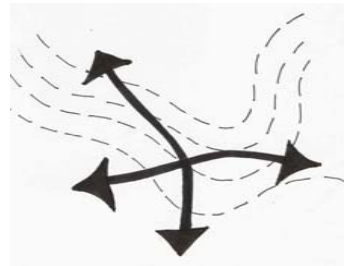
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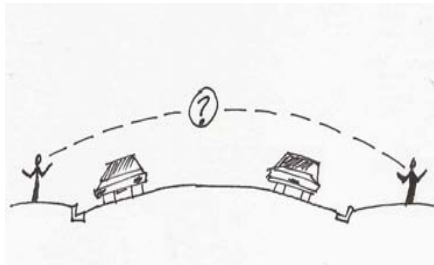


Allow natural systems to be woven in to the community fabric where they are celebrated by residents and visitors alike. Respect the local ecology, don't exploit the local ecology!



Work with the land not against the land. Capitalize on the site by using the landform to dictate where built form should be located. This will eliminate excessive grading and maximize connectivity of people to place.

Connect public spaces and corridors



Design streets as layered social, ecologic and economic systems. Narrow, curbless streets that allow for water infiltration, habitat generation and facilitate community interaction.



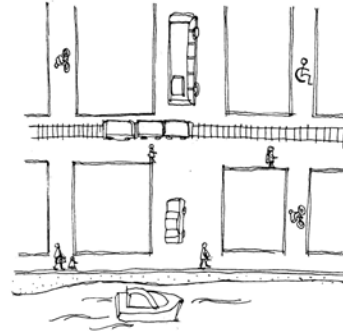
Ensure a hierarchy of street systems, that link in a web-like fashion with both public and private spaces.

Create a sense of local identity



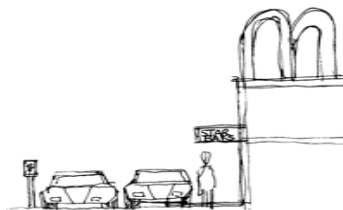
Orient transportation corridors to maximize views of Squamish icons that reinforce sense of place.

Provide for a diversity of needs



Develop multi-modal transportation infrastructure that protects accessibility for residents with varying degrees of mobility

Maximize the local economy



Develop pedestrian-oriented neighbourhood shopping districts that foster public life and allow small local businesses to flourish.

Maximize the local economy

Enliven the center by ensuring connectivity between residential areas, highway development and the downtown commercial core.

Connect public spaces and corridors

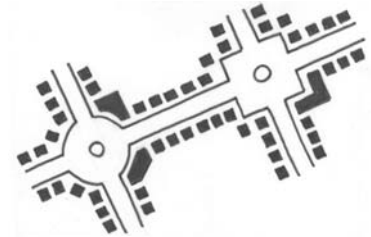
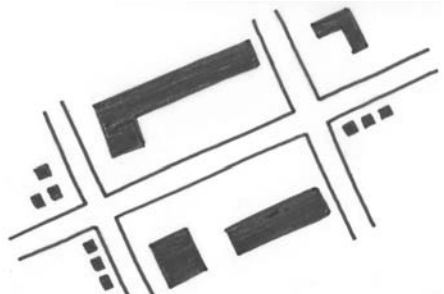
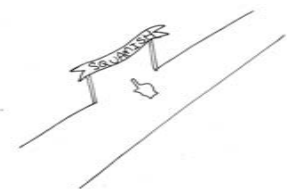
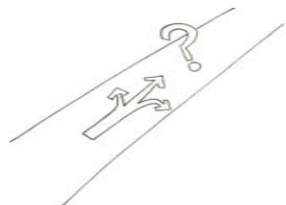
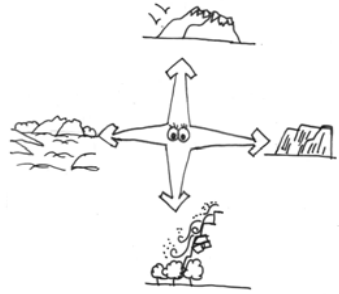
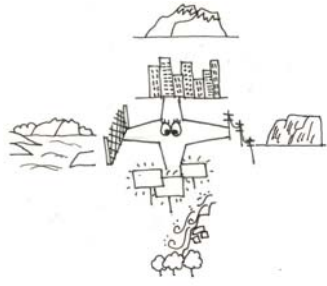
Connecting important nodes of activity with transportation alternatives to the car can increase sense of community and belonging and decrease isolation.

Decrease distance between important trip ends (residential, commercial and recreational) within Squamish.

Integrate Natural System

Use natural greenways as non-motorized transportation corridors.

Create a sense of local identity



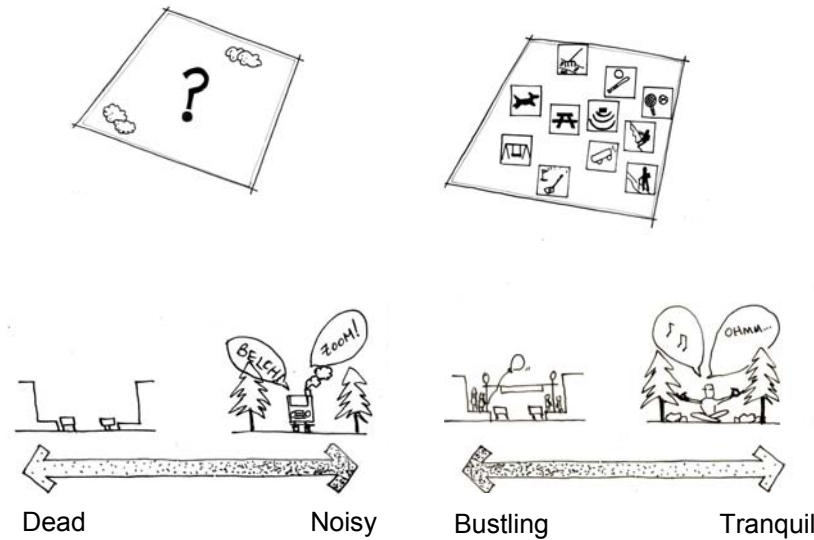
Protect views towards cherished natural icons. The Chief, the mountains, Howe Sound and Shannon Falls give Squamish a distinct and memorable image. A strong visual connection with these natural icons can reinforce Squamish's identity.

Emphasize the "threshold" to Squamish. A special entrance creates a sense of arrival and defines the transition into the community.

Treat public places as outdoor "living rooms." Streets and public spaces with good enclosure and important buildings located at key intersections provide comfortable places for people to gather and participate in public life.

Encourage a local vernacular architecture and use a specific colour and material palette that expresses the character of Squamish. This will create a unified and distinct visual experience that defines the identity of the community.

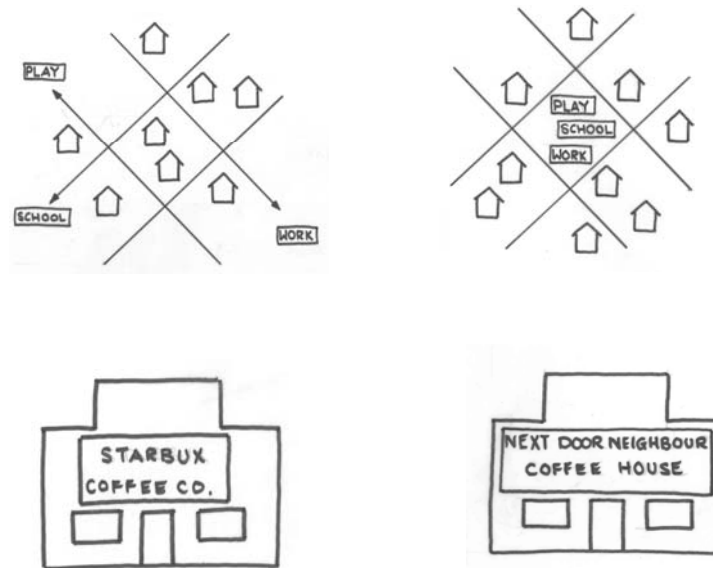
Meet a diversity of needs



Create multi-use public places to cater to a variety of groups. Multi-use public places allow different people in the community to enjoy the public realm, allow them to meet each other, and create a welcoming and inclusive community that everyone can feel at home.

Provide different experiences in the public realm, ranging from bustling urban activity nodes to tranquil rural refuge. In addition to meeting the needs of different people, this also creates a sense of place through the distinct experiences in the wilderness and the town centre.

Maximize the local economy



Create opportunities to work and play close to home. Mixed use centres where all daily needs can be met create lively places.

Maximize the opportunities for local and unique businesses versus chain stores. Local businesses respect the small town context and create distinct centres that are identifiable to residents.