



SCHOOL DISTRICT 46
SUNSHINE COAST

GIBSONS ELEMENTARY TREE REMOVAL AND REFORESTATION PROJECT

Virtual information session – March 2, 2022

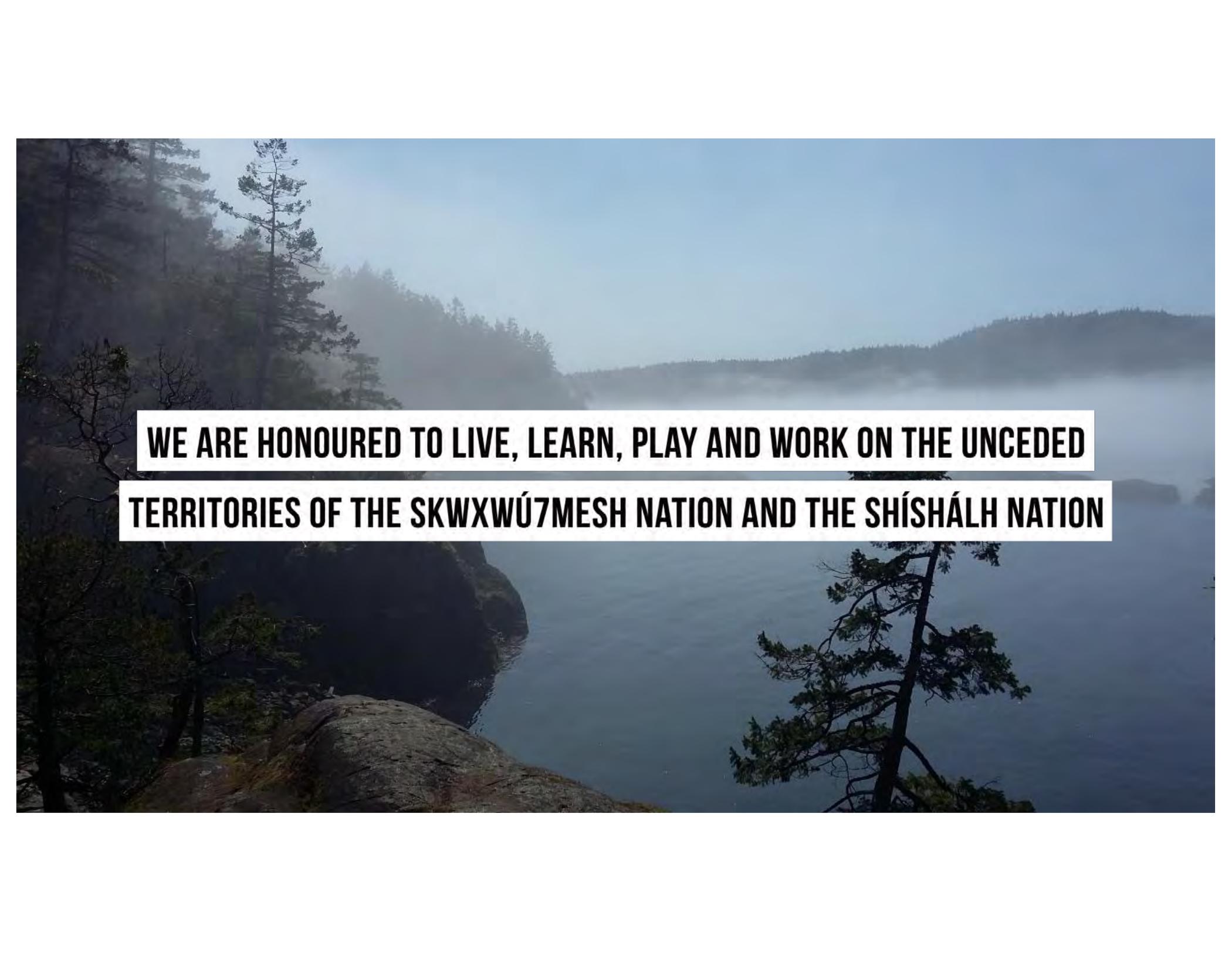
(Please Use Q & A Feature on Zoom to ask questions)



INTRODUCTIONS

- Nicholas Weswick, Secretary-Treasurer
- Rob Collison, Manager of Facilities and Transportation
- Lynda Brisebois, Principal, Gibsons Elementary School
- Bill Lasuta, Integrated Forestry and Environmental Consultant



A scenic view of a forested coastline. In the foreground, a large, grey, rounded rock sits on a rocky shore. To the left, a dense forest of evergreen trees covers a steep slope. In the background, a calm body of water stretches across the frame, with a layer of mist or fog hanging over the distant forested hills. The sky is a pale, clear blue.

**WE ARE HONOURED TO LIVE, LEARN, PLAY AND WORK ON THE UNCEDED
TERRITORIES OF THE SKWXWÚ7MESH NATION AND THE SHÍSHÁLH NATION**



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AGENDA



- What are we doing?
- Why?
- Recent history of tree assessments and removal
- Arborist's findings
- What is the process for removal?
- Summary of school activities and reforestation plans
- Conclusion and questions



BACKGROUND

- Rising temperatures, human impact and extended droughts increase the stress on trees.
- Trees around the perimeter of this school have begun to die.
- 58 trees were assessed by professional Arborist
- Several of these trees were identified as high risk trees.





WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

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Plea issued for paralyzed teen

A Gibsons teen has issued a plea for help after his friend, 17-year-old Muj Rodriguez, was paralyzed June 1 when he was crushed by a falling tree limb during an afternoon walk through the Mahan Road trails.

Ben Ingram/Staff Writer
Jun 15, 2012 1:00 AM



British Columbia

2 dead after large tree falls on house in West Vancouver



A man in his 60s, identified as former hockey association president, and his wife were killed

CBC News · Posted: Jan 02, 2022 3:29 PM PT | Last Updated: January 2



Nic



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HISTORY OF TREE ASSESSMENTS

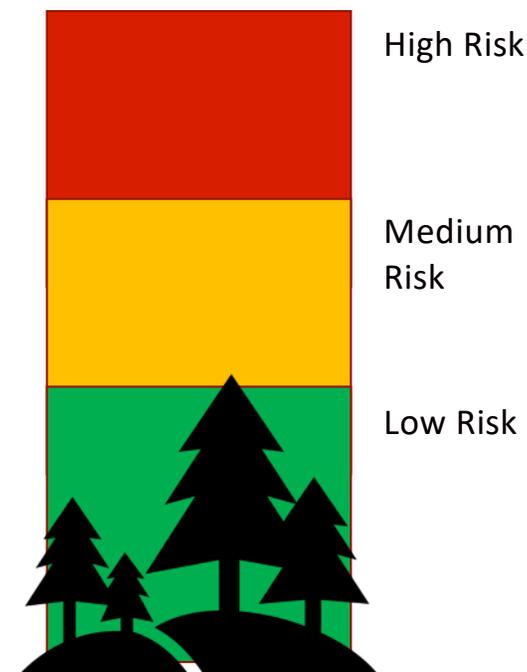


- Fall/Winter 2020 – SD46 Maintenance Department called to remove large branches that had fallen on to field
- Feb. 2021 – SD46 gardeners tour site and evaluate trees. Several apparently dangerous trees were noted.
- Mar. 2021 – SD46 meets with 2 different tree service companies for opinions and quotes.
- Mar. 2021 – SD46 meets with ToG arborist on site who agrees that 8 trees need to be removed immediately. ToG issues tree removal permit and trees are removed.
- Sept. 2021 – SD46 hires professional arborist Bill Lasuta to assess entire GES property and provide written report
- Fall 2021 – SD46 reviews report and recommendations.
- Feb. 2022 – SD46 hires Mr. Lasuta to act as consultant/project manager for tree removal and reforestation project



ARBORIST REPORT FINDINGS AND RISK LEVELS

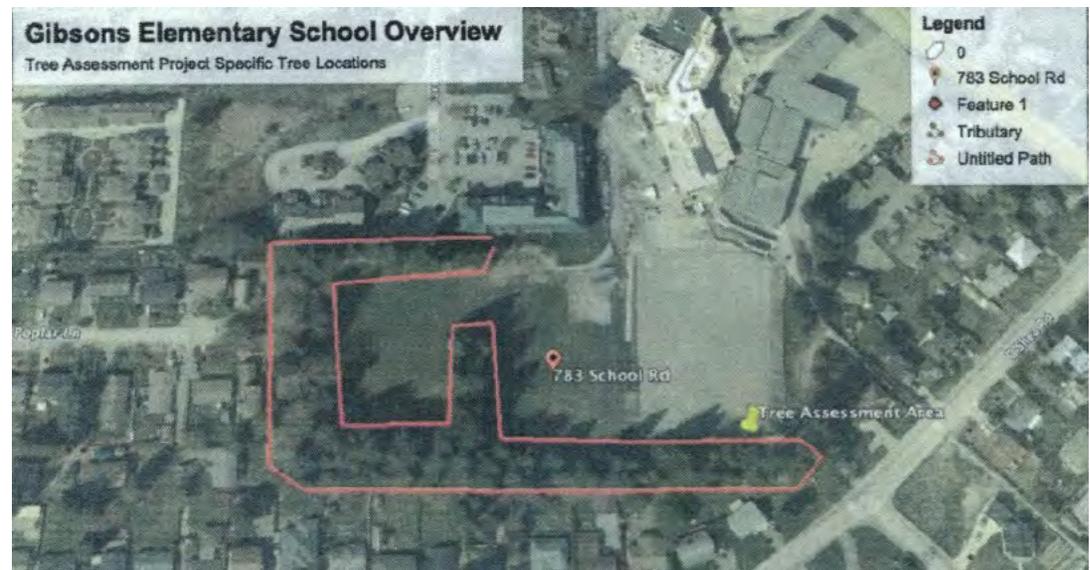
- Reviewed 58 danger trees against a risk framework of High, Medium and Low.
- 34 trees identified as High-Risk.
- Medium and Low risk trees are those in decline or displaying risk indicators.
- Medium and Low risk trees will be re-assessed in 1-3 years.
- Some Medium and Low risk trees may be re-assessed if damaged as a result of removal of High risk trees.





ARBORIST REPORT FINDINGS AND RISK LEVELS

- Costs associated with removal is expected to be recovered through the sale of lumber
- Any surplus funds will be considered in consultation with the school and community through the District's budget process.





GIBSONS ELEMENTARY – ACTIVITIES AND REFORESTATION

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY:

- Natural curiosity
- Tree Health
- Environmental conditions that support or cause damage to trees
- How to identify trees that are at risk
- Help prevent trees advancing to a stage where they need to be removed
- First Peoples concepts of [interconnectedness](#) in the environment





GIBSONS ELEMENTARY – ACTIVITIES AND REFORESTATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Input and cultural guidance was sought from the Environment Branch, Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw Rights and Title, which is responsible for Skwxwú7mesh Nation Natural Resources Management, Environmental Monitoring, Fieldwork Analysis, and Environmental Policy Development.

Prior to Spring Break, District Principal of Indigenous Learning, Kerry Mahlman, will work with a group of students from Gibsons Elementary to acknowledge the trees through a learning activity that is based on the First Peoples Principles of Learning.





GIBSONS ELEMENTARY – ACTIVITIES AND REFORESTATION

REFORESTATION:

- Learn how to properly space and plant trees to ensure successful growth
- Students and staff will replant saplings and more mature trees as soon as weather permits
- At least 10 trees will be replanted for every tree removed





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QUESTIONS?

Please use the Q & A feature in Zoom.

Also, you can always write us at questions@sd46.bc.ca