

Malahat Community Safety Plan - What We Heard Summary



Project Background



Malahat Nation Lands and Environment department has been working to build a Community Safety Plan (CSP). The CSP will help create a safer, healthier, and more connected community, where all members and staff feel protected, supported, and valued. The plan will reflect the voices, values, and priorities of Malahat community members. It will help guide safety-related initiatives across all areas, and support community members who may face increased safety risks, such as women, Elders, youth, 2SLGBTQIA+ members.

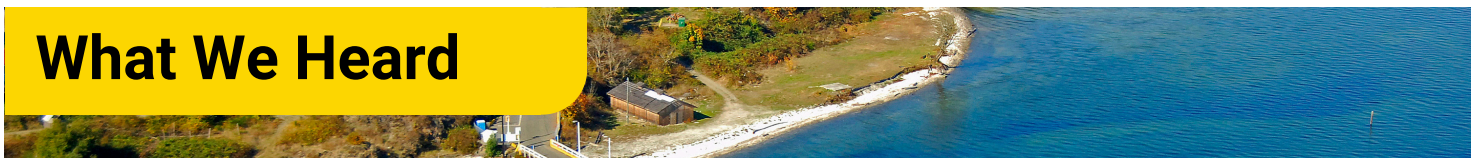
Over the past few years, community members and staff have identified important safety concerns and gaps – including the need for more support around mental health and substance use, safer public spaces, and clearer pathways to resolve conflict. At the same time, Malahat has already taken important steps, such as creating harm reduction services, evening patrols, and an emergency management plan. This project will help build on this work.

What will the Community Safety Plan do?

- Bring together existing policies, plans, and supports under one coordinated safety framework.
- Identify where services and policies are strong, and where more work is needed.
- Ensure Malahat values and knowledge are at the heart of all safety planning.
- Provide clear steps for action across departments and areas of need.
- Help guide future decisions about safety, wellness, housing, and community supports.



What We Heard



Land-based Concerns

- The use of the land for community is limited. Mill Bay residents feel entitled to the space, particularly the waterfront. Safety concerns include harassment, racism, trespass, and propositioning.
- Ferry traffic is a concern. This includes speeding, stealing, littering, and trespass.
- Community members and non-community members speeding on reserve.
- Non-community members using playgrounds, beaches, and trespassing on other reserve areas (such as forested areas, yards, etc.).



Staff, Program, and Leadership-Based Concerns

- Feelings that staff overstep in their work.
- Suggestion for staff to step back from being at meetings for community-based projects.
- Feeling that there is a lack of acknowledgement by and involvement of Chief and Council. Community would like Chief and Council to lead projects and attend meetings.
- Mixed feelings of guardians presence. Some feel as though they are over-patrolling and that there are enforcement imbalances.
- Mental health and broader health programming is needed.

Community-based Concerns

- Violence in community (physical, verbal, emotional).
- More language within the community and programming.
- Lack of jobs in community.
- Family tensions and lack of elders in community.
- Concerns over housing availability and safety (drugs, alcohol, evictions, land code).

Next Steps

The Lands and Environment department will continue to work alongside consultants to build up a Safety Plan that captures the feedback heard in the community meeting and in engagements with staff.

A survey is currently live, and we welcome any community members who would like to contribute additional information to fill it out! If you fill it out, you will be entered into an optional draw for a \$100 gift card to Thrifties.

Your knowledge and experiences from the community event and from the survey (QR code below) will help shape a plan that reflects the community's strengths, realities, and hopes for the future!



For any questions, or to request more information, please email us at:

lands@malahatnation.com or stop by 7 Kwunew Kwasun Lane! Huy tseep q'u, HÍ SW KE HÁLE, Hóy7sxwq'e, thank you

Malahat Teachings

le'lumut tthun' suli'

QENT TFE HELI

(protect the sacredness of life).

le'lumut tthu tumuhw 'u tthun' 'umimuth

QENT TFE TENEW ,U, NENIŁIYO SU,I,ENÁ

(protect the land for future generations).

le'lumut tthu mustimuhw 'ukw' 'uw' yath

TI,TW ĆSU MEQ STELITKEŁ SU,I, ENÁ E

(care for future generations).

yath 'uw' hakwush tthu stsi'elh

shqwaluwun kws 'imush

OŁET ĆSU I MEQ ĆENS U,I, ŚETEN

(walk with respect for all beings).

s'et tthu ts'its'uw'a'tul' shqwaluwun

FA,ETEL SW ENS IY ŚWKÁLEĆEN

(lift one another up).



Malahat