



# CHAPTER 3: COMMUNITY VISION AND GOALS

Port Moody, City of the Arts, is an urban sustainability leader inspiring innovation, pride and progress towards greater ecological integrity, liveability, economic vitality and community resiliency; confronting the changes facing society and the planet today and for generations to come, while building on Port Moody's strengths as a harbour-centred historic community that provides exceptional quality of life through arts and cultural experiences, a beautiful natural setting, walkable neighbourhoods of unique character, and a thriving core that is a gem in the region.

Port Moody's OCP sets out a guiding framework for the City's future development consisting of the Overall Community Vision, Community Goals, Community Wide Policies, Neighbourhood Policies, and Development Permit Area Objectives and Guidelines. This framework provides a logical set of guiding elements, covering all aspects of community development, beginning at a city-wide, general level and moving to a neighbourhood or site-specific level of detail.

## 3.1 THE OVERALL COMMUNITY VISION

During the public consultation phase of the OCP update process, residents confirmed a number of elements that formed part of the vision identified in the previous OCP. This feedback has been used to provide an updated overall Community Vision:

Port Moody, City of the Arts, is a unique, safe, vibrant waterfront city of strong neighbourhoods; a complete community that is sustainable and values its natural environment and heritage character as well as:

- Protecting, remediating and enhancing the community's environmentally sensitive resources, recreation areas and heritage assets for public use and enjoyment;
- Maintaining the "small town" character of the community;

- Encouraging developments that respect the community and are functional, universally accessible, exhibit good urban design and are environmentally sound;
- Encouraging physical development and cultural activities that enhance the sense of community in the City distinguishing Port Moody from its neighbours;
- Encouraging and maintaining a strong and diversified economy and tax base;
- Supporting community involvement and input when determining future directions for the City.
- Seeking a balance between environmental, economic, social and cultural sustainability in all decision-making.

## 3.2 COMMUNITY GOALS

Port Moody's community vision will be accomplished through the pursuit of the following goals:

### 3.2.1 SUSTAINABILITY

**Comprehensive Approach:** To consider each of the four pillars of sustainability—environment, economic, social and cultural—within a framework for decision-making in Port Moody.

**Energy Efficiency:** To promote energy efficient planning, design and construction and to support efforts to reduce energy consumption and promote alternative energy sources which are environmentally friendly and sustainable.

### 3.2.2 ENVIRONMENT

**Stream Protection:** To protect streams and aquatic ecosystems as key features in Port Moody.

**Forested Character:** To foster and maintain a treed and forested character in all parts of the community, mitigating tree and vegetation loss by the use of Naturescape principles (see Section 6.11).

**Environmentally Sensitive Areas:** To enhance and protect important environmentally sensitive areas within the City.

**Development:** To develop a Green Building Policy and continue to implement and update the Sustainability Checklist to ensure that the environmental impacts of development do not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their needs and enjoy the quality of life that we enjoy today.

### 3.2.3 HOUSING

**Range of Choices:** To promote and maintain a wide range of housing forms and tenures to meet the changing needs of a diverse population of varying ages, income levels, family types, accessibility and lifestyles.

**Complete Neighbourhoods:** To encourage and create pedestrian oriented neighbourhoods which provide the necessary and appropriate amenities, affordable housing, as well as social and cultural facilities to foster a sense of community cohesion and identity.



### 3.2.4 APPROPRIATE DEVELOPMENT

**Sensitive Infill:** To encourage infill developments which incorporate thoughtful urban design, including high quality architecture, opportunities for green space, appropriate transitions in building forms and buffering and protection of view corridors.

**Transit-Oriented Development:** To focus higher density development around Evergreen Line transit stations and along transit corridors.

**Connections:** To enhance pedestrian and cycling connections between and within neighbourhoods.

**Well-Served Development:** To support any significant higher density development only where it is well served by public transit, by public amenities such as parks, pedestrian connections, and civic facilities, by public schools, and by commercial and other services.

### 3.2.5 PARKS, OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION FACILITIES

**Health and Wellness:** To promote social and physical wellness and enhance the quality of life for all Port Moody residents.

**Community Facilities:** To provide adequate parks, open space and community facilities to meet the health, educational, recreation and cultural needs of the community.

**Waterfront Access:** To enhance opportunities for public access to and enjoyment of the waterfront.

### 3.2.6 HERITAGE CONSERVATION

**Buildings and Character:** To protect and enhance the City's heritage buildings and maintain the heritage character of its neighbourhoods and original commercial areas for future generations.

**Public Awareness:** To provide opportunities for increased public awareness and educational opportunities through heritage planning, information and communication.

### 3.2.7 TRANSPORTATION

**Traffic:** To relieve traffic congestion on major streets and intersections and reduce the negative impacts of regional through-traffic on the livability of the City.

**Transportation Choices:** To increase transit, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities which promote transportation choices and reduce the use of the private automobile and the congestion and pollution which accompanies it.

## 3.2.8 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**Range of Opportunities:** To provide a range of office, retail, high technology, tourism, home-based business and other commercial opportunities which meet existing and future market and service needs of the community and contribute towards the achievement of a more complete community.

**Improved Economic Base:** To expand the City's economic base through encouraging a range of high technology, environmentally sensitive, and employment intensive businesses to move toward a balance between the resident labour force and jobs in the City and accommodate the diverse needs and skills of the community. To maintain and cultivate jobs through redevelopment and encourage businesses to operate in a sustainable manner.

**Moody Centre:** To strengthen the shopping and business district of Moody Centre as one of the core commercial areas of the community capable of meeting the daily needs of residents while conserving and maintaining its unique heritage resources, character and view corridors of the waterfront and North Shore.

## 3.2.9 ARTS AND CULTURE

**Economic Generator:** To recognize arts and culture as an important employment sector in the City.

**City of the Arts:** To capitalize on the "City of the Arts" theme and continue to promote cultural industries and attract further art industry investments.

**Cultural District:** To coordinate existing significant cultural resourced in the community and support the development of a cultural district in Moody Centre uniquely positioning Port Moody in the region as the "City of the Arts".

## 3.3 PORT MOODY'S SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK

The City of Port Moody is recognized as a leader in environmental protection and sustainable land use. These priorities resonate not only with Council and City staff but are prevalent among many Port Moody residents who place a high value on the City's unique environmental resources and take pride in their protection and enhancement.

The City of Port Moody supports the Brundtland<sup>1</sup> definition that sustainability means "meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs". In Port Moody this will be accomplished

by working to allow future generations to meet their potential by defining how we live today. Port Moody's sustainability framework is based on a four pillar model, namely: Environment, Economic, Social and Cultural.

Port Moody has adopted a number of commitments to specific programs relative to sustainability, particularly environmental measures. These will require organization-wide and community action in a number of different areas. Some examples of current sustainability commitments that are underway include:

- Community Sustainability Plan
- FCM Partners for Climate Protection
- Naturescape Policy
- Energy and Greenhouse Gas Management Corporate Action Plan
- Wildlife Protection Programs
- Community Energy and Emissions Plan
- Turn-It-Off Challenge
- Tree Protection Bylaw (under review)
- BC Climate Change Charter
- Sustainability Checklist
- Parks and Recreation Master Plan
- Master Transportation Plan (reducing auto dependency)
- Cycling Master Plan
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas Management Strategy and related Development Permit Area requirements
- Recycling Programs and Organic Waste Collection
- Partner in the Burrard Inlet Environmental Action Program
- Zero Waste Challenge
- Chines Integrated Stormwater Management Plan
- Arts and Culture Master Plan
- Heritage Strategic Plan

Of particular priority is the implementation of the Sustainability Checklist to assess development applications on a project-by-project basis for their compliance with a range of sustainability criteria. The checklist provides Port Moody with another means to clearly communicate the City's objectives to the development community regarding sustainability initiatives and smart growth. The checklist also serves to integrate livability and sustainability concepts into the planning process and provides "checks and balances" for Council's review of development proposals.

Policies to advance environmental, economic, social and cultural aspects of sustainability are interspersed throughout this Official Community Plan document and take many different forms. From the protection of environmentally sensitive areas and asset management to supporting the arts and encouraging affordable housing, all of these policies work together to achieve a more complete vision of sustainability for Port Moody.

<sup>1</sup> In 1987, the United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development released the report Our Common Future, now commonly named the 'Brundtland Report' after the commission's chairperson, the then Prime Minister of Norway Gro Harlem Brundtland. The report included what is now one of the most widely recognized definitions for sustainable development.