

2024 SPN Dream Projects from Google Poll

Building a Thriving Cortes Island Community

A collective vision for Cortes Island, aiming to create a vibrant and sustainable community that fosters opportunity and well-being for all residents.

Thriving Workforce and Education

- **Support for Professionals:** Establish a community that attracts professionals in various fields like arts, science, and trades, enabling year-round residence.
- **Education:** Provide private education for all ages, leveraging the existing Linnaea school infrastructure.

Sustainable Infrastructure and Transportation

- **Electric Public Transportation:** Implement a reliable electric public transportation system within the island and connections to off-island destinations.
- **Active Transportation:** Develop safe biking and walking paths along with electric vehicle charging stations.

Housing and Security

- **Affordable Housing:** Create affordable housing options in Mansons, Whaletown, and Gorge Harbour.
- **Basic Needs:** Ensure all residences meet basic living standards, including proper kitchens, bathrooms, clean water, and non-polluting heating.
- **Emergency Response:** Establish a coordinated team with paid staff to manage on-ground emergency response.

Community Vibrancy and Well-being

- **Welcoming Environment:** Promote respectful exchange of ideas and collaborative spaces like cafes and forums.

- **Youth Engagement:** Establish a dedicated teen center.
- **Intercultural Relations:** Foster stronger connections and opportunities for Klahoose and settler communities.
- **Mental Health Support:** Provide comprehensive support for those struggling with mental health, including potential drop-in centers staffed by social workers.

Environmental Sustainability and Food Security

- **Maker Spaces and Resource Sharing:** Equip the community with tool libraries and repair cafes to encourage self-sufficiency and reduce waste.
- **Food Security:** Establish a community composting facility, community garden spaces, and food-sharing programs to promote local food production and reduce reliance on external sources.
- **Firewood Program:** Ensure a reliable firewood program to meet residents' heating needs.
- **Regenerative Tourism:** Develop tourism initiatives that benefit the environment and local community.
- **Eco-Cultural Conservation:** Create a plan that integrates Western science and Indigenous knowledge for Cortes Island's ecological and cultural preservation.
- **Green Prescription Program:** Implement a program that utilizes the natural environment to improve the physical and mental health of residents.

Effective Governance and Collaboration

- **Strong Local Government:** Establish a well-funded local government team to efficiently address Cortes' needs.
- **Investment Co-op:** Create an investment cooperative with the Cortes Island Foundation to support various projects.
- **Collaboration Among Nonprofits:** Improve coordination between non-profit organizations to maximize their impact and avoid duplication of services.

- **Better Wages for Food Producers:** Ensure fair compensation for local food producers.

Improved Visitor Experience

- **Improved Signage:** Develop better wayfinding signage that incorporates historical points of interest and Indigenous place names.
- **Enhanced Visitor Services:** Provide proper visitor amenities like sani-dumps, electric car charging stations, and restaurants.