

North Shore Poverty Reduction Strategy

District of West Vancouver

Council Presentation | July 11th, 2022



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North Shore Poverty Reduction Strategy

- Project overview
- Engagement at-a-glance
- Key themes
- Next steps





“Poverty is not just about money. It’s about not having the opportunities to be part of your community.”

Project Overview





“I never felt a sense of
community until finding
the North Shore Women’s
Centre.”

Engagement At-A-Glance

In total, we engaged with 205 people.

51

Sensitive listening interviews



2

Virtual workshops with stakeholders



1

Virtual workshop with members of the public



6

Focus groups



5

Organizations administered our questions to their clients directly



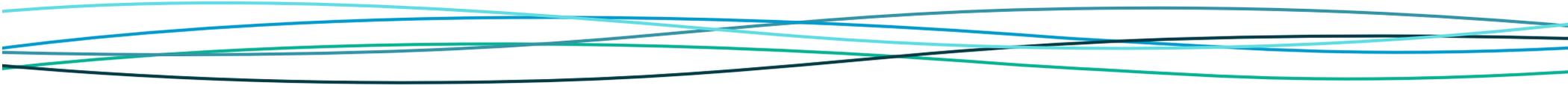
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People interviewed as key informants



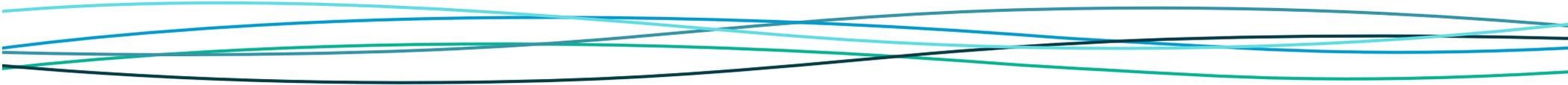


“The free outdoor activities are a nice element of life on the North Shore.”



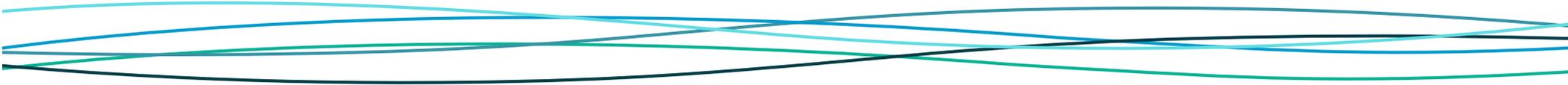
4 Key Themes Surfaced from this Process

1. Work together
2. Enhance navigation services
3. Address the cost of living
4. Take action on reconciliation



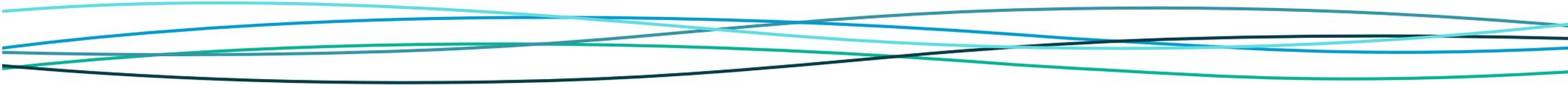
Key Theme #1: Work Together

- We heard about opportunities to:
 - Continue **collaborating** on housing, transportation and childcare
 - Create an **equitable and inclusive** North Shore
 - Increase **participation** in community activities
 - Educate and generate **awareness** about poverty
 - Work with **other levels of government** to address issues related to education, healthcare, social housing, income and disability assistance



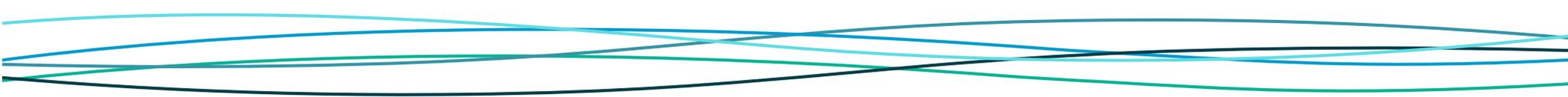
Key Theme #2: Enhance Navigation Services

- We heard:
 - The North Shore has a **strong social services sector** and there is a desire to continue the **positive collaboration culture**
 - The **need for help is surpassing the capacity and resources** that organizations have to respond to everyone in need
 - Greater **awareness** of existing programs is needed, combined with empowering service providers with resources to **scale-up** their services to meet growing need
 - Opportunity to explore a **centralized approach** for some service provision



Key Theme #3: Address the Cost of Living

- We heard:
 - The **rising cost** of housing, childcare, food and gas is a source of stress
 - Cost of living increases is **felt more intensely** by low-income households
 - **Discrimination** is a barrier to accessing housing and stable employment, and access to **good jobs** is a critical path out of poverty
 - **Build on the strengths** of community service providers to expand their programs to help meet growing needs on the North Shore
 - Increase access to affordable **food, basic goods, services and technology**

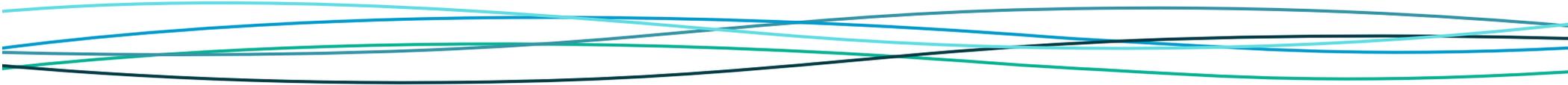


Key Theme #4: Take Action on Reconciliation

- We heard:
 - Poverty disproportionately impacts Indigenous peoples because of **systemic racism, discrimination, historic and ongoing trauma** from **colonialism** and the **legacy of the residential school system**
 - Ensure the Strategy and actions are **Indigenous-centred**
 - Prioritize reconciliation and implement the **Calls to Action**
 - Facilitate **relationship building** between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous peoples of the North Shore



“I thought about moving to a different community, but I can’t. All my supports are on the North Shore.”



Next Steps

- Working sessions with the Task Force to develop strategies and actions
- Summary video and public feedback form
- Finalize the North Shore Poverty Reduction Strategy
- Submit Final Strategy to UBCM
- Report back to Council on final North Shore Poverty Reduction Strategy and Implementation Plan

Thank you!



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Squamish Nation



Tseil-Waututh Nation
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