

## KEY ISSUES:

The Official Community Plan will look to tackle a number of specific issues, including those related to:

- Servicing and infrastructure capacity;
- Future use of crown lands;
- Environmentally sensitive and hazardous areas;
- Groundwater protection;
- Agricultural Land Reserve;
- Housing density and types;
- Home based business policy;
- Community facilities;
- Land development and future growth;
- Governance;
- Potential growth associated with large scale developments in the region (e.g., LNG).

## HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

The RDKS is looking to foster a meaningful dialogue with community members on their terms and in ways that are accessible to all residents. There are a number of ways for people to participate in the process – some of which include:

- **Social Media** - Planning Team representatives will be maintaining a strong presence online during the coming months. Search “Thornhill OCP” on Facebook to find up to date information on the process.
- **Workshops & Public Open Houses** - from May 30th to June 2nd, 2016 at various locations throughout the community. (Dates and locations to be confirmed).
- **Event Booths** - over the coming months Planning Team representatives will be setting up booths at various community events to present information to residents and solicit feedback.
- **“Stop ‘n Chat”** - drop in to the RDKS office (during regular business hours) to talk to a Planning Team representative about your ideas and thoughts.
- **Community Surveys** - will be available online on the Regional District’s website [www.rdks.bc.ca](http://www.rdks.bc.ca) and through Facebook. Hard copies will also be available at the Regional District office and other strategic locations throughout the community.



## What would you like your community to look like in 5 years? In 20 years? How do we get there?

*The Thornhill Official Community Plan is a comprehensive review of the form and character of land use in Thornhill. Literally your participation will shape the future of Thornhill.*

*Have your say—through online surveys, attending presentations and open houses, joining workshops or submitting your comments.*

*The “OCP” process kicks off in earnest with a full week of community engagement starting Monday, May 30.*

**“OCP Week in Thornhill”**  
**Monday, May 30**  
**through Thursday, June 2**



## WHAT IS AN OCP?

OCPs are intended to guide future development within a community and outline how and where future growth will be directed. OCPs provide a degree of certainty about the location and nature of expected development.

As the highest level policy document in any community, OCPs serve as a guide for elected officials and administration when making a wide range of decisions on matters such as zoning, land development and servicing, allocation of resources for infrastructure investments, and ensuring key elements that contribute to community quality of life are protected.

It should be a visionary and future oriented document that answers the questions:

**“What do we want our community to be in the future?”**

**“How are we going to get there?”**

## WHY ARE WE DEVELOPING AN OCP?

This process will build upon previous planning work, identify gaps in land use regulation, address current issues and opportunities, and develop consensus on a 5 - 20 year vision for the community and support for specific land use recommendations. In particular, the new OCP will:

- Enable the community to identify the key characteristics of Thornhill that they want to preserve or enhance as well as those they want to see changed.
- Provide an opportunity for the community to come together to develop and communicate a shared vision for what Thornhill should be in the future.
- Allow the RDKS to meet the requirements of current legislation.
- Provide elected officials and Staff with a clear direction and a framework to implement other plans and policies throughout the community.
- Be a key communication tool to the community, potential developers, senior government agencies, industry and business, First Nations and others.

## WHY GET INVOLVED?

The policies of the OCP will provide decision makers with a clear, shared vision of the community's future. Moving forward, all decisions made by the Regional Board and administration will be in support of OCP objectives and policy.

The OCP objectives and policy should be reflective of community input and intent, which is why it is important to get involved.

To ensure the planning process and subsequent OCP document align with the expectations of the community, we ask you to attend events taking place at various locations throughout Thornhill.

**This is your opportunity to provide input on the future of Thornhill now and for generations to come!**



### **Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine**

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