

Community Engaged Learning (CEL)

Saanich Peninsula Environment Coalition



Sean Bennett



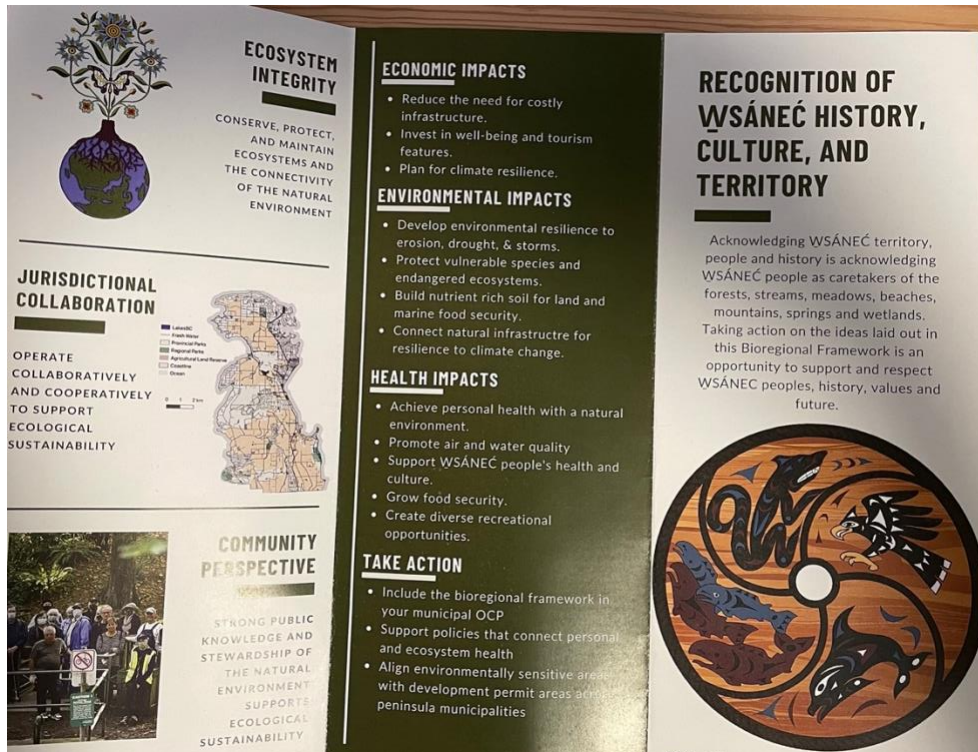
Introduction

Sean Bennett is a fifth-year geography student at the University of Victoria. When taking the 380-community mapping course this year, Sean learned and developed new skills that he will take forward with him post graduate. Sean has interest in the urban planning and community mapping in the field of Geography. I hope the viewers of this e portfolio can see the success and skills Sean has learned over the four-month period of the course.

Project Overview

The (SPEC) Saanich Environmental Peninsula Coalition project worked with community partner Anne-Marie Daniel. Anne-Marie is a part of the Coalition and was a voice of help, encouragement, and knowledge for the project. The project entails three sets of deliverables. The group wanted to focus within connectivity of the Saanich Peninsula. We wanted to deliver a product to the Coalition that will help them connect them to the community. With this idea our group was able to create three different deliverables. The first was a website that would be the backbone of all three deliverables and be a steppingstone for the Coalition to help show what they stand for. The other two deliverables were similar in style. The group made a brochure, as well as a large banner poster that can be shipped around to different events and information sessions.

Brochure



Website / Banner

Saanich Peninsula Environmental Coalition
Saanich Peninsula Environmental Coalition

HOME BIOREGIONAL FRAMEWORK POLICY CHANGES

Policy Changes

Recommended Approaches

Natural Asset Management

The Saanich Peninsula and the WSANEC nation will work side by side to create an inventory for the natural assets on the Saanich Peninsula. These parties will also work to restore lost assets along with creating new ones.

Jurisdictional Cooperation

Collaboration between North, Central and South Saanich along with the WSANEC nation is necessary for future planning throughout all OCP's within the Saanich Peninsula.

Planning for Connectivity

Allow parties to work together to map out areas of connectivity as well as add new features such as bogs, wetlands or waterways.

Allow supporting policies that promote healthy ecosystem connectivity.

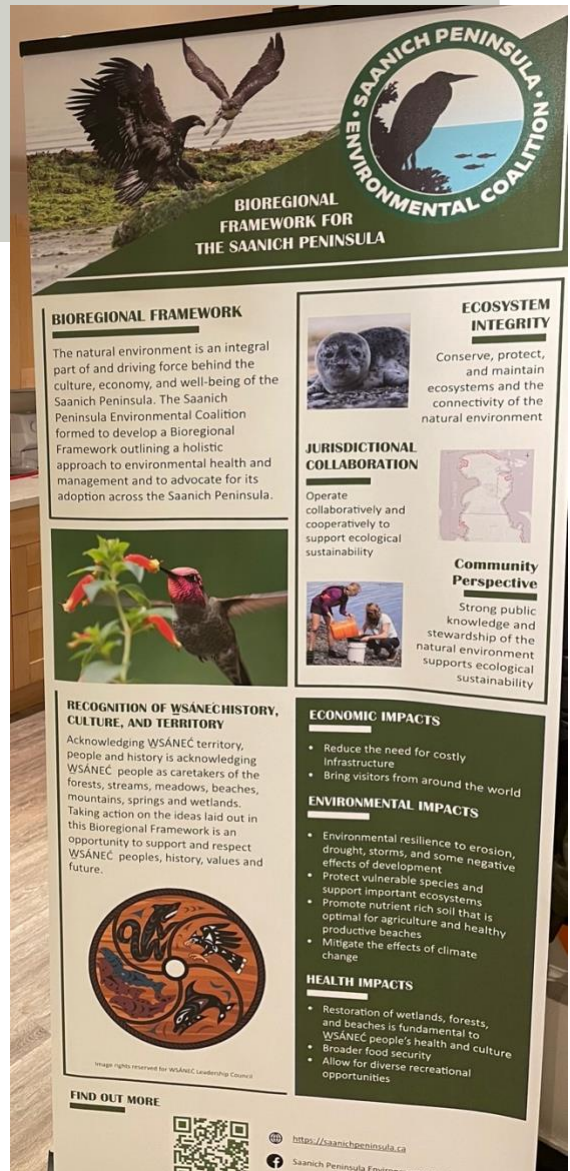
Sensitive Area Inventory

Parties can map and create sensitive area ecosystems that can be updated in response to climate change developments.

Apply a "no net loss" rule by working with the outside parties to acquire inventory that will help protect the sensitive areas.

Development Permit Areas





BIOREGIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE SAANICH PENINSULA

BIOREGIONAL FRAMEWORK
 The natural environment is an integral part of and driving force behind the culture, economy, and well-being of the Saanich Peninsula. The Saanich Peninsula Environmental Coalition formed to develop a Bioregional Framework outlining a holistic approach to environmental health and management and to advocate for its adoption across the Saanich Peninsula.

ECOSYSTEM INTEGRITY
 Conserve, protect, and maintain ecosystems and the connectivity of the natural environment

JURISDICTIONAL COLLABORATION
 Operate collaboratively and cooperatively to support ecological sustainability

Community Perspective
 Strong public knowledge and stewardship of the natural environment supports ecological sustainability

RECOGNITION OF WSANEC HISTORY, CULTURE, AND TERRITORY
 Acknowledging WSANEC territory, people and history is acknowledging WSANEC people as caretakers of the forests, streams, meadows, beaches, mountains, springs and wetlands. Taking action on the ideas laid out in this Bioregional Framework is an opportunity to support and respect WSANEC peoples, history, values and future.

ECONOMIC IMPACTS

- Reduce the need for costly infrastructure
- Bring visitors from around the world

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

- Environmental resilience to erosion, drought, storms, and some negative effects of development
- Protect vulnerable species and support important ecosystems
- Promote nutrient rich soil that is optimal for agriculture and healthy productive beaches
- Mitigate the effects of climate change

HEALTH IMPACTS

- Restoration of wetlands, forests, and beaches is fundamental to WSANEC people's health and culture
- Broader food security
- Allow for diverse recreational opportunities

FIND OUT MORE

<https://saanichpeninsula.ca>

Saanich Peninsula Environmental Coalition

Reflections

Anne-Marie has taught us about the environmental integrity of the Peninsula along with the perspective the community has on what is going on to the ecological sustainability. She has explained to us the importance of jurisdictional collaboration between the three Peninsula municipalities. With the helping hand she has given the group; we have been able to make recommendation to the policies that SPEC currently has. What this will do is hinder the degradation to the already, environment, economic and health impacts throughout the Peninsula.

The workshops provided by CEL helped our groups motivation and self-care during the period of the project. During the first session of workshops, we talked about how to talk to people of other ages and genders about the effects of climate change. This helped me as well as our group because our project dealt with the effects of climate change and our audience is a community of all ages and genders.

The skills or improved upon skills I have learned over this project include, website making, Presentation skills, communication skills with an organization, meeting and project planning, budget making. I believe the communication and project management skills that I have learned over the period of this course will allow me to continue a successful path as well as create more projects like these with having a greater influence.