



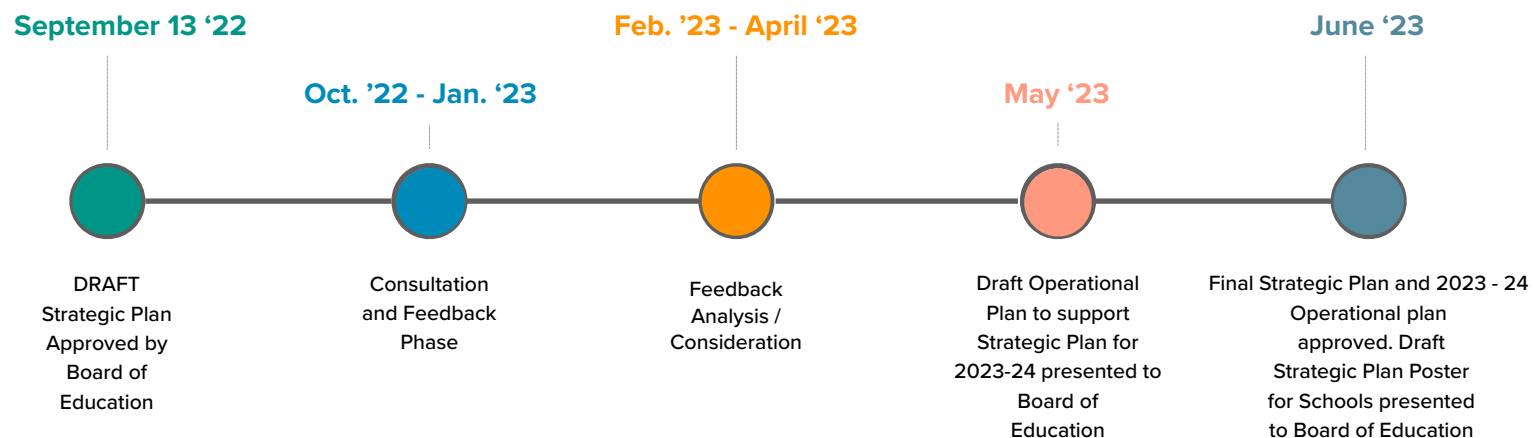
School District No. 50  
**HAIDA GWAI**

2022 - 2026

# STRATEGIC PLAN



# OUR STRATEGIC PLAN JOURNEY



We are honoured to live, learn, work, and play on the unceded ancestral lands of the Haida Nation .

## THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE HAIDA GWAI SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Board of Education of Haida Gwaii School District is committed to working together to support all learners across our island communities. To accomplish this, we have created this Strategic Plan to guide our work over the next several years. Hawaa to all who provided feedback and ideas specific to our three broad goals. You can find specific operational objectives and strategies to support our strategic direction on our website, along with the dates of public meetings where objectives will be reported on.

As the uniqueness of Haida Gwaii is captured through Haida Laws, they are integral to our strategic vision and so are shared throughout this document in the two main dialects of Haida language; Xaad Kil, spoken in Gaw Tlagée Old Massett (Blue Font) and Xaayda Kil spoken in HIGaagilda Skidegate (Gold Font).



**Dana Moraes - Chair**



**Ashley Currie- Trustee**



**Miranda Post - Trustee**



**Roeland Denooij - Vice Chair**



**Wilson Brown - Trustee**

**K'ULÁAGANG**  
**LAA GUU GA KANHLLNS**

## RESPONSIBILITY

We accept the responsibility to manage and care for the education of the children of Haida Gwaii and will work with others to ensure that the natural and cultural heritage of Haida Gwaii is passed on to future generations.





# HAIDA GWAI SCHOOL DISTRICT

School District 50 is honoured to call Haida Gwaii home. We benefit from our close relationship to the land, its cultures, and its history. Our unique islands and their rich history provide unparalleled learning and teaching opportunities. Our six schools spread across the island communities of Haida Gwaii proudly serve just under 500 students.

**YAHGUDANG**  
**YAHGUUDANG**

## RESPECT FOR ALL BEINGS

Speaking kindly and listening thoughtfully. We respect each other and all living things. We take only what we need, we give thanks, and we acknowledge those who behave accordingly.





# OUR VISION

A compassionate, inclusive education community that promotes, respects and nurtures Haida culture, dignity, respect, reciprocity, resilience, and personal success for all students.

**ISDA 'ISGYAAN DÍI GA 'ISDII**  
**ISDA AD DIIIGII ISDA**

## GIVING AND RECEIVING

Reciprocity is an essential practice for interactions with each other and the natural and spiritual worlds. We continually give thanks for the gifts that we receive.



# OUR MISSION

We honour reconciliation and the values of the people of Haida Gwaii, respecting Haida Laws, in support of success for every student.

**GND TLL'JUUS**  
**GND TLL'JUUS**

## Balance

The world is as sharp as the edge of a knife. Balance is needed in our interactions with the natural world. Care must be taken to avoid reaching a point of no return and to restore balance where it has been lost. All practices on Haida Gwaii must be sustainable.

# OUR PRIORITIES

## WORKING TOGETHER

## STUDENT WELL BEING

## EMBRACE UNIQUE CULTURE & TERRITORY

We have chosen these three broad overarching goals to guide our work. Through consultation and feedback, there was broad support for these goals with our employees and rightsholders wanting to see the specific objectives, strategies and success indicators within our Operational Plan. We are committed to publishing an annual operational plan to support our strategic priorities and encourage the public to view the 2023 – 24 Strategic Priorities in Action plan on our website. Reporting dates are included within the action plan for those that may be interested in specific objectives.

We thank all who thoughtfully provided us with comments, thoughts, and suggestions during our consultation process in the Fall of 2022.

**GIN 'WÁADLUWAAN GUD ÁHL KWÁAGIIDANG**  
**GINA 'WAADLUXAN GUD AD KWAAGID**

## INTERCONNECTEDNESS

Everything depends on everything else. Healthy ecosystems sustain culture, communities and an abundant diversity of life for generations to come.



# STUDENT WELL-BEING

We are committed to ensuring success for each of our learners. Specific objectives of this priority include:

- ✓ Focus on creating strong foundational competencies in literacy, numeracy, and social-emotional learning for ALL our learners.
- ✓ Strengthen early learning opportunities and partnerships.
- ✓ Ensure that each of our students graduates with dignity, purpose and options.
- ✓ Examine, reflect and address the inequities of outcomes for our Indigenous learners.
- ✓ Ensure that the diversity of our students is welcomed and honoured in every one of our schools and classrooms.



**TLL YAHDA**  
**TLL YAHDA**

## MAKING THINGS RIGHT

Acknowledging a conflict and working towards a mutually agreeable resolution.



# EMBRACE UNIQUE CULTURE & TERRITORY



We are fortunate to be learning on Haida Gwaii and are honoured to recognize the unique culture and lands of the Haida Nation.

✓ Embrace Indigenous perspectives and knowledge as integral to our learning.

✓ Create opportunities for learning that are unique to Haida Gwaii through connections to the land, sea, sky and its people through art, language, music and food.

✓ Support Haida voices within our schools and classrooms.

✓ Support 'Place-Based Learning' to take advantage of Haida Gwaii geography and culture to create authentic, meaningful and engaging personalized learning for students.

**IITL' TAAWEE ÚU ÍTL' XÍILAANG**  
**ID L'AA GA TAAGAAY ID GAN XILA GA**

## OUR FOOD IS OUR MEDICINE

Our traditional food nourishes our mind, soul, and body and connects us to our home of Haida Gwaii.

# WORKING TOGETHER



We are committed to working together with all Haida Gwaii communities, governments, organizations and families to enhance student learning.

✓ Commitment to strengthen communication and engagement with all rightsholders and knowledge keepers.

✓ Create opportunities for all Haida Gwaii School District staff to be recognized and valued for contributions to strategic objectives.

✓ Create opportunities for enhancing student voice to guide our work.

✓ Create opportunities for schools to collaborate and network to create student opportunities.

**GIN K'ADANGÁA GÍI UU TL'A KYÁANANGAA**  
**GINA K'AADANG.ŊGA GII UU TLL K'ANGUUDANG**

## SEEKING WISE COUNSEL

Haida elders teach the traditional ways and how to work in harmony with the natural world. Like the forests, the roots of all people are intertwined. Together we consider new ideas, traditional knowledge and scientific information that allow us to respond to change in keeping with culture, values and laws.



# SK'AD'A PRINCIPLES

Our Board of Education is committed to implementing conscious acts of reconciliation, including examining colonial systems and structures that impede success for all.

Although this work is complex and ongoing, the contribution to teaching and learning provided by Haida Scholar **Dr. Sara Davidson** and her father **Robert Davidson**, in their book, **Potlatch as Pedagogy**, provides us with a set of Haida learning principles from which to frame our strategic work. The Davidsons share stories and examples of how Haida elders managed to retain aspects of cultural knowledge, despite numerous obstacles. Robert Davidson's reflections of how he gained knowledge from his elders are used by Sara Davidson to frame and identify nine Indigenous principles that contributed to Haida practices and knowledge being preserved. The nine *sk'ad'a* Principles teach us "from where learning emerges, how learning occurs, and what learning honours." They are:

- Learning *emerges* from strong relationships.
- Learning *emerges* from authentic experiences.
- Learning *emerges* from curiosity.
- Learning *occurs* through observation.
- Learning *occurs* through contribution.
- Learning *occurs* through recognizing and encouraging strengths.
- Learning *honours* the power of the mind.
- Learning *honours* history and story.
- Learning *honours* aspects of spirituality and protocol.





## **SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 50 HAIDA GWAI**

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**HAW'AA  
HAAWA**

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