



Stories and
Lessons from the
Metlakatla
Experience

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Indigenous Forum for Cumulative Effects | February 5, 2020

Opening Remarks



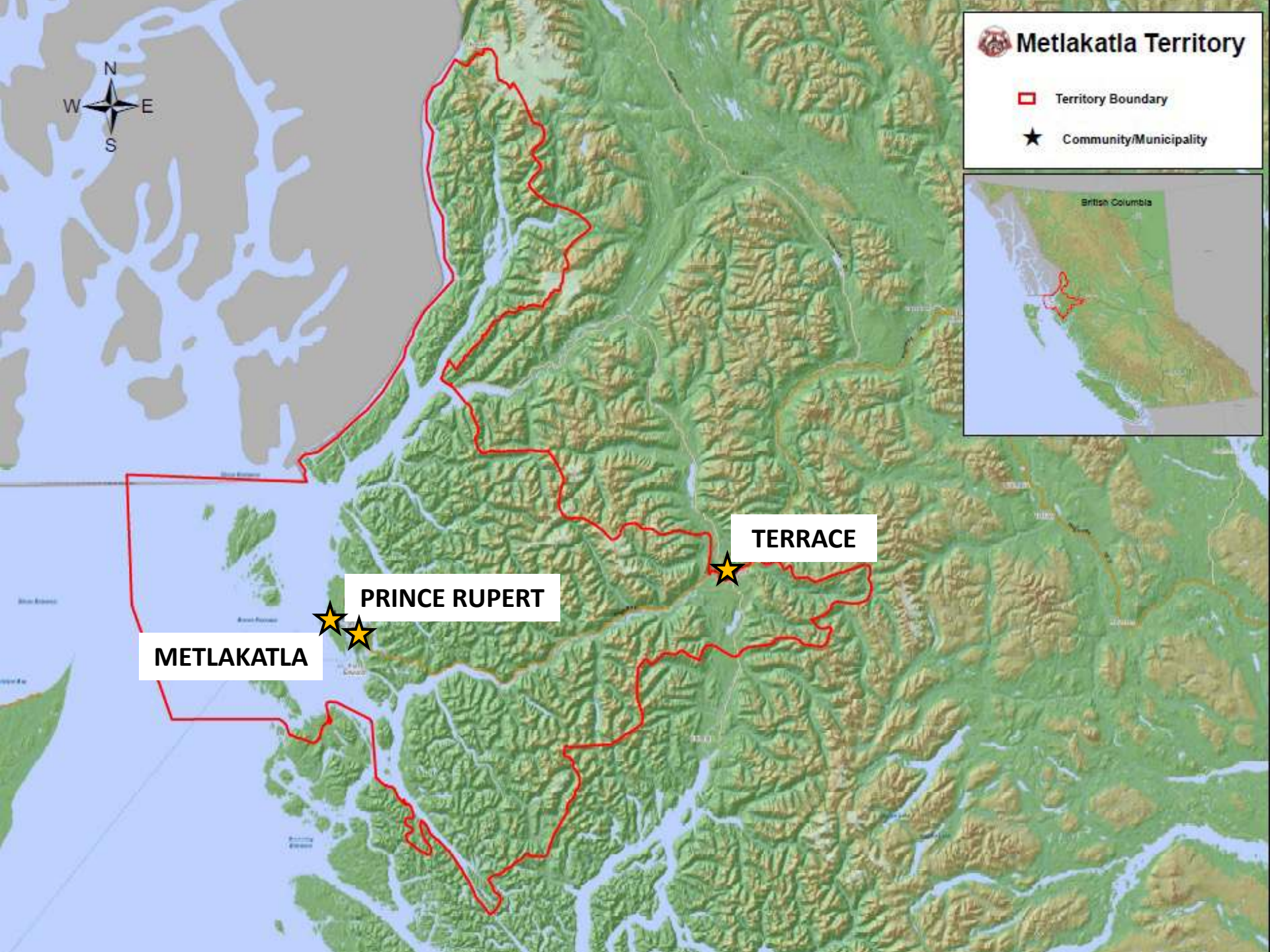


Neg. no. PA 83142 Tsimshian. Mission Church and Bishops Residence,
(Met-lah-kat-lah, B.C., 1899.
Public Archives Canada.



Metlakatla First Nation

Metlakatla is a progressive Tsimshian community located in a highly productive environment near Prince Rupert, BC, on the north coast. Metlakatla means 'saltwater pass' in Sm'algyax, the language of the Coast Ts'msyen.



 **Metlakatla Territory**

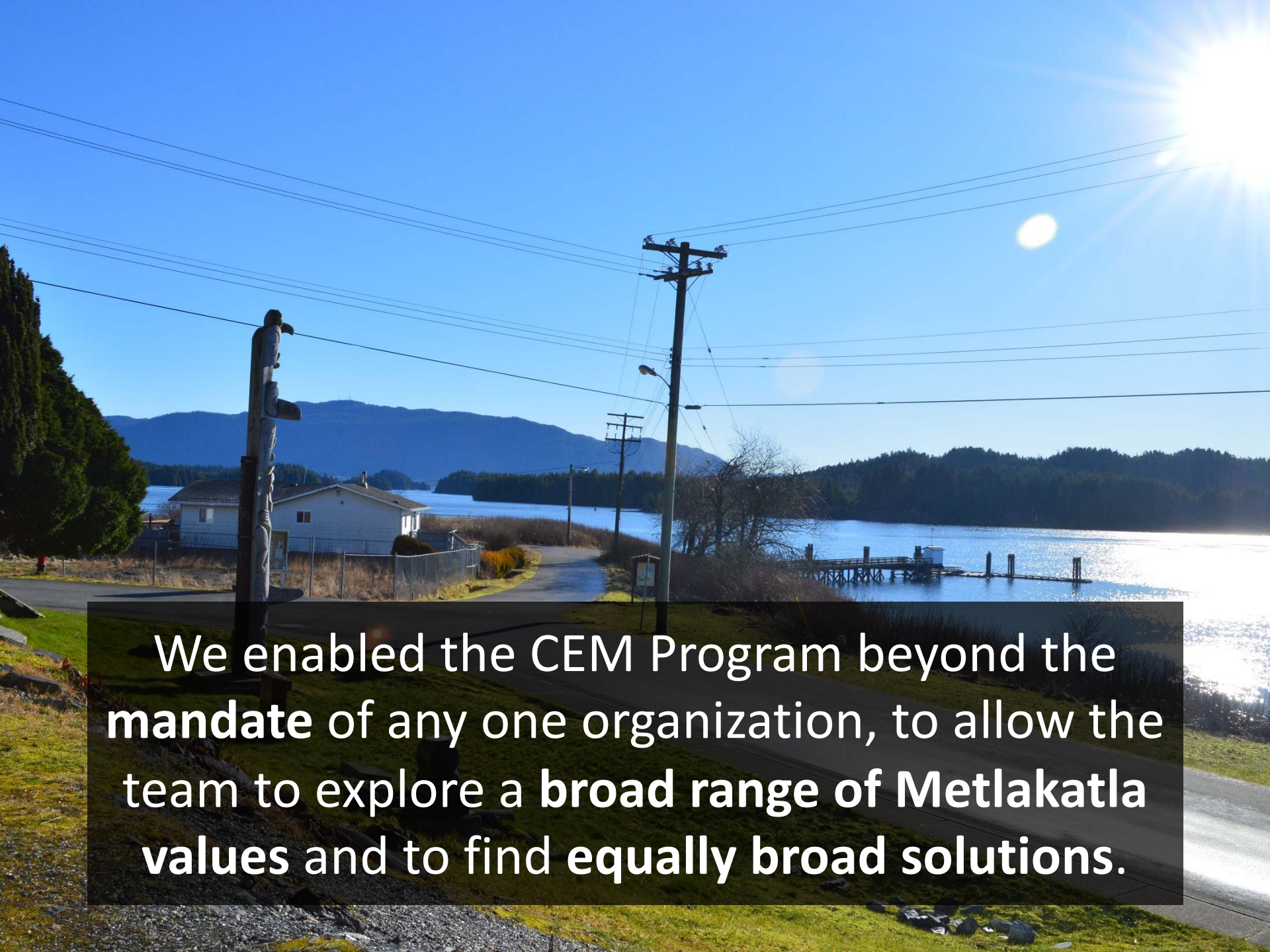
 Territory Boundary

 Community/Municipality





“What are the **combined impacts** of all these developments on **our territory and people**?”
and “What are we doing to **understand** and
manage those impacts?”

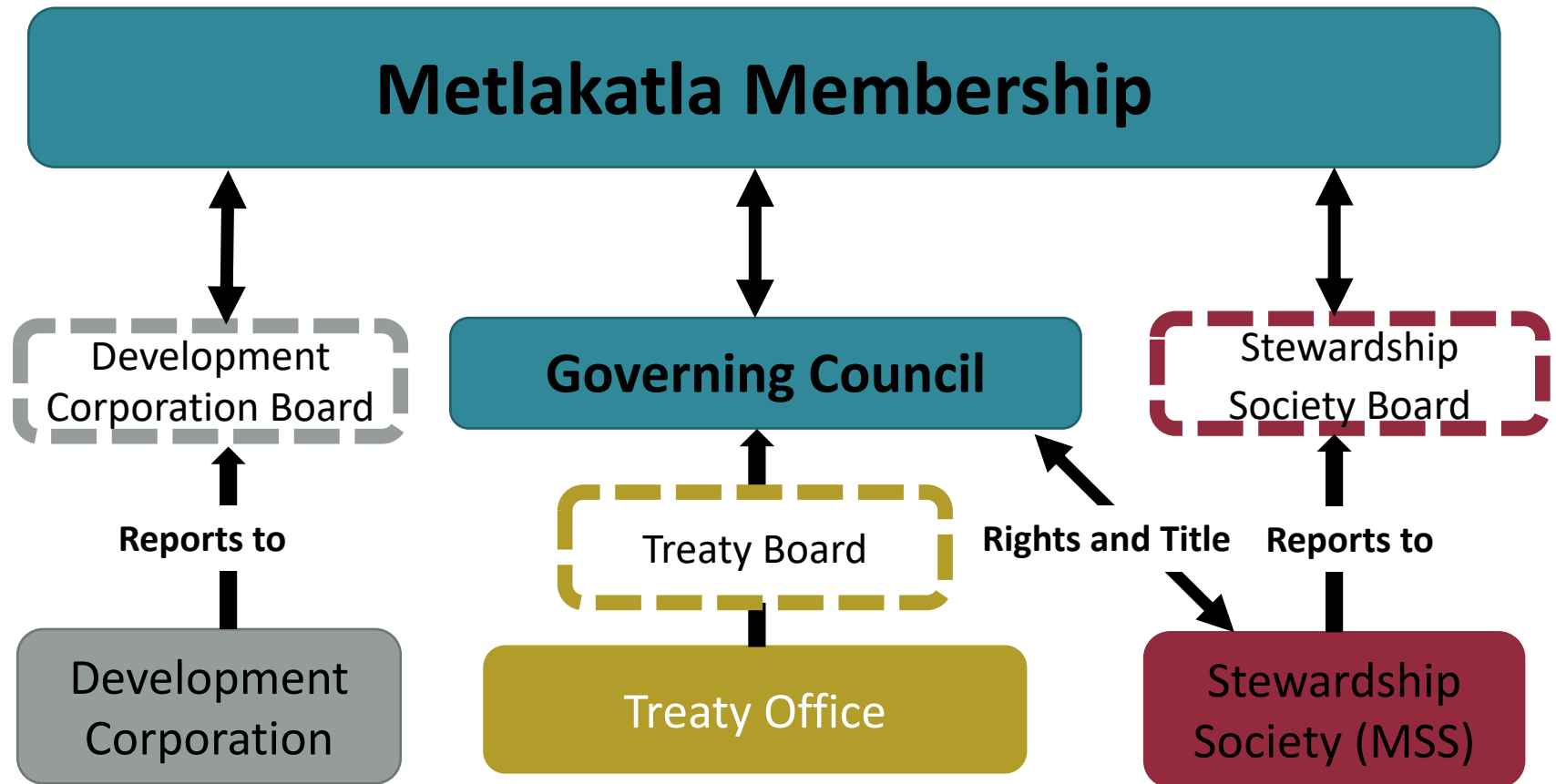


We enabled the CEM Program beyond the **mandate** of any one organization, to allow the team to explore a **broad range of Metlakatla values** and to find **equally broad solutions**.

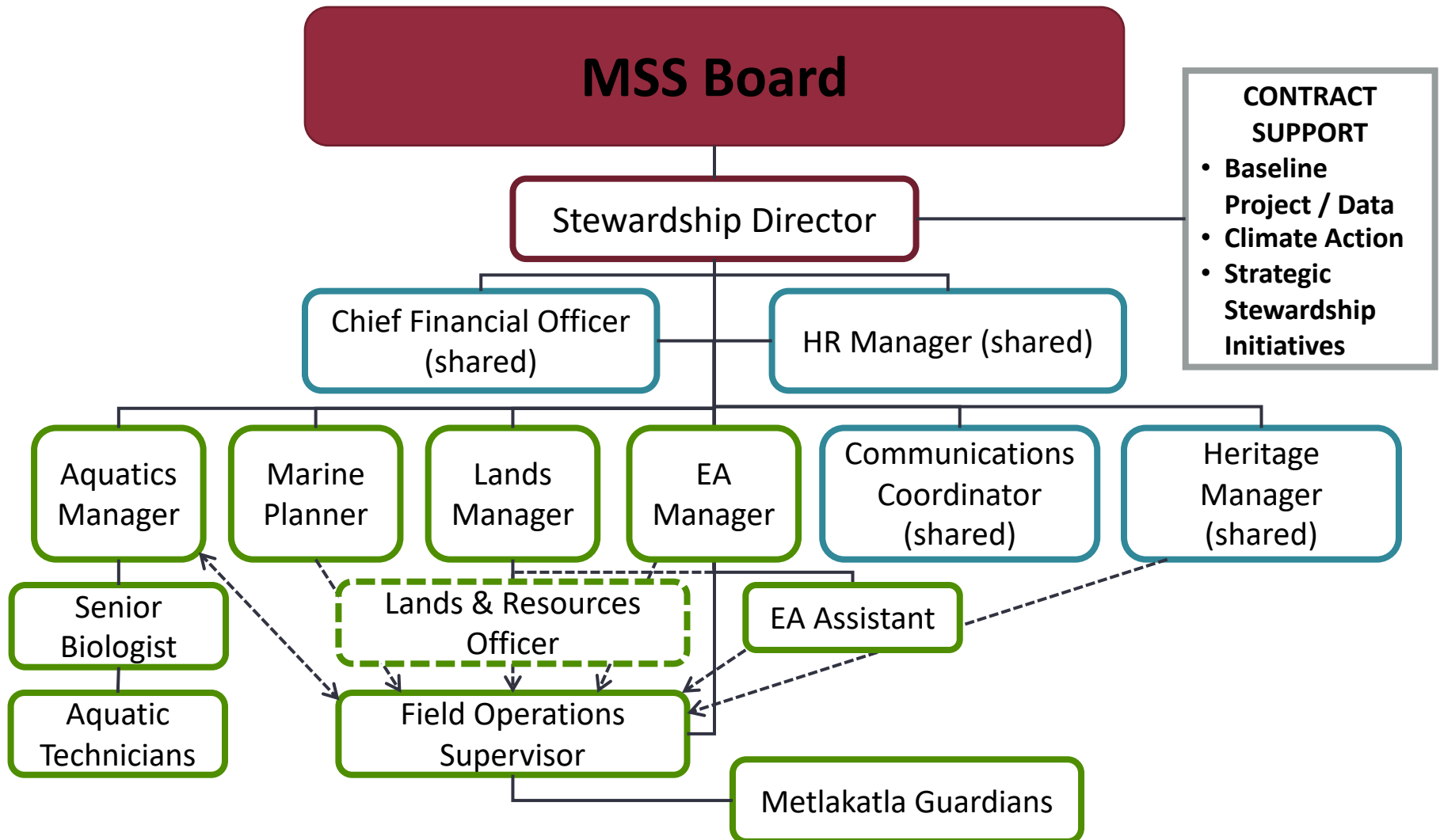
Starting Out



Broad Metlakatla Organizational Structure



Metlakatla Stewardship Society (MSS) Organizational Structure



Changing Development Context on BC's North Coast

LNG Gold Rush (2012 to 2017)

7+ Major Projects

- Majority related to LNG industry
- Ex. LNG Canada

Prince Rupert

Kitimat

11+ Major Projects

- Majority related to LNG industry
- Ex. Pacific NorthWest LNG, Prince Rupert LNG

Port Expansion (2017+)

- Many LNG facilities have been cancelled
- 3 LNG projects received EA approvals
- Port undergoing expansion (propane, coal)
- CN doubling rail near Prince Rupert
- Marine bunkering service

Forming the CEM Team

SFU



Key Groups:

- Innovative and open First Nation community partner
- Community-based research capacity
- Content expertise

Cumulative Effects
and Decision
Analysis Experts

Guiding Principles of Metlakatla CEM Program

The CEM Program must be **Culturally Relevant**.

CEM is a **Program not a Project**.

Internal and External Collaboration is necessary.

Learning Message: What we lacked in available guidance, we made up for in a **willingness** to begin the work, remain **engaged** with the community and develop strategies to **navigate uncertainty**.

Importance of Partnerships

- Member values and priorities are the core of the program
- First Nation-led initiative that partnered with SFU for technical capacity
- Internal collaboration among all Metlakatla departments critical when working with diverse values
- Led to external engagement opportunities with other Nations, government and City of Prince Rupert



Benefits to the Metlakatla First Nation and its Membership

Recognition

Leveraging CEM Results

Capacity Building

Metlakatla-Specific Data Collection

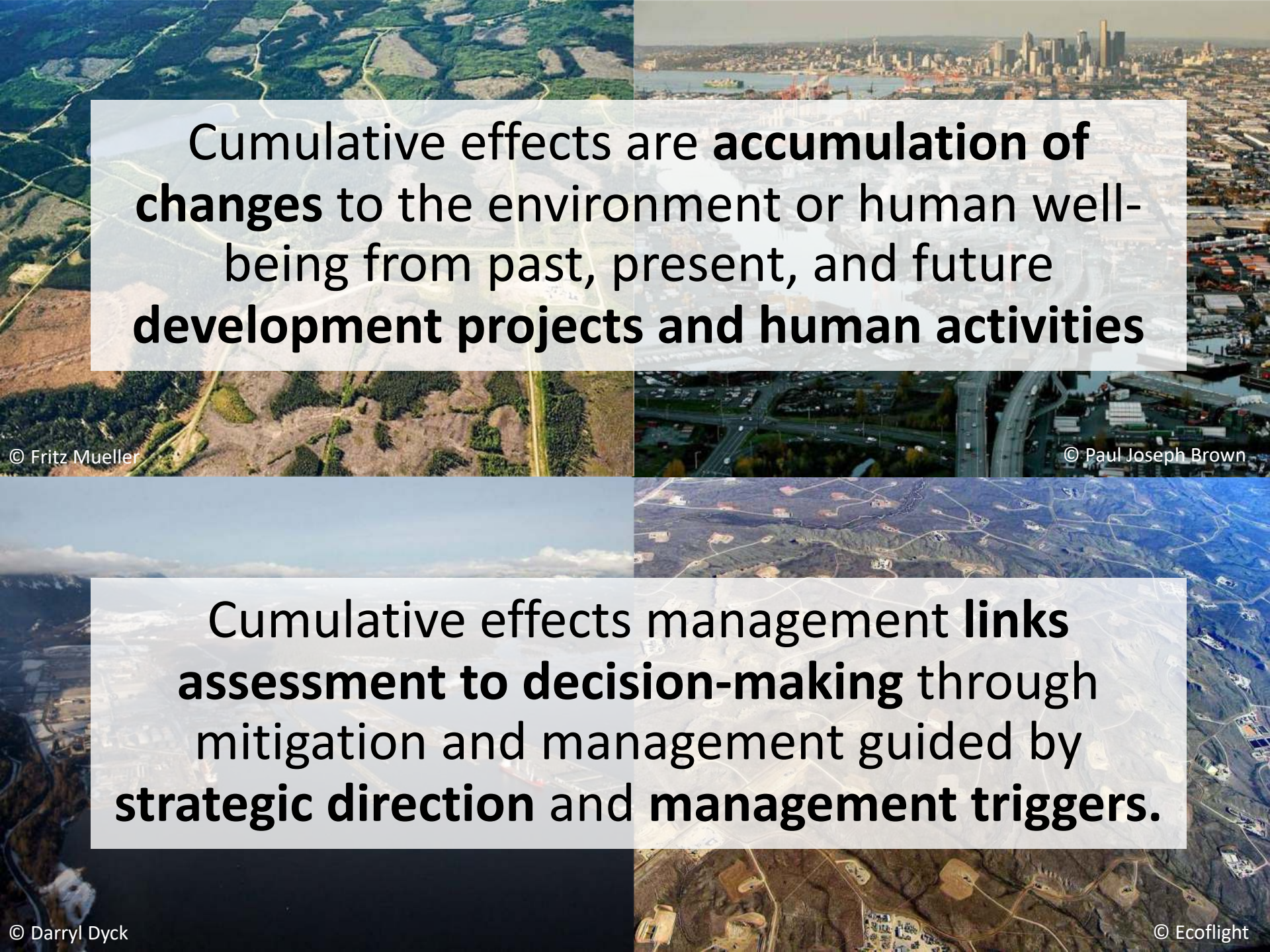
Raising the Bar for Resource

Management



Metlakatla CEM Program





Cumulative effects are **accumulation of changes** to the environment or human well-being from past, present, and future **development projects and human activities**

© Fritz Mueller

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Cumulative effects management **links assessment to decision-making** through mitigation and management guided by **strategic direction and management triggers.**

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Metlakatla CEM Program

PHASE

1

Develop CEM
Framework and
Identify Priority
Values and
Indicators

PHASE

2

Assess Current
Condition of
Priority Values

PHASE

4

Monitoring,
Management
and Mitigation

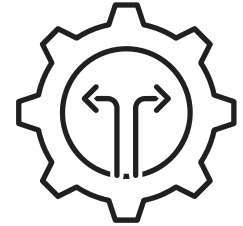
PHASE

3

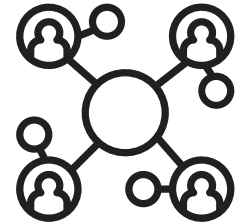
Establish
Management
Triggers



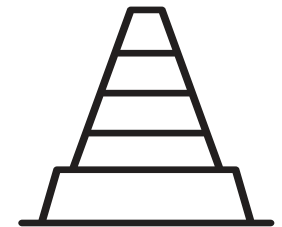
VALUES-FOCUSED



IMPLEMENTABLE



INTERDISCIPLINARY



EMBRACES
UNCERTAINTY

Values Foundation

**Cultural
Identity**



Governance



Environment



**Economic
Prosperity**



**Social/
Health**



Youth
Participation &
Level of Effort

Stewardship
Ability

Population
Density

High School
Completion
Rate

Core Housing
Need

**Current Condition & Future
Trend**



Broad Desired Goal



**Tiered Management
Triggers and Actions**





10 Priority Values & 4 Pilot Values

PHASE 1

Priority Value	Indicator
Chinook Salmon	Population abundance Critical juvenile habitat
Butter Clams (Bivalves)	Population density
FSC Activity	Youth participation rate Level of effort
Ability to Steward	Constructed scale
Individual Health	Diabetes prevalence Hypertension prevalence
Access to Health Services	Ambulatory care sensitive conditions
Personal Safety	Crime severity index
Housing	Core housing need
Economic Self-sufficiency	High school completion rate
Wealth Distribution	Income equality between low and middle earners

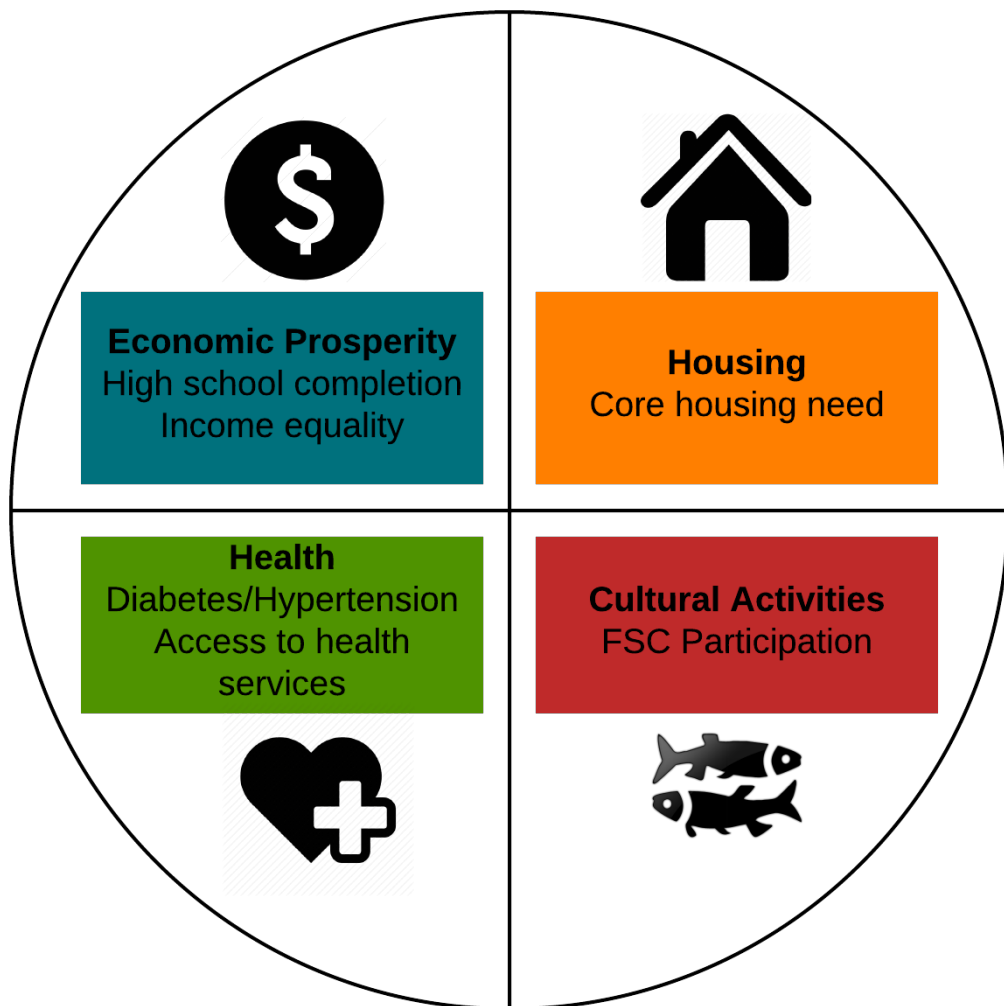
Learning Message: Start with fewer values to test approaches and methods but have a plan to build from there. **Science, traditional and local knowledge, values, and implementation** play important roles when selecting priority values.



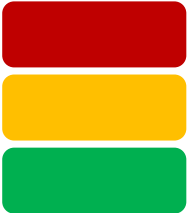


Metlakatla Membership Census

PHASE 2



- Census used to collect consistent data specific to Metlakatla First Nation
 - Members 15 and over living in traditional territory
- Census administered from 2015-2017
 - Door-to-door
 - Online option
 - Metlakatla-SFU teams
- Goal: Single survey instrument for Metlakatla to reduce survey fatigue



Tiered Management Triggers

PHASE 3

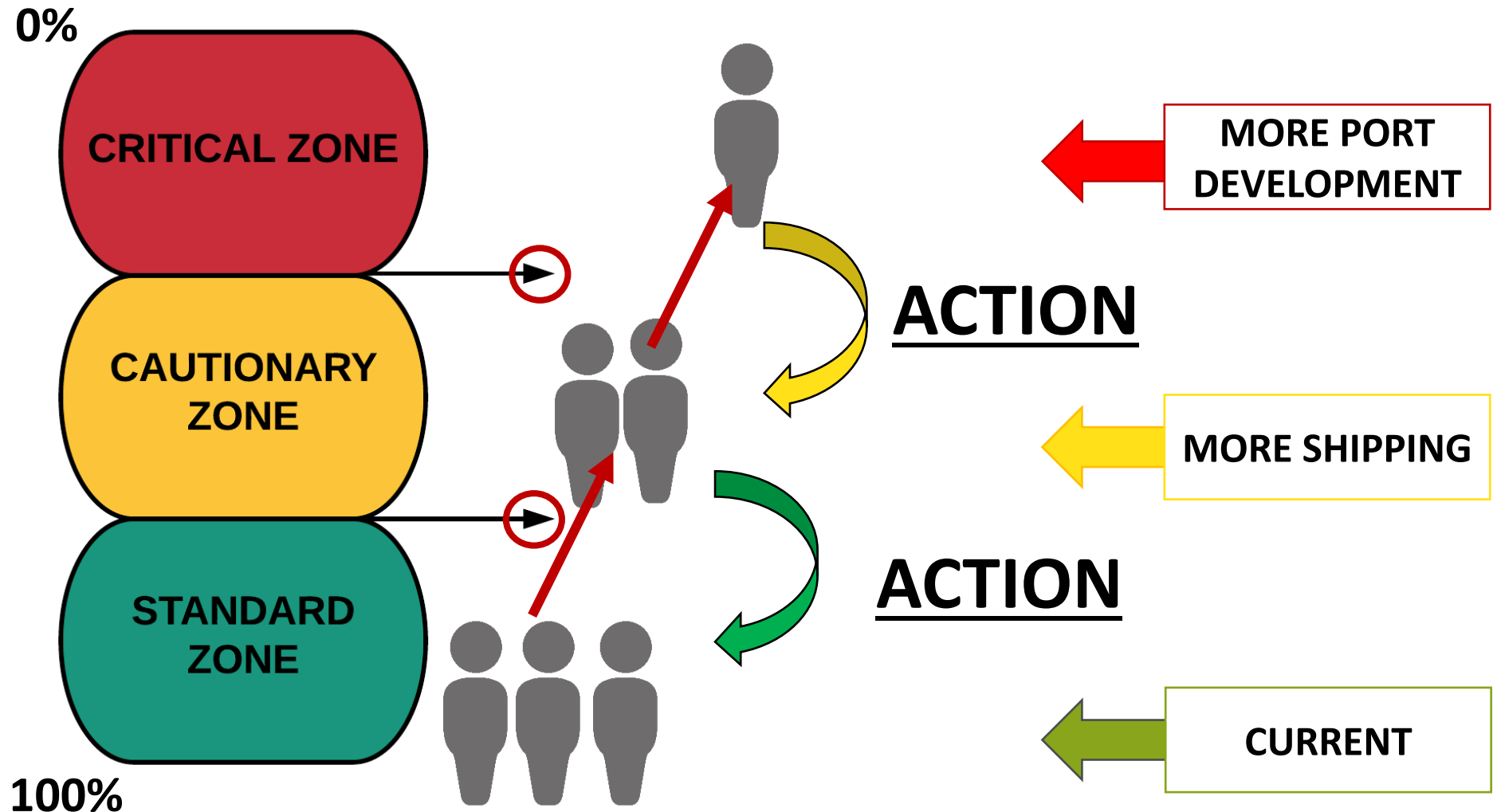
Series of progressive, quantitative markers that reflect increasing degrees of concern about the condition of a value





Management Triggers

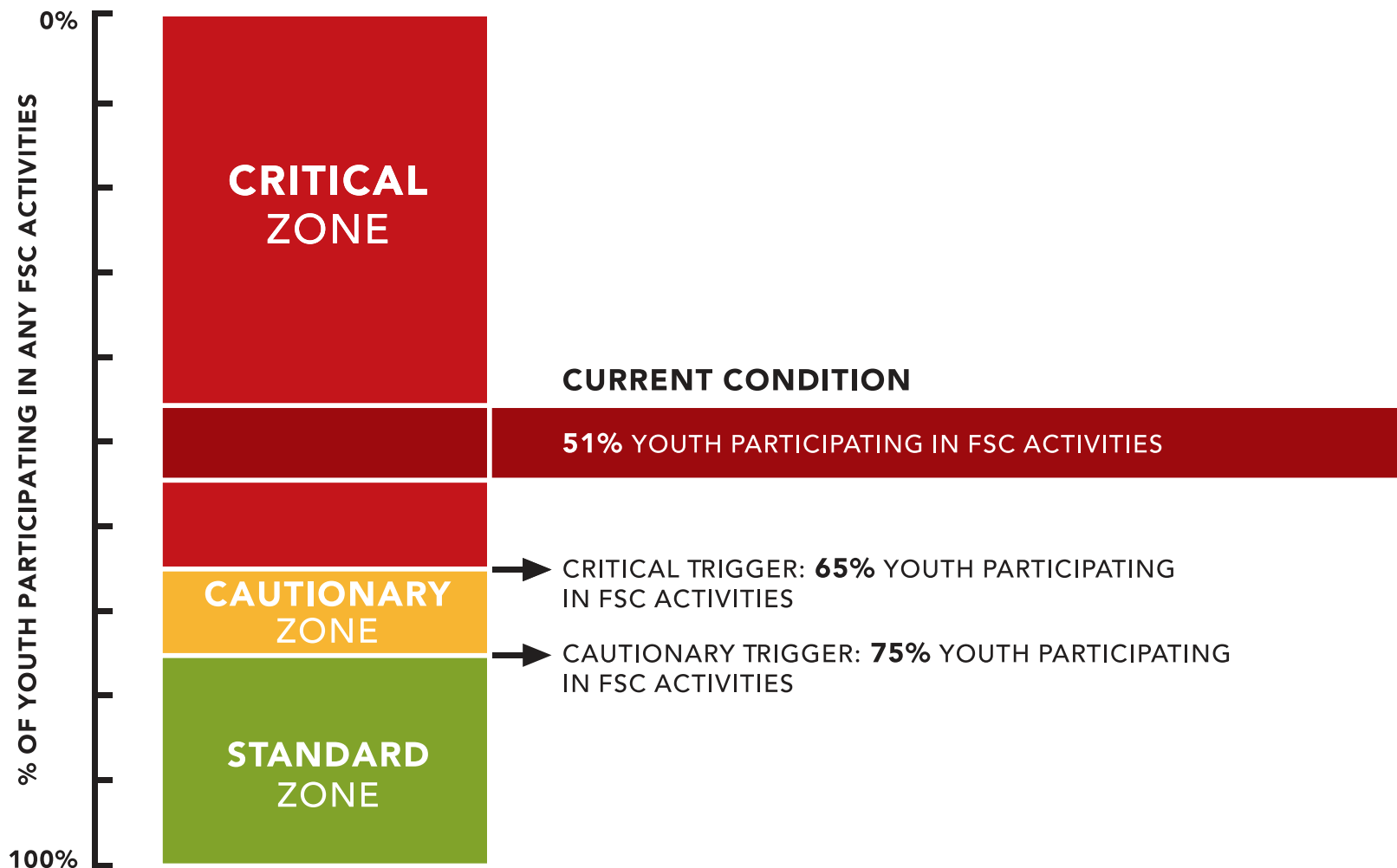
FSC Activity – Youth Participation





Management Triggers

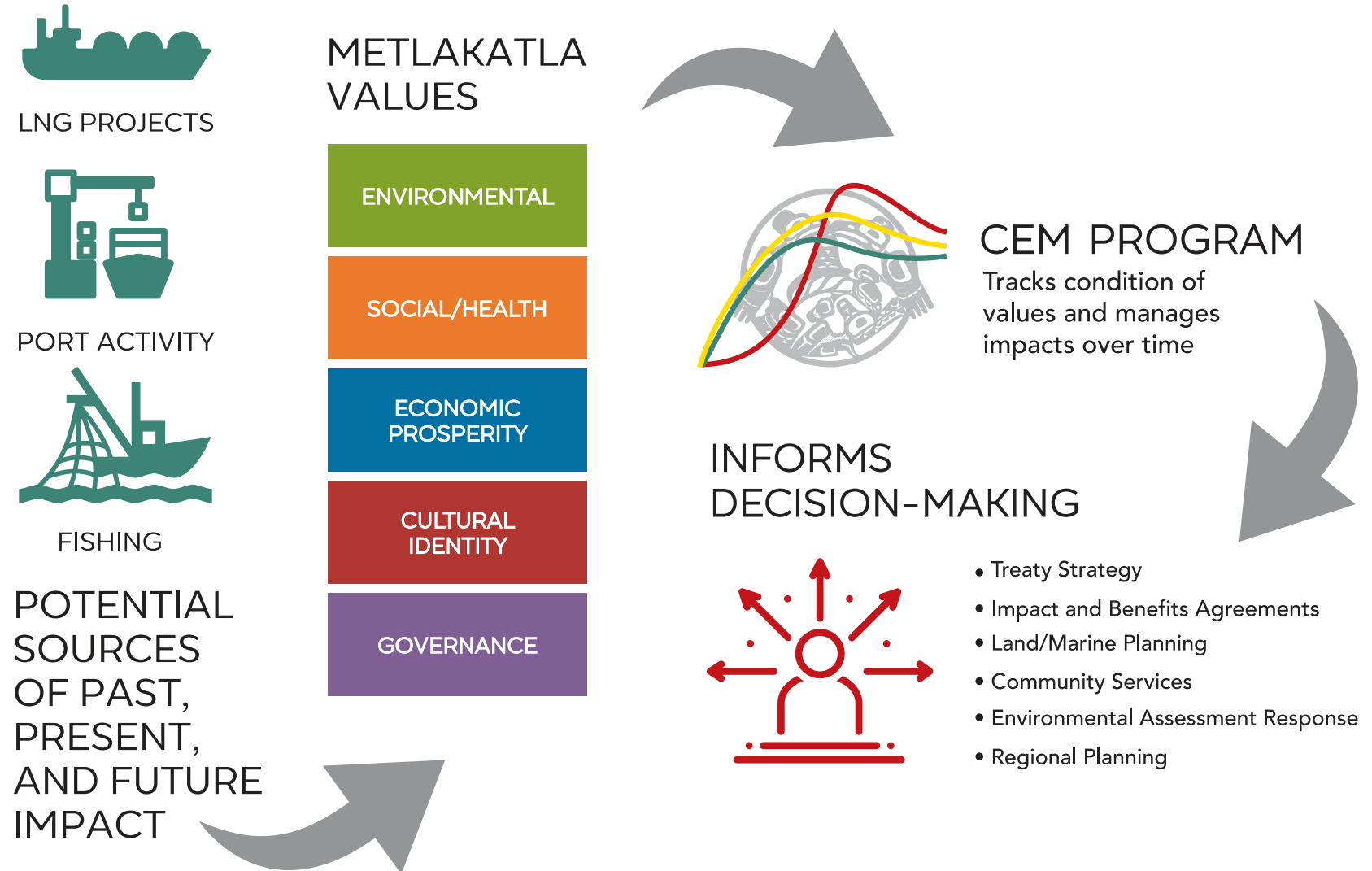
FSC Activity – Youth Participation



Learning Message: Rarely is perfect information available about the condition of a priority value. We believe setting management triggers is a **process of social choice**, informed by the best available information and data where available.



Looking Forward



Closing Remarks

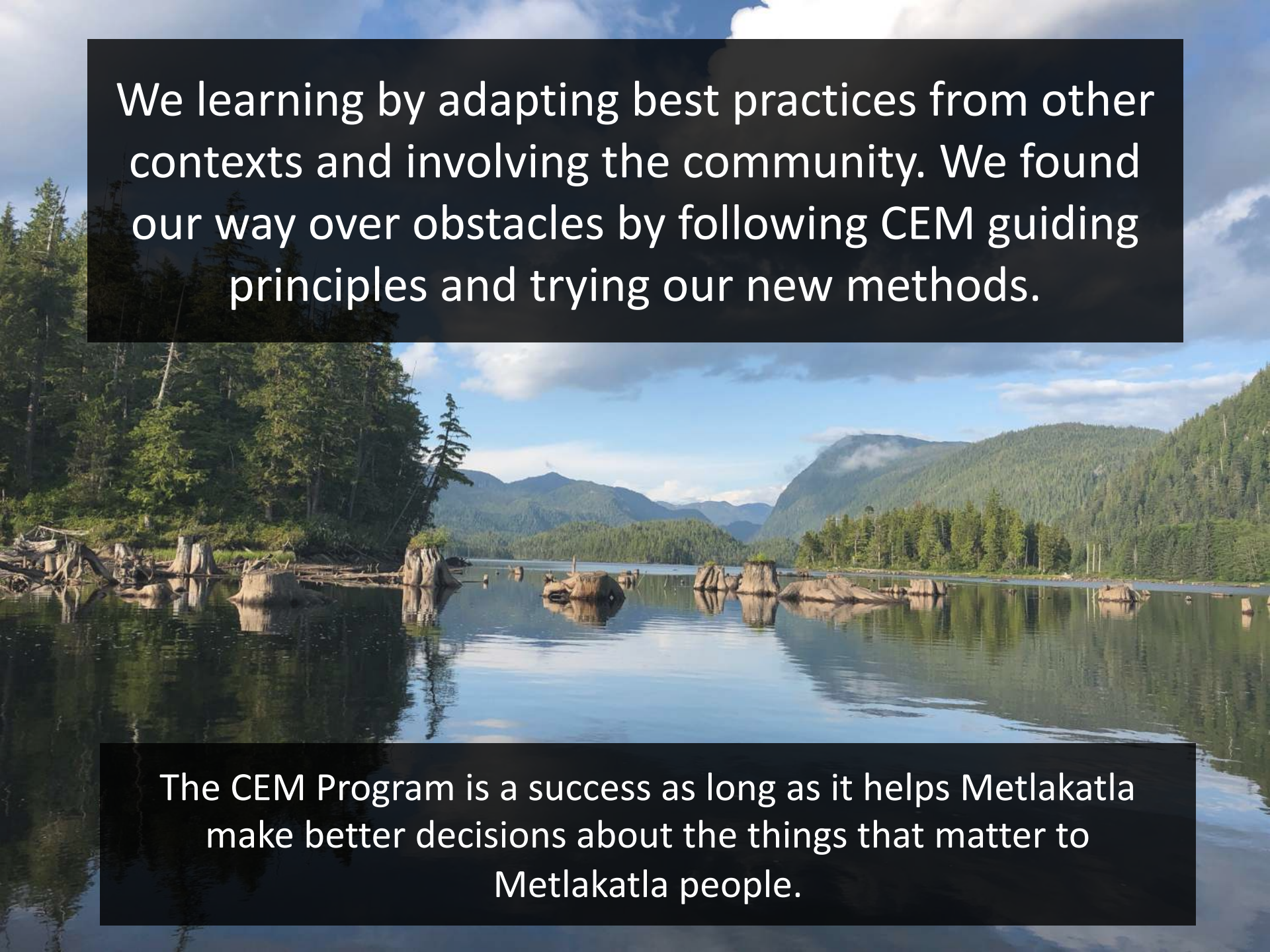




Metlakatla CEM Program is rooted in Metlakatla's values. Community members, staff and leadership were involved in every step of the way - selecting values, choosing indicators, collecting data, setting management triggers and developing strategies.





A scenic landscape of a calm lake reflecting the surrounding forest and mountains under a blue sky with clouds. The water is still, acting as a perfect mirror for the dense evergreen forest on the left and the distant, misty mountains. Several large, weathered tree stumps and logs are scattered in the water, their forms also reflected. The sky is a mix of light blue and soft white clouds.

We learning by adapting best practices from other contexts and involving the community. We found our way over obstacles by following CEM guiding principles and trying our new methods.

The CEM Program is a success as long as it helps Metlakatla make better decisions about the things that matter to Metlakatla people.



Any Questions?

Acknowledgements

- Metlakatla First Nation (All photo credits)
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- Mitacs Accelerate and SSHRC
- Indigenous Centre for Cumulative Effects

