

skeena 2050

What we heard, in words

Final version / 2014.12.10



skeena2050: an introduction

In the first half of 2014, skeena2050 gathered volunteers to go door-to-door across the Skeena region and speak with people about the issues that matter to them.

Our intention was to ask thought-provoking questions; listen carefully to what we heard; and share our findings with the community.

The response was phenomenal. More than 80% of people who were invited to participate agreed to do so. In total, our volunteers spoke with more than 600 people from Prince Rupert to Houston, in conversations ranging from a few minutes to half an hour.

The voices we heard through skeena2050 paint a vivid picture of what people in our communities are thinking and feeling. If there's an easy headline message, it's that we have more in common than we often acknowledge.

But there's another lesson with more significance: our neighbours are ready and willing to engage in thoughtful dialogue about building a better future. All it takes to spark conversation is for us to step up and listen—genuinely, respectfully and without judgement.

We hope that this basic intention of skeena2050 will continue to echo even after the project comes to a close.

In the meantime, we invite you to tune in to what we heard.

1. The document, *What we heard, by the numbers*, looks at responses which could be counted in some way, and presents the results in chart form.
2. This document contains a selection of responses we received in answer to four open-ended questions (numbers 1,3,4 and 7). At skeena2050.ca, you can also find the complete version, with about 2,400 answers in total.
3. Last, but not least, we invited our volunteers to talk about their door-knocking experience on camera. Clips in which they share stories, insights and ideas can be streamed at skeena2050.ca.

All 644 skeena2050 interviews followed a script of 7 questions:

1. What's important to you and your family?
2. How do you get your voice included in decisions that affect you?
3. Do you feel the community and region are headed in the right direction?
4. Do you think there is a tipping point with regard to development?
5. What local foods do you eat?
6. Is there an outstanding land question in B.C.?
7. What would you like to see for the future of the region?

Prologue: participants, process, results

How did skeena2050 select participants?

Mostly at random. Our aim was to engage people from as many parts of the community as possible. It was also important for us to hear from people whose voices aren't included in other venues. This is why our volunteers took time to go door-to-door and meet people at their homes. (Some people were also invited to participate at farmers' markets and other events.) The chart below shows the number of participants in each community.

How was information recorded?

Most of our questions were open-ended, so volunteers took handwritten notes, summarising what they heard. The responses to questions 1,3,4 and 7 shown in this document are a reproduction of the answers our volunteers wrote down.

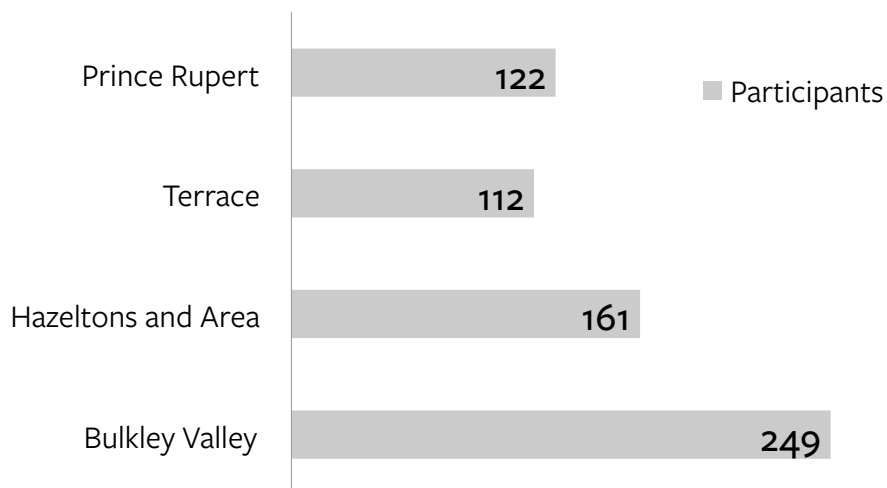
How are the results being used?

Results are being distributed to skeena2050 participants, to volunteers, and to the two host organisations: SkeenaWild and SWCC. In addition, all our documents will be available at skeena2050.ca. We hope that people who care about the region will listen to the collective wisdom contained by skeena2050—and be inspired to start more conversations.

[P.1] Participant count — 644

Total number of people who participated in skeena2050

By accepting an invitation and speaking with a volunteer



What's important to you and your family?

110 responses, randomly selected from a total of 626, are shown here. For the rest, visit skeena2050.ca.

Terrace Family. Environment. Small town lifestyle. Health.

Terrace Small town life.

Smithers Jobs, shopping

Smithers Money and health

Telkwa Sustainable future--not doing what we are doing now. We are spending our community and natural capital and can't do that indefinitely. Government is too focused on business and money.

Kispiox Valley Fantastic people in our community. My family. Education from elementary to post-secondary is affordable and we have equal access. Social and inclusive community.

Prince Rupert Being left alone, hiking, nature, work, biking trails, entertainment for youth

Hazelton The quietness. Family. Grand children. Church community. Town office, library, restaurants. Know and value neighbours. Feel safe. Walks.

Smithers Safe community.

South Hazelton My kids, life, school, my environment, family and friends

Two Mile Able to have access to needs. To live in a good way and promote equality.

Smithers Staying healthy, happy and active

Old Hazelton The river--I've always lived near a river! Community--essential for raising global citizens kids/youth. Inter-generational connections

Hazelton My whole family cares about being together. Husband works in town and I can work part time in town. We have supper together, bike, garden, hunt, have adventures in water.

South Hazelton Family survival, affordable living and clean environment

Smithers Thinking long-term, what will affect my kids.

Smithers Small, tight community. Local culture. Good people.

Two Mile Health, wellness of community, yourself and surroundings.

Telkwa God, lifestyle, relationships, health, Canadian citizenship.

Prince Rupert Outdoors to remain the same. Like the trails. Educational opportunities

Gitsegukla Smoking fish, live off the land, harvesting traditionally, crafting, sobriety- from alcohol. Education. Healthy inner spirit. Gitxsan legends- youth need to know their roots.

Smithers Healthy, diverse environment. Similar landscape over time

Terrace My surrounding area, food in my fridge and a roof over my head

Smithers People in my life. Community amenities. Financial state. Family. Future direction.

Prince Rupert Clean air, and water. Free access to public lands. Strong public school system. Jobs that produce a living wage.

Hazelton Being together. Food to eat. Healthy environment.

Smithers Safe place to sleep; learning from past experiences and lessons; understanding people's values and culture

Quick We are farmers - so our land and environment. Organic produce and meat. Pasture feed meat in the region. Ban on GMOs or at least labelling of GMOs. Protection against airborne pesticides and killing of bees. Wilderness preservation.

Q1

Q3

Q4

Q7

What's important to you and your family?

110 responses, randomly selected from a total of 626, are shown here. For the rest, visit skeena2050.ca.

Two Mile	To have a place for my family to flee. A sanctuary. That is what this place is to me. I am an American and we bought property here to have a safe, clean place to go.
Prince Rupert	Job security. Money.
Terrace	Fishing and outdoor recreation.
Prince Rupert	A nice friendly place to live: clean air, good water, friendly people, no/low crime
Hazelton	Health. Jobs. Gathering information. Bingo. The river.
Hazelton	Healthy lifestyle, food, environment, income, facilities, health care, education.
Terrace	Nature and access to recreation
Prince Rupert	Economic prosperity for all, being careful of environment and FN issues
Telkwa	Environment, which includes a lot. Would like to see more solar heat, and wind power. Efficient incinerators could solve some problems with waste. Economy is also important. Voting system needs change
Smithers	Making change. Contributing to a better community. "Not co-habitators but rather members of community."
Prince Rupert	Quality of water, air. Weather. Yrban density. Economic opportunity (though this is not #1).
Gitanmaax	Community and culture. Not just people and relationships but the environment. As Gitksan we are attached to the land -- a spiritual connection which had sustained us for thousands of years. This goes hand in hand with our culture. Our identity is connected to our self-esteem. To live in harmony, respect, sharing, caring and integrity.
Smithers	Community, engaged citizens, diversity of people, helpful neighbours, clean water, wild salmon, input into decision making processes
Telkwa	Transportation and road safety so I can see my family; personal and regional power for self-determination; secondary education opportunities; access to health care
Terrace	Concerned about projects and quality of drinking water. Healthy economy and environment and healthcare.
Telkwa	Safety, freedom
Terrace	Church, outdoor activities, foraging for wild foods.
Telkwa	Job security, clean environment, access to amenities, small population
Prince Rupert	Community not getting too big, community connections
Telkwa	Happy welcoming home. Enough money to be comfy. Good friends.
Hazelton	Quality of life, able to grow own food, community. Control over ability to grow food- no pesticides, no gmo.
Prince Rupert	Environmental conservation. Social cohesion - Ability to live well together. Engaged community.
Terrace	A healthy environment
Smithers	Country, region, community
South Hazelton	Have a place to raise kids safe. Organic living, grow my garden. Drug free. Healthy community.
Thornhill	Seniors activities
Smithers	Happiness. Making ethical choices.

Q1

Q3

Q4

Q7

What's important to you and your family?

110 responses, randomly selected from a total of 626, are shown here. For the rest, visit skeena2050.ca.

Old Hazelton Sustainability. Not just money driven. Thinking about next generation. Good governance with a conscious looking at the long term thinking about "good" values. Good values: survival of fellow man, conservation, and planet.

New Hazelton That the river keeps running and the salmon keep coming back. The environment. Clean air and water. We need air to breathe and water to drink!

Terrace Cleanliness, wilderness, outdoor recreation, fresh air.

Telkwa Christian faith. Economics--having jobs for people is important.

Hazelton Environment maintained & respected. Development done responsibly with the community consulted. Healthy future.

New Hazelton Being able to survive day to day where I am - I don't plan to ever move. My family is all grown up and independent, it's just me and my husband. If he dies I need to be able to live here by myself. Our mortgage is almost paid off now.

Houston Having a positive impact in the world; leaving the world a better place; environmental and social justice

Hazelton I like to help out my family in training programs. I get a place to live, money and counselling service. I can use money to help out my family.

Telkwa Safety, health, happiness

Terrace Economy, jobs and fulfilling a responsibility to the environment.

Smithers Good environment for people and critters

New Hazelton Spending time together. House. Enjoy the outdoors. Wild foods. Recreation.

New Hazelton Community, outdoor activities

Prince Rupert Sustainable living, having a place to rent, having a house you're not going to be kicked out of

Hazelton Connection to community, peacefulness.

Terrace Having a place to live. Communication. Being involved in community. Being informed.

Telkwa Privacy - having space from others. Being outside, camping, fishing. Clean, beautiful environment - protected for my grandkids.

Terrace Clean air, clean water, recycling (managing household waste responsibly)

Smithers Clean and healthy environment, safety, society that has equality, community diversity, educational opportunities, overall quality of life

South Hazelton Time together, good food, community, healthy lifestyle.

South Hazelton Clean air, food and water. Jobs

Smithers Salmon. Long-term sustainable harvest of salmon.

Terrace Everything!

Smithers Clean water; local food.

Smithers Education; getting jobs through smart resource development; to not forget the wealth we do have.

Prince Rupert Clean air; good standard of living, though nothing too ambitious; we need progress but don't want too much to change.

Q1

Q3

Q4

Q7

What's important to you and your family?

110 responses, randomly selected from a total of 626, are shown here. For the rest, visit skeena2050.ca.

Prince Rupert	Job creation, more development downtown
Telkwa	Good health, good place to live, wealth enough to get by
New Hazelton	Having sustainable and healthy future. Family; includes all of humanity.
Hazelton	Kids to be happy. Some employment. Family.
Smithers	Local food. Good air and water. Getting along with family. Community engagement. Concerned about noise levels in the valley.
Telkwa	Adequate government services; some development to support the services we want
Terrace	Air and water, scenery and the outdoors.
Telkwa	Health care
Prince Rupert	Living with good conscience about my decisions and responsibilities to neighbours. Concerned about my foot print.
Terrace	Fresh water. Fresh air. Food. Community engagement.
Terrace	Having jobs.
New Hazelton	Gov't to mind their own business. Kids to stop having kids and be responsible. Work opportunities. The price of gas to go down and stop selling it.
Prince Rupert	Connection, community, availability of family, love, proximity to nature
Smithers	Family, good job, opportunity, education, safe community
Prince Rupert	Protecting environment. Don't believe oil and gas are good for the environment. Air quality important to the ecosystem from a macro to micro perspective - impact on bees, beetles, pollinators. Drinking water. Sustainable choices that affect future generations.
Smithers	Economic stability
Prince Rupert	Safety, happiness, community fulfillment
Hazelton	Quietness. Family. Friends.
Telkwa	Closeness
Telkwa	Possibility of income
Smithers	Not sure - haven't really thought about it. Good education for my kids.
Terrace	Safety.
Smithers	Family. Do the next right things. Being true to self. Independence. Autonomy.
Prince Rupert	Healthy Environment. Employment - need to sustain yourself
Houston	Being active, good food, clean water, being happy
Telkwa	Environment, clean air, clean water; green space to play, camp, fish, be away from people. The trouble is--we can't make a living with these things--not enough opportunities for kids job-wise.
Prince Rupert	Lifestyle. Options.
Terrace	Faith and enjoying small town life
Terrace	Liveable community where people take care of each other.

Q1

Q3

Q4

Q7

Are the community/region headed in the right direction?

90 responses, randomly selected from a total of 598, are shown here. For the rest, visit skeena2050.ca.

New Hazelton People in general want the same thing - peace and security. It's hard to say in the present if we are headed in the right direction. Things are changing quickly. When the situation becomes more clear, people will act to change it if we need to.

Telkwa Smithers and Telkwa trying to do as much as possible. Region seems to have better foresight than the provincial government.

Smithers No big box, so yes.

Prince Rupert Finally we're out of the dip. Positive Development. New workers, new people are in town.

Two Mile No pipeline- no problem!

Terrace The economic upturn is good. I think we are taking our time appropriately.

Telkwa Newcomer

Terrace In many cases no. Decisions are being made with minimal information on the negative impacts of oil and gas.

Smithers No. We need to be more united in our opposition against Enbridge.

Prince Rupert Yes, however not all resources are engaged.

Smithers Trying--there are a lot of big external forces. Many people here are advocates for the natural world. People move here for the lifestyle and amenities (recreation, quality of life)--we need to retain those amenities. Despite area being 'depressed' for a long time, people still find ways to live here and make it work.

Kispiox Right now, love the way it is. I'm retired and not looking for work. Lots of jobs. People need to go get them.

South Hazelton It is headed for confrontation.

Prince Rupert The pipeline and LNG development are threats to our environment. Also school closures and top heavy school district are leading us in a bad direction.

South Hazelton No, I don't. A lot of that is my religion. This is a wicked old system that needs to be cleaned. Just look at the news. God is the only one who's going to straighten it out.

Terrace Lots to consider. Economically it is but there needs to be a balance with the environment.

Terrace Not if the wildlife will be affected by the development because we need it to survive.

Telkwa Smithers is doing well. Telkwa is doing okay. There is always something to fight for.

The region needs to support FN so they don't have to sell out.

Telkwa Many local-based initiatives using local resources and people power.

Prince Rupert Too much of a gold rush. Not thinking taking the time to be thoughtful in development.

LNG is short-term benefits. Too much at once.

South Hazelton There isn't affordable housing for first time home buyers.

Smithers I think a bit more growth would be good.

Terrace I think the community is starting to go in the right direction in the sense that they are coming together to fight Enbridge, but it's too little, too late. We are not headed in the right direction in regard to development.

Terrace As long as all people get involved and it's not too one-sided in the favour of industry.

Q1

Q3

Q4

Q7

Are the community/region headed in the right direction?

90 responses, randomly selected from a total of 598, are shown here. For the rest, visit skeena2050.ca.

- Smithers The community and region are trying to move in the right direction but are prevented by federal government and corporations.
- Telkwa The provincial and federal government do not support us or listen to us enough (outside of our elected representatives).
- Prince Rupert For the most part. Enbridge won't be built. A good balance in projects is good.
- Smithers I don't know. C- for the region.
- Terrace There is greed and disconnect on our planet driving forces behind the destruction of this area.
- Terrace Not in terms of industry but in community voice, yes. People are identifying the issues and reacting locally.
- Prince Rupert Trying hard in the right direction with some restraints.
- Smithers Sometimes we make good decisions. Locally.
- Prince Rupert Gradually getting there. When lots is happening it's good.
- Smithers Debatable. Smithers: no economically. Shopping sucks for families.
- Terrace I like the industrial park development outside of Terrace. Should provide manufacturing jobs and increase the tax base.
- Prince Rupert Pipelines will not support Rupert (neither LNG or Enbridge). People are greedy for money; yet not enough of a market for businesses.
- Terrace Housing is an example of how it's not doing well. Community will be affected by all these projects and so will the environment.
- Terrace Not sure
- Smithers Smithers not going to be the boom/bust town. Worried about Kitimat/Smithers/Prince Rupert.
- Prince Rupert Seems like it, can't really tell what will happen in the future, plans for the region aren't guaranteed
- Lakelse Lake Municipalities, regional district and province on a slippery slope of huge industrialization with huge impact on the environment and socio-economic conditions. E.g. widening wages between rich and poor. Lack of infrastructure.
- Prince Rupert Enbridge threatens our food.
- Smithers Good engaged people locally, good community initiatives (community garden), but different groups are too distinct and separate.
- Two Mile 2 directions: 1- fragile economy w/ resource development. 2- continue to be a diverse economy.
- Smithers Job training and other programs such as the KOPAR programs are good. Except we do need more affordable housing.
- Smithers Our slow careful pace of development is being eroded by external forces.
- New Hazelton There aren't enough jobs or decent paying jobs right now. We need more social services - shelters for abused people - I work the graveyard shift at a gas station and there are girls showing up in the middle of the night who are all beaten up. They have nowhere to go. There needs to be programs for everybody who lives here, not just natives. With respect to LNG, it doesn't matter what we say, government is going to do what they want.
- Prince Rupert Yes - LNG; No - Enbridge.

Q1

Q3

Q4

Q7

Are the community/region headed in the right direction?

90 responses, randomly selected from a total of 598, are shown here. For the rest, visit skeenaz050.ca.

Telkwa Smithers & Telkwa are caught in a bubble--in limbo, an identity crisis. Community is split: jobs vs environment debate is unsustainable - no way to attract jobs to area. Terrace is the place that has created an atmosphere for development. Local government is at fault.

Smithers Recycling is great. Communication is lacking--the whole picture isn't being presented so we don't have full understanding, from all levels

Telkwa Yes the community is heading in right direction: Smithers and Telkwa are very progressive with public gardens and bike initiatives and sustainable progress. However not sure how the region is regarding large development.

Terrace Yes and no. No because of proposed mega-projects and the potentially harmful impacts on local way of life. Yes, because anti-Enbridge movement is getting First Nations and non-First Nations to collaborate.

Terrace Hopeful for the future but fear there is not enough experience with development to know a good balance between industry and the environment.

New Hazelton 75% yes, people are really involved in having their voices heard. 25% no, higher ups decide for us and we have no choice. Native land rights are moving in a horrible direction.

New Hazelton LNG/Enbridge are worrying. Fracking is stupid.

Smithers Community: trend is towards too many people with "green perspectives" moving into the valley. Region: Forestry communities have been hit hard.

Telkwa Smithers--yes--great local politicians, pride in community, working well on what we can control. Federally and provincially--no.

Two Mile Felt better about one year ago. Last couple of months have scared me. Worried about all the pipelines.

Smithers This is a positive-feeling community with active people and opportunities to get involved.

Prince Rupert Potash and LNG are good.

Terrace This is a fantastic community, but not sure about the future of it.

Terrace I like the increase in job availability but worry about the negative effects on the environment.

New Hazelton It is stagnant.

Hazelton Trying to keep things out that could jeopardize our way of life. E.g. pipelines.

Terrace We are experiencing bubble economics and it is out of control.

New Hazelton Business is growing. A new store!

South Hazelton Good things: training initiatives; partnerships; resource pooling - e.g. community lunch program

Terrace Too much development too quickly. Too much change too fast.

Terrace RCMP need to step it up to accommodate for the crime that will come with the boom.

Smithers Things in our power: recycling, environmentally-friendly decisions

Telkwa Yes, in general. There's a catch-22 situation with the need for jobs. Should be moving away from fossil fuels. Need better leadership federally--Canada's role as peace keeper and environmental protector has slipped. Used to feel very proud to be a Canadian. Distribution of wealth is disproportional.

Q1

Q3

Q4

Q7

Are the community/region headed in the right direction?

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Glen Vowell We need to move towards self-sustenance. Separate from outside influence. Northern BC should make its own decisions.

Terrace The immediate locality is not headed in the right direction because of the rapid development; but, generally speaking, the region as a whole is headed in the right direction.

Telkwa Happy when voices get expressed/heard. Growth and development of Rupert and Kitimat as a second provincial port is good.

Hazelton It's scary right now. I believe there are things happening without proper consultation. Linear thinkers are making decisions for us.

Prince Rupert I'm leaving - negative development

Smithers We have no clear direction as a community--we don't know where we are going and our political system discourages individual vision

Terrace New to the area so not really sure. Lots of growth occurring which looks good. Lots of naysayers to development so hopefully some middle ground.

Terrace We won't be until we realize the need for a more educated population here to make wise decisions.

Hazelton Some people are, but some are not at a global level. Extreme greed at a provincial level. Education and health care are not on track!

Prince Rupert Yes and no. The port is a great idea. When you are moving product with integrity. I don't believe in raping and pilaging the environment at all. The community is run by the almighty dollar. We need better access to the waterfront. Quality of life is a joke in Rupert - e.g. few trails to walk your dog.

Prince Rupert Not enough people are being included in shaping the future of the region

Prince Rupert Not enthused about home owner's taxes. Not impressed by lack of waterfront access; city dragging feet

Smithers Average citizens speaking up (JRP) and showing the heart of our community + regional leadership is healthy and good.

Smithers Yes for the community and mayor. As for the region--need jobs, and there is a lot of pressure to develop.

Smithers Too much emphasis on LNG. More effort needs to be put into economic diversification. Negative impacts from multiple corridors. Need greater support for social programs, local food.

Smithers Locally, people are against progress and positive change. We need jobs for young people. Need to be supportive of local businesses. Provincially, need more trades training.

Two Mile A provincial approach to LNG is needed. Locally people have approached it negatively and made it hard to hear others. Don't feel like I can ask questions and be respected regardless of opinion. There is still space for us to go in the right direction.

Telkwa Community has so many amazing things on the go. I appreciate all the events and ability to access outdoor activities.

Prince Rupert Not sure what's happening with LNG, Pipeline. Too many unknowns

Q1

Q3

Q4

Q7

Is there a tipping point with regard to development?

100 responses, randomly selected from a total of 571, are shown here. For the rest, visit skeena2050.ca.

New Hazelton When people, health of environment are compromised.

Prince Rupert There has to be tipping point and the economy drives it.

Telkwa We haven't seen it here yet. There are a lot of proposed projects but not a lot of actions.
If a tipping point is reached it will be irreversible.

Terrace We should proceed with any project with discretion.

Terrace Balance jobs, but not at the expense of water and environment. Need to look for and support more community innovation. Can't just consider the economic side of things.

Telkwa FN support for LNG. Hard to go back. It is their land.

Prince Rupert Yes. If you go too fast, lots of stuff is missed. End up buying people off and how long will that last? Everyone wants a piece of the pie.

Smithers Dumb question; there is a tipping point for everything.

Prince Rupert Need jobs but not at the cost of nature and the environment. Need legacy for our kids and grandkids

Telkwa The municipality should work to maintain social equilibrium to avoid spasmodic population growth.

Terrace If you lose local decision making you have lost. We still have the local decision makers!

Hazelton More development means better jobs and stronger local economy with the money staying here.

Smithers This year, with the pipeline, for sure. Regional development can have too much building, housing, etc.

Telkwa Seems there's a push for more, more, more; it's not necessary. When the cost outweighs the benefits, good sign we should take a different approach. We are at the tipping point so we have to be really smart about resource development.

Hazelton Need to consume less. Need to be more responsible with resources--use them all (i.e. don't burn 'excess' wood 'debris'--Northern Transmission Line). Develop properly.

Smithers Never.

Prince Rupert The development of our resources without proper regulations and when it is done for corporate profit and not locally controlled and/or agreed to.

Kispiox Valley Development seems to be out of control. It's a free for all.

Terrace The tipping point will be the air shed.

Lakelse Lake A balance was lacking in many other previous places, like Fort McMurray, and the result was terrible. Worried Terrace is headed in the same direction.

Terrace Yes, too much can destroy water, air & food.

Lakelse Lake Regionally, if a few people start to profit from proposed new industry, landscape will be destroyed. We all need to take stock of how we have become too materialistic. How much \$ do we need? Another eg: Canada's mining industry in other countries--deplorable.

Telkwa But we learn from our mistakes. For example the forestry industry has much improved over the years.

Smithers When it destroys communities and results in permanent environmental changes

Q1

Q3

Q4

Q7

Is there a tipping point with regard to development?

100 responses, randomly selected from a total of 571, are shown here. For the rest, visit skeena2050.ca.

- Telkwa They are just promoting development but they are not following through. It's just politics.
- South Hazelton If it happens too fast the social consequences will be serious
- Prince Rupert This is why Tsimshian traditional laws state you must plan a generation ahead as they will inherit the gifts of mother earth
- Terrace When our air and water is damaged. People need jobs but not at any cost--there isn't anywhere else for First Nations to go. We need to not make rash decisions but be thoughtful and planned.
- Smithers LNG example, the energy chain- from the source to the ocean. It is not just our own back yard but many peoples. No vision for the future with this plan.
- Kispiox if it's destroying habitat - and I think that point has already been hit
- Prince Rupert We are tipped over. No access to waterfront. Port operated by Foreigners. Major boards are operated from afar.
- Prince Rupert Already happened. the noise of development is too much, peoples voices weren't heard. City will just take the highest bidder.
- Prince Rupert Maybe, not sure when & what.
- Smithers Uncertain when.
- Smithers When life-support systems of planet are being compromised then we have gone too far. E.g. climate change. We are already beyond the tipping point. We need to dramatically change what we are doing.
- New Hazelton We've seen the worst of it in the Hazeltons.
- Hazelton Don't want economic development @ the cost of quality of life.
- Telkwa When we are unhappy and disconnected, we have passed the tipping point
- Smithers Ecosystems will crack and fail under pressure
- Smithers If the development is ugly and toxic. Headed in a direction that favours Industry over people and lifestyles. People in Rupert can't afford to live here now. Industry is using our services but not paying back.
- Prince Rupert Upcoming decisions may cause a social tipping point--activism, social problems
- Smithers Can't over-develop. Want to see more alternative energy.
- Hazelton We are over it. There is too much consumption. We have unsustainable lifestyles. Can't trust our food or big corporations' decision-making.
- Telkwa I'm a socialist until it costs money. Kitimat past the tipping point. Actually, Kitimat, Terrace, Prince Rupert.
- Smithers About 20 yrs ago! As soon as industry had enough \$ to influence the gov't, the gov't is no longer working for us.
- South Hazelton Yes but difficult to see how to balance sustainability vs development. I don't know where the tipping point is.
- Prince Rupert An oil spill would cause this.
- Two Mile Telkwa doesn't have a lot of development--we could have more. Region doesn't have too much--mining is okay, lumber/forestry has decreased.

Q1

Q3

Q4

Q7

Is there a tipping point with regard to development?

100 responses, randomly selected from a total of 571, are shown here. For the rest, visit skeena2050.ca.

Terrace If in regards to quality of life and environment, we could already be there.

Telkwa If development is done poorly the tipping point comes a lot sooner.

Terrace Only if it impacts quality of life

Prince Rupert If there are too many LNG plants in one area. If the development brings in people who didn't stay in the community. And of course pollution.

Prince Rupert Especially if there is no long term plan and only rapid extraction

Smithers Social tipping point--people are aware of what's at stake with respect to development and social implications--people realize they have to step up--won't happen from higher levels.

Telkwa Worried about development affecting our quality of life, air and water. We might turn into a work town.

Prince Rupert For all of earth- we are at the tipping point.

South Hazelton Some choices you don't get back. You don't get a do over.

Smithers Economically more so. There is concern about longevity of jobs in the area.

Terrace We can't overlook the importance of clean air and water

Smithers Once all of the infrastructure for these projects is set up, a tipping point will be reached.

Terrace Nope, no tipping point. But don't like the pipeline

Prince Rupert Air quality is a concern. Tipping points are possible. An oil pipeline would tip the scale.

Terrace We need to have a risk assessment into the future - what will happen to the environment? make our decisions based on this. People come in and they take. They are not from here and they don't care.

Hazelton We need a balance. Risk can't outweigh the rewards. Not something that can completely ruin an ecosystem.

Old Hazelton I've seen it in Chilliwack. Where hillsides are covered in development.

South Hazelton Once the projects overtake everything and there isn't room for residents to stay and sustain their lifestyle.

Prince Rupert If it's forced on an area by federal government, that is the tipping point.

Prince Rupert If you can't support the development with the resources around you, there will be a tipping point.

Smithers Too much too fast is a bad thing.

Terrace Concerned about environment. Project quality assessments must include FN and locals.

Prince Rupert Stop exporting raw resources. Create secondary industries using these raw inputs. Recycling system can be better. Taking care of environment is paramount.

Telkwa No homes, no renting, where will they put people? No-one can afford to live here. Jobs down, living expenses going up.

Prince Rupert The question is too broad. I don't know how to answer. There is no work here.

South Hazelton When things feel too greedy. There is an unwritten code here - the main reason we live here is the clean environment. It seems this is being compromised because of the bottom line of a balance sheet or income statement.

Smithers Would imagine it will if the pipeline goes through.

Q1

Q3

Q4

Q7

Is there a tipping point with regard to development?

100 responses, randomly selected from a total of 571, are shown here. For the rest, visit skeena2050.ca.

- Hazelton Development should strive toward sustainability and longevity.
- Terrace There's a limit, not just economic.
- Smithers Yes, an oil spill would really hurt us.
- Hazelton Interests of individuals sometimes outweighs the needs of many. All profit driven.
- Telkwa Accidents happen and it won't be good for our food.
- Gitsegukla It's how development is done. The quality. It's a tipping point if new developments are exploiting people and land resources with little or no benefits to the community. The profit is going in private hands. Nothing shared locally. It's shocking.
- South Hazelton Yes there is a tipping point.
- Prince Rupert The earth has a maximum carrying capacity. Can we continue to feed everyone?
- Smithers The talk of pipelines has gone too far!
- South Hazelton City denies a lot of positive benefits of development. We need a better system to manage development.
- Prince Rupert Yes, absolutely. The ways of the many will outweigh the few. Sometimes we don't have a say and therefore have to adapt to the flow.
- Smithers When real-estate goes up. Not much employment. Short-term approach - not about community. With the approach now, there will be a tipping point.
- Two Mile If LNG and Enbridge can be postponed, I think we can fill that void with sustainable industry
- Prince Rupert LNG/Enbridge not positive. Fracking is a big concern
- Prince Rupert Probably at some point if they tear down things to build more of this and that.
- South Hazelton It depends what type of development. If it's sustainable development (forestry, fishing etc.) it can be done right. But we've hit the tipping point for non-renewable resource development.
- Prince Rupert We need to preserve life.
- New Hazelton City of a certain size can maintain itself. Every project needs to be evaluated at its own merit. Work is needed--people are migrating out.
- Houston Need to have long term investment to avoid boom/bust cycles, need to scale up so communities are prepared and can handle the consequences
- Telkwa Idea of sustainability is a fallacy we are being fed
- Smithers Yes. This summer things will come to a head due to so much animosity and anger.
- Two Mile There are a number of tipping points. Financial, economic, environmental.
- Smithers Sustainable development can help stave off the boom.
- Terrace In regards to pipelines- could bring a lot of business- but this would probably people from out of town. Economic development done in a slow and steady way would be good.
- Glen Vowell There is a maximum capacity of the environment to absorb waste. Kitimat Valley is at the cumulative impacts tipping point for development.

Q1

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Q7

What do you want to see for the future of the region?

140 responses, randomly selected from a total of 565, are shown here. For the rest, visit skeena2050.ca.

Smithers That we all take a bit less so we can all do okay. Harmonious society that deals with our inequities. Ability for all people to live a fulfilling life. For us to take a long-term view and then work backwards to now. Ability for people to have meaningful input and value ideas and differences. Development with the most benefit and least impact for the region guided by solid standards and regulation.

South Hazelton I want everyone to get money out of the land being used, not just a few people. Give benefits to everyone. I would like to see more development in terms of food production, orchards, berry patches.

Prince Rupert Economic development that supports local people.

Prince Rupert Balanced growth with emphasis on the environment.

Smithers Strong, healthy and cohesive community.

Smithers Safe economic development. Future for children and grandchildren. Can't sacrifice environment for short-term gain.

Hazelton More sobriety, openness, freedom to be. End of gossip and feuds.

Telkwa Enough progress for people to have work. Balance between environment and progress. Strong families.

Smithers Want there to be some growth. We are a bit stagnant here. Stay the same but get a bit bigger-- need more shopping options.

Hazelton More activities for youth and sports- a bigger recreational centre. Local mill- local resource management.

Telkwa Reasonable economic growth--not 5% or 10%--just enough to meet our needs. That people could understand and learn to work for the common good.

Smithers More affordable housing, more events for kids, outdoor children's programs.

Telkwa More sustainable agriculture regionally. That "we can feed ourselves". Industry brings tax money to the region, and with so much industry leaving, taxes are likely to go up--but this is o.k., it's the price to pay for maintaining our lifestyle.

Hazelton Harmony. People getting along.

Hazelton Happy the way it is. To outsiders we look poor. We need to capitalize on its beauty and promote tourism. I don't want my husband home 5 days a week if it means he is working on a pipeline.

Smithers Sustainable evolution with global and cosmopolitan awareness and a respect for our culture.

Smithers Want people to use common sense and stop buying votes. For BC to get together. Peace and goodwill. Quiet and seclusion. Development done the right way, and this takes time to figure out.

Two Mile More activities for youth / arena / softball

Smithers Coast mountains intact because natural areas are disappearing. People enjoying community. Sustainable food for everyone. Strong leadership and holistic thinking.

Two Mile Senior housing / programs / care. A rec centre. No major developments, they bring drugs, alcohol, and social issues. Housing in general- decent places that aren't moldy or rat infested- especially for single parents and people with mental illness.

Q1

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Q7

What do you want to see for the future of the region?

140 responses, randomly selected from a total of 565, are shown here. For the rest, visit skeena2050.ca.

- Smithers Prioritize environmental issues over selling off gas and oil. Develop more renewables.
- Prince Rupert Less poverty; take care of people as a foundation for everything else.
- Prince Rupert More industry, more growth, more prosperity
- South Hazelton I want everything! Being on the same page. First Nations. This is where we live. I want more power in decisions.
- Smithers Healthy balance between environment and economy. Would like to see green initiatives.
- Prince Rupert Infrastructure, representation from regular people, alternative ways to develop economy, diverse economy.
- Prince Rupert Agriculture- could be a leader for successful urban agriculture. More resources devoted to youth centres focused around sport and music.
- Smithers No comment - don't really know.
- Old Hazelton Prosperity. Jobs. Housing.
- Smithers Long-term, sustainable, slow, organic growth that is driven by this region
- Telkwa More jobs, of all kinds. Not too much development.
- Telkwa Impossible to answer. Life as we know it. Governments that aren't stripping away our environmental policies and discounting the research of scientists. To be able to relax, rather than having to fight against the wrong kind of development.
- Terrace Responsible and sustainable growth.
- Prince Rupert No pipelines.
- Houston Vibrant community
- Smithers No pipeline, stop worshiping the almighty dollar because it takes quality of life from our neighbours. Pay attention to local politics. More things like skeena2050
- Smithers Diversified economy, clean energy, stable community, planned and controlled community growth, continued access to public land and recreation facilities.
- Thornhill Cell service; better transportation and highways
- Smithers Sustainable growth, not boom and bust. We need meaningful jobs, not to just get big. Clean air and water, vibrant downtown core for living and commerce.
- South Hazelton More for the children - arena, swimming pool, clean environment, local school to reopen.
- South Hazelton Keep protecting the environment. For citizens to have a say in what happens with the land. Better education for kids. Organic living, sustainable living. More options- swimming pool.
- Old Hazelton Harmony. Self sufficiency. People take care of themselves without relying on government. Strong leadership.
- Smithers Status quo--we don't need a bigger community. This size is just right.
- Hazelton More senior housing for independent seniors, more specialists and doctors who would stay here. Arena. Work for youth and more recreation opportunities. YMCA? Girl Guides?
- New Hazelton That the community leads us in the right direction. Plastic recycling. Keep taking our time in decision making.
- Terrace Happy with the way things are now. More processing of raw resources. No more "rip and ship".

Q1

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Q7

What do you want to see for the future of the region?

140 responses, randomly selected from a total of 565, are shown here. For the rest, visit skeena2050.ca.

Terrace More stuff for seniors.

Smithers Growth at a sustainable rate. Jobs for local people, not just for the rest of the country.
Healthy community.

Moricetown Clean air and water, fishing, sufficient industry for the economy to hold, green industry,

Prince Rupert Artisan bakery would be nice. More access to the outdoors, Developers need to give back.
More support for the youth and First Nations.

Gitanyow For the near future I'd like to help teach youth the language and living off the land.

New Hazelton Jobs; kids to grow up and stay in the region; to remain a small town (close-knit); strong local
economy.

Smithers Solid economic expansion. Not being closed minded, but being open to new businesses.
More stores, growth, people and healthy competition.

Prince Rupert Economic stability where it is sustainable. Eco-tourism development. We can harvest energy
from the area. Diversity. FN need to become shareholders in the economy.

Prince Rupert More industry, especially for FN people. Pellet plant shouldn't be here; too much noise.

Prince Rupert Slow methodological growth, local decisions. Conversation input. What is really going on?

Two Mile No pipelines.

Hazelton More work- respect of the environment. A compromise between consumption and
environmental impacts.

Smithers Children and grandchildren to have same opportunities as we did. Skills, talents, nature, culture.

Terrace Environmental protection in this area and sustainable economic growth.

Telkwa To not become a city. Stay rural. FN to have more voice and control over what goes on--
they think multi-generationally.

Prince Rupert Sustainable development. More sunshine! Same as 1st question. Facilities - Lester Centre,
civic centre, recreation. Waterfront access. Affordable living and lifestyle.

Telkwa To make honest ethical choices in our daily lives to create less demand for resources

New Hazelton Potlach

Prince Rupert More for kids to do. Biking trails. Better education system here. Improve it for everyone

Telkwa Self-determination, clean air, healthy food, pride in communities, strong families, enough
money to allow us higher thinking and participation in community, diversity in economic
options--development that is the right scope and scale

Prince Rupert Positive development beneficial for all and not just companies, more employment opportunities.
Not selling land and resources just to move ahead

Prince Rupert Community development in fishing, tourism, shellfish farming. Tidal generation of energy.
Community Charter

Prince Rupert More employment

Smithers Sustainability. Protections of watershed.

Smithers Not too busy; stay pristine; jobs for kids

Telkwa To never be so big that we ignore or don't know our neighbours

Q1

Q3

Q4

Q7

What do you want to see for the future of the region?

140 responses, randomly selected from a total of 565, are shown here. For the rest, visit skeena2050.ca.

Smithers	Responsible development with long-term overall planning. Recognizing the value of special areas and not developing there
Prince Rupert	Balance with a pristine environment, jobs. Amazing quality of life
Two Mile	No comment.
Prince Rupert	Respect for culture, environment. Prosperity that is tied to our distinct culture
Prince Rupert	Small industry, more local shopping options, maybe big box stores.
Prince Rupert	Some way to break the cycle of poverty - there is so much despair. People feel ground down. Jobs and careers seem out of reach.
New Hazelton	Work and housing.
Two Mile	Voice and empowerment; for our voices as a whole to be heard, not just swept over. Cultural empowerment. Protected food resources.
Prince Rupert	LNG is good, but want to protect environment.
Moricetown	Food self-sufficiency, alternative medicines and healing. To trust local economy and population more than multinationals. Declare some of the region a 'no-go' zone for industrialization and protect it as a 'natural' bank account.
Prince Rupert	Balanced, thoughtful development that leads to union jobs that lift people out of poverty and build long term foundations for families
Smithers	Better use of what we have. Don't ship out raw materials.
Two Mile	Sustainable economic development that supports healthy living and social programs.
Terrace	It's not about what I do want, but more about what I don't want.
Terrace	A common sense approach applied to everything. Would like to see more responsible government regulation and economy control, also more a more cautionary approach taken with the environment. We also need to be more open minded about possible solutions to the issues facing our area.
Prince Rupert	Sustainable, collaboratively-controlled businesses
Prince Rupert	Container trucks need to go elsewhere - need a new road for them. It's nice the way it is. Keep wood here. More work here.
Prince Rupert	Protection for the environment
Terrace	1 or 2 LNG pipelines to be approved. For there to be a limit to industry.
Terrace	Sustainable long-term economic development
Prince Rupert	It's pretty good as it is. More trails and educational opportunities
Smithers	Sustainable healthy environment for our kids, living within our means.
Gitsegukla	Recreational centre, good roads, be able to travel the trains for free because it is going through our lands for free! Be able to trade goods for goods across the world. Build our own mining industry- small scale.
Telkwa	More stable, vibrant economy; it's ok now, but no opportunities for our kids. There's no long-term plan for sustaining the economy in the North
Prince Rupert	Access to waterfront

Q1

Q3

Q4

Q7

What do you want to see for the future of the region?

140 responses, randomly selected from a total of 565, are shown here. For the rest, visit skeena2050.ca.

Smithers For it to stay beautiful. cautious, considered development that is suitable for the community.
For people to be listened to. For people to become involved in their communities

Houston People being open to sharing what they have--skills, resources, good and services exchange.
Attracting sustainable industry and creating added value products. To not abuse our natural resources--mining, oil and gas.

Smithers Employment prosperity. Paved sidewalks on reserves. Everyone graduating high school.
Eliminating illiteracy.

New Hazelton Not too much change! Maybe towns could have more pride - have more beauty. We need to be more local in our economy, have good trading relations with our neighbouring towns and cities.

Prince Rupert Maintain the beauty of the land, maintain access to places we have access to now.
Sustainable economy.

Terrace For this area to not jump on the bandwagon for any company with a promise.

South Hazelton To be left alone, keep it as it is. No Enbridge

Telkwa Stay as it is for my grandkids.

South Hazelton Vibrant economy and to stop driving away investors. But opposed to fracking!

Smithers Some economic growth to provide jobs for kids. To not sacrifice rivers or environment for jobs

Smithers Peace in the world. Born in Germany, was 10 years old when Hitler came to power.

Hazelton More agricultural programs... where did the farms go? I want local food in abundance.
More responsible forestry as well

Smithers Slow, thoughtful, careful development (Huckleberry and Kemess are good examples).
Acknowledge the value of wilderness and natural resources

Prince Rupert Lower taxes, LNG Plant

Smithers Sustainable development that preserves our clean water and environment; community to stay small; expand local food and increase the diversity of business outside of resource-based ones

Hazelton I don't see much of a future for locals. All the bigwigs working on the pipelines get shipped in from outside.

Prince Rupert Sustainable, clean environment; prosperity for everyone

Smithers Greater social equity. Completely dynamic and transformational land use - e.g. wrt forestry, we need to do more than just mine trees.

Terrace Crime and drug free communities.

Hazelton Let's build the future as a region. Let'd own the development projects as a region.
Sustainable economy, sustainable environment- includes education, poverty, seniors etc.

Terrace We're going to see ugly development. Cutting corners for expediency.

Smithers More work and development. Less protests against everything.

New Hazelton Focus on regional economy. More cooperation at all levels. More consensus. Think as a region!

New Hazelton Growth that's not at the expense of culture or the environment.

Prince Rupert People's needs met by sustainable means.

Terrace Long-term jobs, and peace between all races and religions.

Q1

Q3

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Q7

What do you want to see for the future of the region?

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- Telkwa I don't want it to change. Need gradual development. Need and want employment.
Thoughtful and controlled growth.
- New Hazelton Stability, environment and economy
- Prince Rupert This place is so beautiful but we got used to modern things. Grateful for pensions; appreciate friends and family
- Prince Rupert Too late to think of future, decisions already made. Would like to see more tourism.
Would like to have cruise ship tourists spend more time/money in town on activities.
- Smithers People need to manage with less so our descendants can have a better life. Peaceful community relations. Environment and ecology to remain the same--viable for the future. Protect and retain wild salmon stocks. No oil and gas development--too hazardous.
- Smithers Not too much growth; stability; to retain our lifestyle and values.
- Prince Rupert Healthy clean ocean, healthy environment, healthy people
- Telkwa No decrease in services; airport and hospital are important services to preserve.
Diverse economy, protection of environment
- Telkwa Agriculture development that is healthy. agricultural communities that are healthy.
Small industrial development
- Two Mile Good schools- outdoor, place based. Alternative public schools. Land claims to be figured out.
Space for dialogue, agreeing to disagree.
- South Hazelton I want Armageddon and a new system to come. This is the only hope in this world.
- Old Hazelton Equality for everyone in a sustainable eco-friendly environment with economic stability.
A place where my kids and their kids can thrive and be healthy.
- Telkwa Good transportation alternatives locally and across the region that can help us reduce our fuel consumption and reduce the need for pipelines.
- Terrace Safe communities for young people. Jobs, but also to protect the environment.
- Terrace To be aware of people's opinions and consider them when making big decisions in the community.
- Dodge Cove Protected commercial fishing, local inhabitants, major freshwater system should be protected
- Prince Rupert Entertainment, social inclusion, positive social change. We need to all be at the same party.
Focus on what can be changed. Collaboration not walls. More concerts.

Q1

Q3

Q4

Q7

To access additional materials, including video clips of volunteers speaking about their experiences, and numerical results presented in chart form, visit skeenaz050.ca.

For other inquiries, contact the host organisations directly:
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