

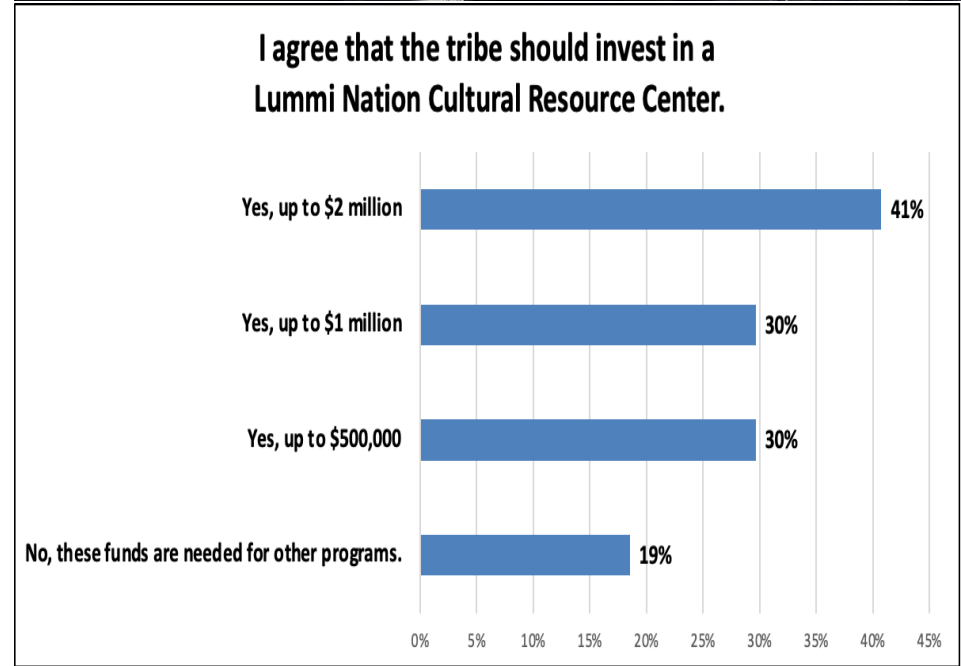


# LUMMI NATION CULTURAL HERITAGE TOURISM ASSESSMENT & BUSINESS PLAN



## CHT Survey 1 Results

DRAFT \*\* 5 October 2022 \*\* DRAFT



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# Executive Summary



An important requirement for the Lummi Cultural Heritage Tourism (CHT) Feasibility Study and Business Plan was to first encourage the input of the leaders and tribal members to ascertain the importance and focus for future CHT development. This "assessment" stage included a series of key leader engagements with the Tribal Council, LCC, Cultural Commission, NWIC, Planning Department, Natural Resources and Whatcom tourism and museum leaders.

Next, to gather input from the tribe in general, our first strategy employed an online survey to investigate the "community pulse" for tourism development and a cultural center. Please note, surveys are just a snapshot in time and should be performed at regular intervals and promoted aggressively to receive widespread participation leading to higher degree in confidence that the results are accurate, and how opinions may change with time.

For this first online survey – advertised on Squol Quol and via email – about 105 people responded reflecting about 80% tribal members (55% on rez, 22% off rez), and 22% non-tribal members. Interestingly, some 70% of the respondents were female. To be clear, this should not be considered a scientific survey reflecting the tribe's absolute viewpoints on tourism development, but should be considered a starting point for future dialogue, input and additional quantitative and qualitative survey research.

One very important qualitative aspect of this survey was the use of open-ended questions allowing the respondents to add their input and ideas for several major topics on Lummi tourism development.

## **In summary, this survey revealed:**

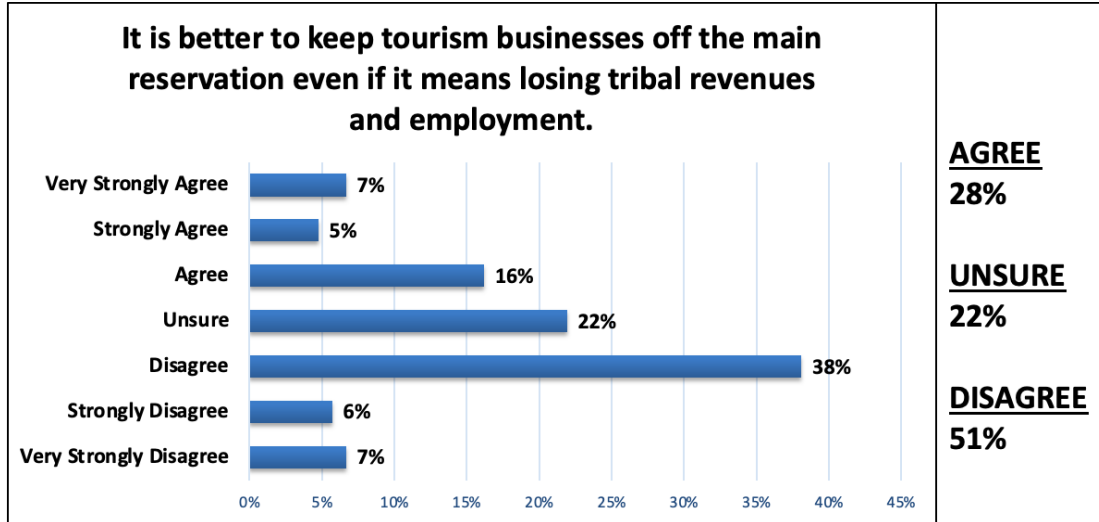
- Slight majority favor on-reservation tourism
- Majority believe tourism can revitalize the Lummi culture
- Overwhelming support for a Lummi Nation Cultural Resource Center, primarily for Lummi use, located at the Interstate 5 / Slater Rd Salish Village
- Little support for a Madrona Point resort
- No public opening or development of Portage Island
- Slight majority favor Gooseberry Point tourism development
- Wex'liem Community Building mainly for tribal use
- Slight majority favor adding more public Lummi festivals
- Concern for tourism leading to Lummi cultural commercialization
- Business & employment concerns with the Silver Reef Casino Resort
- Majority don't want to be employed in tourism



# On-Rez Tourism

## A SLIGHT MAJORITY FAVOR ON-REZ TOURISM

### CHART 1: TOURISM ON THE RESERVATION



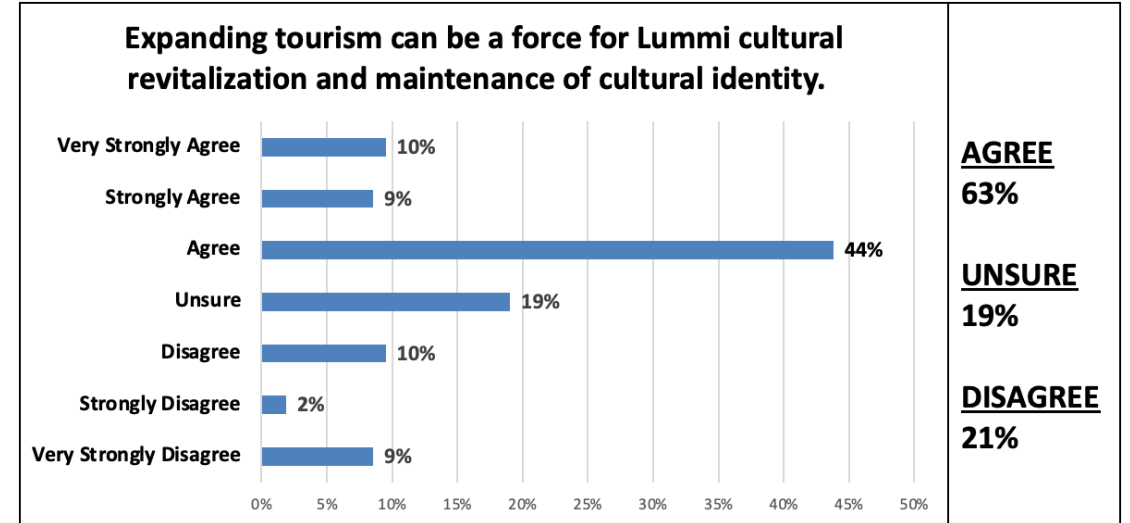
**ANALYSIS:** Only 28% *agree* that tourism businesses should be kept off the reservation, with a slight majority (51%) favoring tourism on the reservation.



# Cultural Revitalization

## A MAJORITY BELIEVE TOURISM CAN REVITALIZE LUMMI CULTURE

### CHART 2: TOURISM & CULTURE



**ANALYSIS:** Only 21% *disagree* that tourism can be a force for Lummi cultural revitalization.

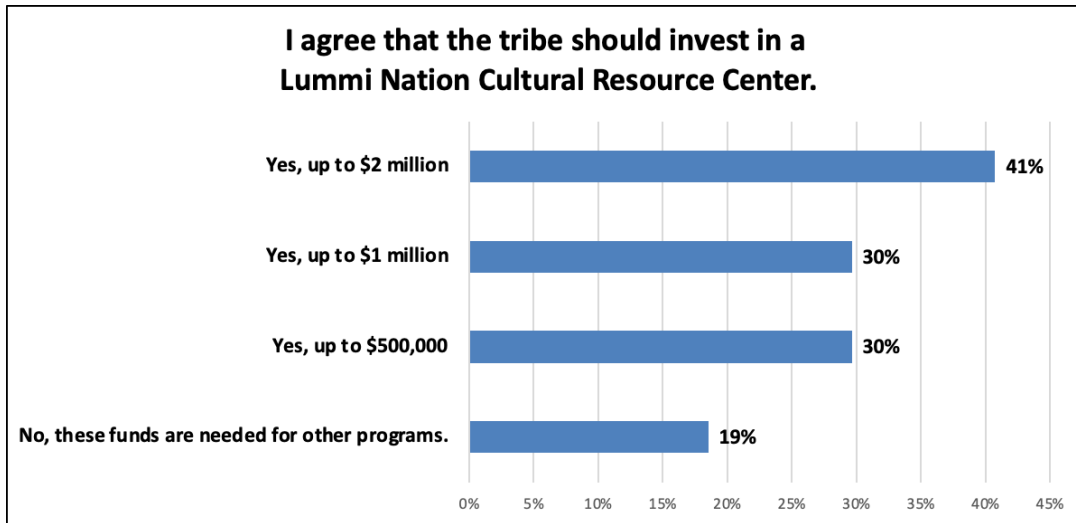


# Lummi Nation Cultural Resource Center



## ***OVERWELMING SUPPORT FOR A LUMMI CULTURAL RESOURCE CENTER***

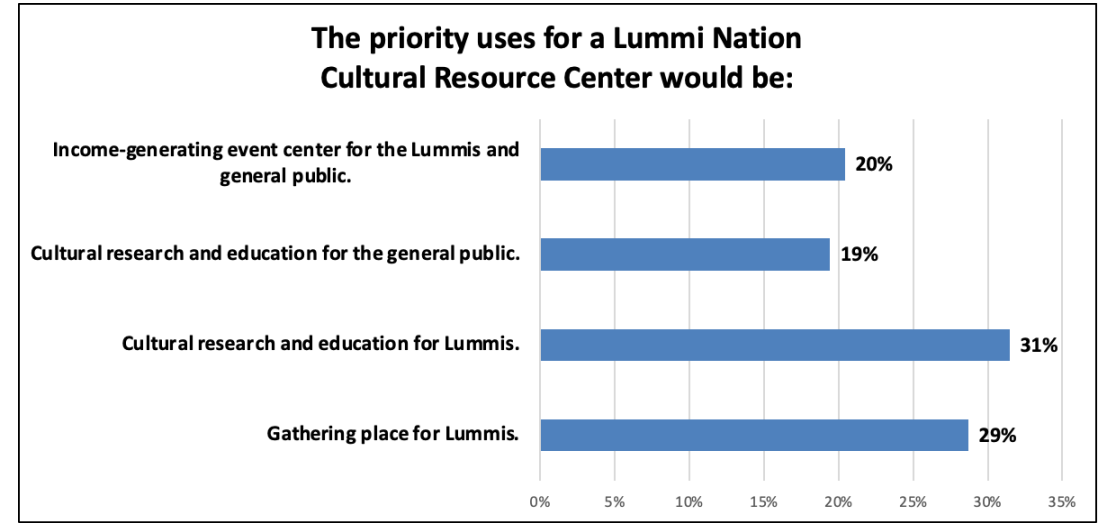
**CHART 3: CULTURAL RESOURCE CENTER INVESTMENT**



**ANALYSIS:** Over 80% of the respondents favor a Lummi Nation Cultural Resource Center, with over 40% favoring a budget of up to \$2m. Nearly 20% opined the funds were needed elsewhere.

## ***LUMMI CULTURAL RESOURCE CENTER PRIMARILY FOR LUMMI USE***

**CHART 4: CULTURAL RESOURCE CENTER USE**



**ANALYSIS:** Some 60% opine the Cultural Resource Center should be for Lummi only, while 40% favor opening to the general public.



# Lummi Nation Cultural Resource Center



## *Respondent Input – Cultural Resource Center Concept*

- Use the Hibulb in Tulalip as an example.
- It would be nice to have a museum with cultural history and artifacts that belong to the Lummi People. So many important cultural tools are hidden away in WWU anthropology department. This is wrong. Bring them back.
- Keep up history letting others know. A museum.
- I for one- a elderly fishermen gave me his dads fishing net. I promised him i will put in in the Lummi museum when our tribe has one built. It's four generation old and in good shape.
- Art available for purchase, but real pieces not tourist trinkets. Recorded oral stories, interchangeable photography of the area from local artists, donations of stone tools and artifacts, explanation of cultural preservation practice.
- Sharing our way of live, with song, dance, storytelling maybe a movie house booths for arts and crafts art center for showing and teaching a bbq pit for show casing our foods more carving everywhere.
- Museum, gift shop, coffee shop. Learning center to teach classes in Cesar weaving etc.
- This idea is new to me so my thoughts are not well organized around it, yet. I think a space with a public museum and gift shop would be great, but I am not sure if that is what you envision for the Cultural Resource Center. If the Center was income generating, I think the funds would be well spent. Ultimately, the investment would be returned and the payoff in terms of public relations would magnify the revenues.
- A museum planner specializes in the various planning phases, I used to work for the Hibulb Cultural Center before it was built and participated in the pre-planning and other phases.
- For Lummi people to learn about Lummi culture and language.
- With a historical view of all the elements of Lummi as a people with all the different cultural teachings, weaving, carving, canoe building, arts and crafts, etc
- Education, identity, a safe place to be, when I ran it, I received several letters from Lummi people who just appreciated it and was thankful there was a cultural place to be. They loved learning about their own identity. Council shut it down and after that three of the people who wrote those letters overdosed and died.
- Lummi Museum & Gallery.



# Lummi Nation Cultural Resource Center



## *Respondent Input – Cultural Resource Center Concept, cont.*

- If this money is earmarked specifically for cultural resources, providing cultural research and education for our people should be our top priority. We have lost so much of our culture and traditions that we should focus on this before we lose more of it. There is a program in Canada, maybe UBC, where they have degrees where First Nations can focus on their own culture/traditions. Because of multi-generational trauma and (historically) non-Natives, we are so afraid to share anything (naturally) that many people hoard information even from other Lummis. Think of how many people have passed away and not shared any of their precious information.

## *Respondent Input – Other Concerns / Suggestions*

- So much theft and drug use on the reservation, we first need to identify realistic solutions to drug and theft epidemic on our reservation. Place more funding to substance abuse programming. Create more short-term certificate or degrees and enhance existing training programs. Capitalize on the existing airport jobs off reservation for the unemployment crisis. \*Honor the intellectual property of those who filled out these surveys.
- We need to feel like a strong and close knit community, "once again" because I feel like we are so divided and that we are losing the sense of belonging to something greater than ourselves and that sense of intimate community connections, relations and a feeling of belonging and pride. We are losing our teachers and our language and culture more and more everyday.
- Unsure, I would be open to hearing other's thoughts. And, look to see what other tribal nations are doing (Canada, other countries). Maybe look at other communities...not necessarily tribal. Learn what could work/apply and what doesn't. Location would depend on priority of use.



# Lummi Nation Cultural Resource Center



## *Respondent Input – Other Concerns / Suggestions, cont.*

- We are the poorest tribe around let's do something do be scared.
- Mission of Lummi Nation / Off-reservation / Get real.
- Need better signage to help establish boundaries.
- Should only be to help the breaks in the natural transfer of traditions n values due to boarding schools.
- No electricity, no tourists. THPO office. Lummis only use.
- Since Time Immemorial is huge now in the school districts. We/Lummi needs a organized place for resources Lummi language dictionary needs to be available for every Lummi.
- Are u trying to put Lummi in a museum or allow us to live on for the upcoming generations. Realistically these resources should be available to tribal members, however not all of the cultural knowledge holders are willing to share what they know with the next generation. And sadly a white person know more than our own people. I think our tribal leaders need to prioritize where our dollars go based on our mission statement of LIBC.
- Buy back land being used by/lived on non natives.

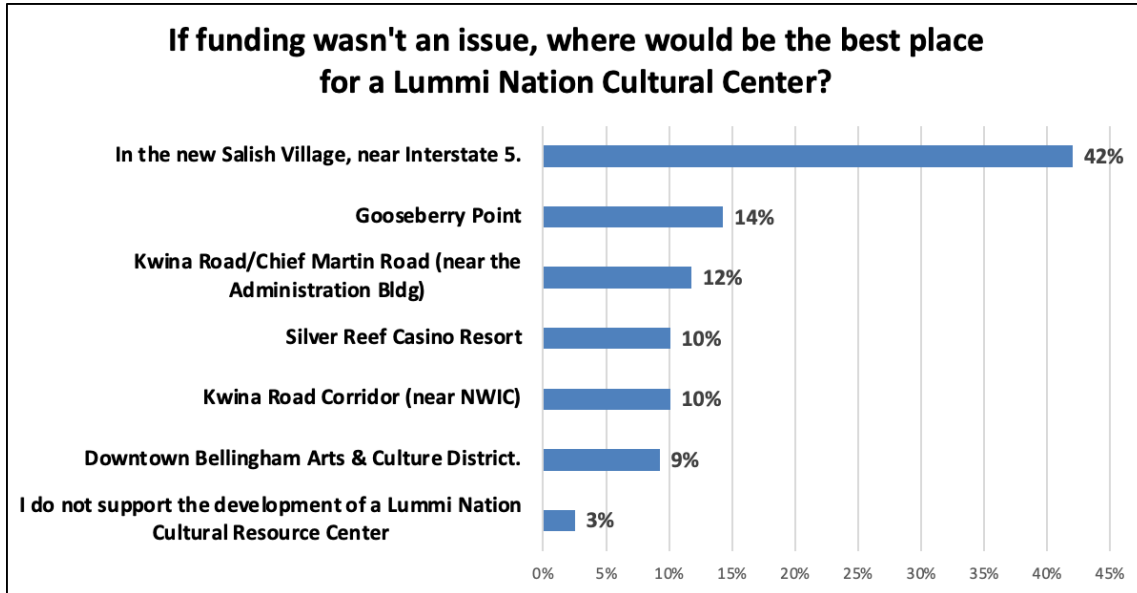


# Lummi Nation Cultural Resource Center



## I-5 / SLATER RD SALISH VILLAGE FAVORED

**CHART 5: CULTURAL RESOURCE CENTER LOCATION**



**ANALYSIS:** Respondents overwhelmingly favored the Interstate 5 / Slater Rd Salish Village development for the cultural resource center location.

## *Respondent Input – Cultural Center Location*

- The Cultural Center would be most successful in reaching the outside public if it is located in location that is traffic-generating, already. If, though, Gooseberry Point is going to be developed similar to the Bellingham Harbor (marina, shops, etc), it could be a nice addition to that plan.
- Near the I-5 exit 260 and the Truck Stop Area, maybe across the street where the "Tetisen Center", or Gateway Center is and was supposed to be a stepping stone for Lummi Tribal Entrepreneurs. Its the old smoke shop and liquor store area.
- Mini - Cultural Centers at: Portage; Madrona Point and at the Salish Village (Tletisen) adjacent to Natural History Preserve at these places.
- There is no perfect one site it should be multiple sites throughout Whatcom and island counties. Everywhere we had a reef net site, or ancient village.
- Off reservation but open to all.
- The location depends on the use. If it is for tribal members, then Gooseberry point. If it is for commercial purposes, either Silver Reef or I-5.





# Lummi Nation Cultural Resource Center



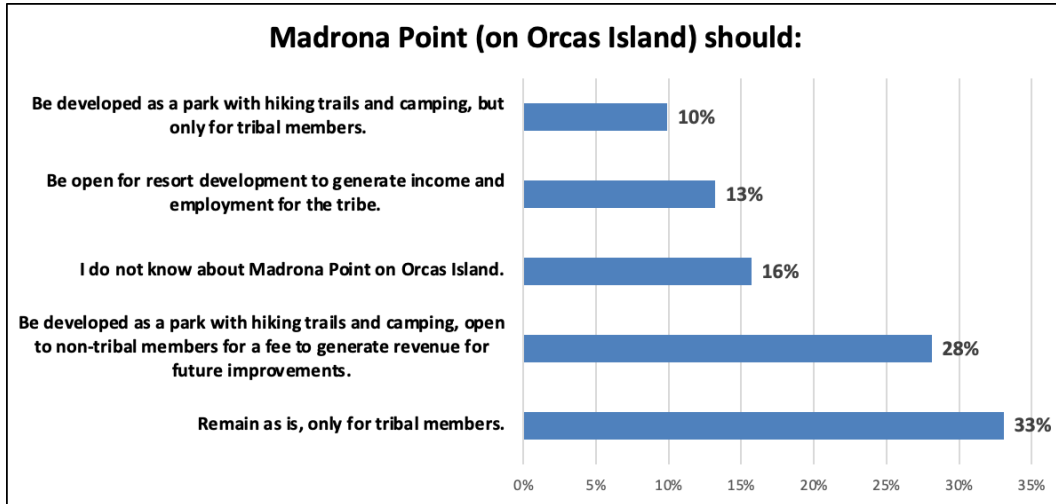
## *Respondent Input – Cultural Center Location, cont.*

- The more exposure the better, employment, making more money, ect.
- Northwest Indian College.
- Research culturally appropriate location on reservation accessible by tribal members.
- Skagit valley.
- An extension of the Orcas Island historical museum.
- Where the old cove was.
- At the Ti Tetsin instead of the gym. At this building already established Visitor center.
- Gateway, old liquor store area.
- Stommish ground area.
- Near truck fueling station.
- Xweliem, and get use a new community building, better resources for storing hunting game, fish, bait, etc.
- Near the New Ball field and the Silver Reef Casino.
- Between NWIC and LIBC.
- Close to Silver Reef would be ideal.
- Create a convention type center for neighboring communities to host conferences.
- Across the road from the Baseball fields on the corner of Haxton Way and Slater. We own that field and it is only being leased out to some farmer that we don't even know.
- Not by the freeway, where would we harvest there? It would be practical to have it by the waters and forests.
- West from the LIBC facility.
- I think a Canadian tribe is doing something cool and you can be in a village and learn some stories about our people, foods, experiences. Important to talk about the trauma and boarding schools as well. Very important to talk about missing and murdered indigenous women
- We need something like Great Wolf Lodge. We need a Cultural center that is also a museum.

# Madrona Point

## LITTLE SUPPORT FOR A MADRONA POINT RESORT

**CHART 6: TOURISM USE OF MADRONA POINT**



**ANALYSIS:** There is lack of clear consensus on Madrona Point development, some 43% favor tribal-only usage while 41% favor more open development. More information is important for 16% of the respondents. Only 13% chose resort development.

## *Respondent Input – For Madrona Point Development*

- Be open (not "developed") for hiking, not camping. Given the fact that the Point was recovered for the Lummi through federal and state funds, and that its continued availability to the people of Orcas was explicitly stated as one purpose of the effort, I think that reopening the site for Lummi and locals for foot access should be the plan.
- Work with local grassroots conservation efforts to tend patches of harvestable amounts of wild edibles and become an example of how us humans can still be a restorative part of nature. Designate a walking path, informational signage about the importance of each species (their seasonal changes, uses, and relationships) and open to the public only for projects and events, until a culture of respect and local diligence is established, then slowly expand the project to generate revenue though education. If any person or family was interested in living on the island for developing or stewarding Madrona Point, they could contact the local county council person as there are housing projects in the works.
- Mile markers and traditional or historical facts. Tree Farm. Information board with historical data and insight to Lummi perspectives on land preservation.



# Madrona Point



## *Respondent Input – For Madrona Pt. Development, cont.*

- If we had the room to utilize the area for c and b, that would be great. However, it would be in our best interest to develop the infrastructure for such things and let a company rent/lease the pads. We could generate income with their rent and implement a tribal tax on all sales. Running a resort would significantly drain our income stream as we would have to plan, build, staff, manage and pay for all of the overhead costs. We could likely manage option c on our own. Lummi has a history to present of paying contractors and non-Lummi employees way too much money for very little to no return just because they sound good, have good recommendations or look good on paper.
- Be available to all as a natural park for hiking and meditation with NO camping. Perhaps you would consider opening the most easily accessible area to host weddings, receptions, etc. or a small day use area to generate revenue. My spirit is connected to the earth at Madrona Point. Please don't do any major developments. Selfish I know.
- Be open for hiking and beach access only; no camping. No smoking, no garbage collection.
- Madrona Point also needs to be carefully planned and developed into a Natural History Preserve too. Through preservation of the natural resources: land, tidelands, plants and animals must be fully assessed. And most of all, the remains of our ancestors must be protected.
- Retreat space or air bnb or condo. | Tree farm.
- It would be cool if there were educational signs that also bring awareness of the history and how sacred of a site it is for visitors to learn about the area.
- Purchase more land around Madrona Point to enlarge its land base when the opportunity arises.
- I think a visitation and learning building that helped the community learn more about the Lummi culture and practices would be a valuable way to generate income and employment for tribal members. I think question #22 should only be answered by Lummi members.
- Living on Orcas I miss going to Madrona point. I think you could charge a yearly rate for locals and have a campsite for tourists that wouldn't negatively impact your culture and would bring in revenue.



# Madrona Point



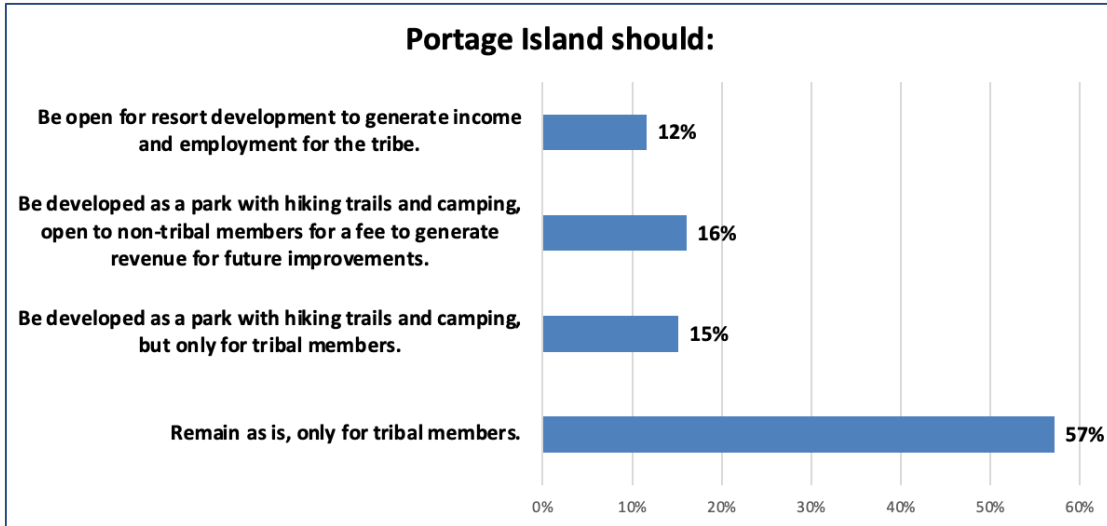
## ***Respondent Input – Against Madrona Point Development***

- Have an open introduction presentation, to present to us Lummi Tribal Members, what is Madrona Point.
- Madrona Point is fragile, development should be limited, and camping should be for tribal members only. Future improvements should be for conservation and cultural use, not tourism. Input and cooperation with the Orcas community is a huge opportunity for taking care of Madrona Point, and a resident Lummi caretaker would make a huge difference.
- Anything that is developed for the tribe (only) to enjoy will be found and poached by tribal members if it isn't gated, locked or guarded.
- Keep as a preserve. Don't need camping.
- Research the environmental and economic impact of such projects.
- Leave Madrona Point alone. It's closed due to the destruction of the environment. People left garbage strewn about, broken glass, aluminum cans not to mention dog feces throughout the area.
- Same! White people would not allow wedding or hiking in their cemeteries, why should we allow it??
- Only if there is no pollution to the waters! and the Lands! clear lands that are dead for building or meadows.
- Explore more options informative center with the value of that area.
- White people already go there. So expose it, to the parks services and the federal regulations associated to NPS. Tribe will never have a voice on their own lands again. Might as well give up our sovereignty and self determination.
- LEAVE MADRONA POINT AS IT IS. DO NOT TOUCH IT. IT IS OFF LIMITS FOR NON-TRIBAL MEMBERS. WE NEED OUR FEW PLACES THAT ARE OURS ALONE.
- My mother, with her sqwildiltch identified Madrona point as a burial ground, why the hell would we build over our ancestors? Where is the intelligence in forgetting our traditions?
- Madrona is a sacred place our ancestors are resting there.

# Portage Island

## NO OPENING OR DEVELOPMENT FOR PORTAGE ISLAND

**CHART 7: TOURISM USE OF PORTAGE ISLAND**



**ANALYSIS: ANALYSIS:** Over 70% of respondents favor tribal-only usage of Portage Island, with a majority (57%) favoring no change.

## *Respondent Input – For Portage Island Development*

- Si'les (Portage Island) should be planned and developed into a "Natural History Preserve." Through preservation of the natural resources: land, tidelands, plants and animals must be fully assessed. And most of all, the remains of our ancestors must be protected.
- Provide Mile markers and traditional and historical facts.
- Open it up make it useful.
- Fitness Park, we want tourists to visit but not stay here.
- Culture camp.

## *Respondent Input – Against Portage Island Development*

- Save it as one of the last untouched locations and reserve more locations like Portage that was vital to U&A and our presence and "Sche lang en"! Save what you can and utilize areas that are already developed.
- LEAVE IT!!!! That is what is left almost for us. We already have multiple trespassers on what is supposed to be for the tribe.
- Give it back to the original owners, Elouise Cobell buyback suggested.



# Portage Island



## *Respondent Input – Against Portage Development, cont.*

- No development. Lots of history there. Maybe signs of what families lived where.
- Portage island is the best thing {place} Lummi has. For our people to get away from today's busy world, enjoy some peace. I know our elder- Mike Solomon, will totally agree to leave it as is- for our people. Hope your brave enough to talk to him in person instead of through the computer. Aunt Ernestine {Ballew} Gansaw -also talk with her about portage.
- Do not develop Portage Island. There are 68 burial sites on the island. It should remain the same. We don't need more traffic crossing the bolo ruining the clam beds and fisheries.
- Reintroduce Salish Wool Dog population to be genetically isolated on the island. Smithsonian museum in DC has fur and DNA samples, we could get pretty close to original species. Wool could be farmed for traditional weavers and animal husbandry jobs would be available to youth.
- NO no NO!
- Too many sacred burial grounds that could be disturbed. Preserve and protect our ancestors!
- Leave that area alone as puts our clam beds at risk. Tourists can go to Birch Bay.
- Green energy is an option that can start today that is an industry that can be big in the future. Saving the planet seems to be a local value.
- LEAVE IT ALONE!
- Protect and improve shellfish beds.
- Why is this up for debate? Leave it alone.
- If we allow more people to drive across the beds of our clams we will loose more of our traditional foods; we will pollute more of our waters that are already fighting the acidification process causing more of the global warming that is already happing
- No development tribal members still own property over there.
- Leave it alone it wasn't for development. Bones an ancestors all over island.
- Be kept clean with strict guidelines for usage and clean up.
- No development.
- Security is a must. Fee to visit. No drugs or alcohol allowed.



# Portage Island



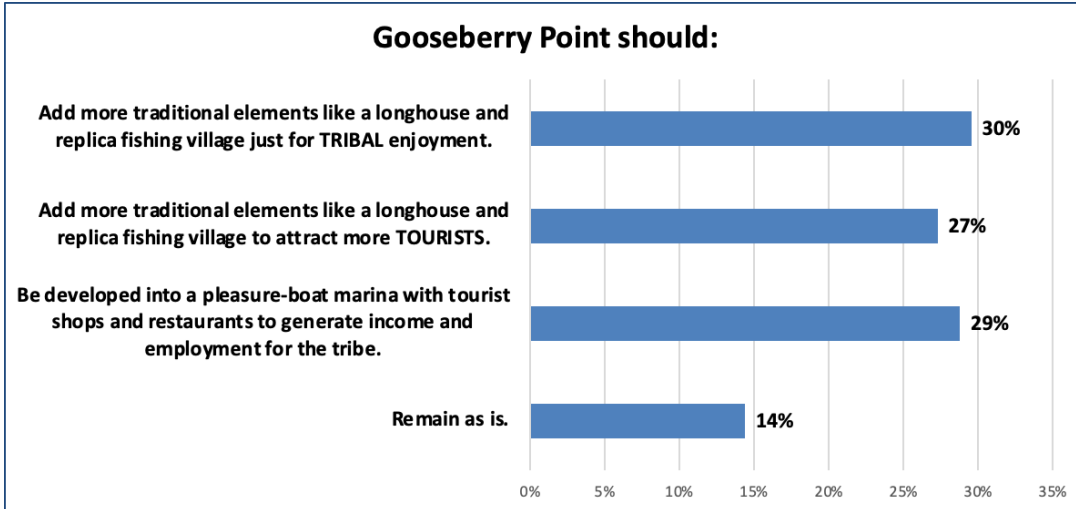
## *Respondent Input – Against Portage Development, cont.*

- We should never open this up to non-Lummi people to come and visit. It is all that we have left as far as land that is shared with Lummi's and their family's only. Do not develop it for other than Lummi People only. Please and thank you.
  - Camping for tribal member is a good idea.
  - Maybe a jogging trail or walking trail for tribal members.
  - LEAVE IT AS IT IS. ONLY FOR TRIBAL MEMBERS. TO OPEN IT TO TOURISTS IS TO KILL THE TRIBE. SERIOUSLY.
  - This is we're our long house and tourism and replica fishing village should go, sweat lodge, canoeing over.
  - It's bad enough that the non-Lummi's get to lounge on our beaches at Portage. There really is no space to traditionally prey in the water and live tradition on the rez anymore, why keep giving it away to non Indians?
  - Remain in its natural state and undeveloped
  - Portage is a sacred place, nothing should be done there
- Portage should absolutely not be open to the general public. Our people lived out there and we do not want the public digging around or altering the ecosystem. Regardless of signs being posted, people are wont to do as they please. The last thing we need are archeologists poking around and keeping what the "find".
  - Remain in its natural state and undeveloped.
  - NO NO resort development for portage. Only suggestion for income is to bring everything in and do a glamping spot or something and charge a lot of money for nonNatives.

# Gooseberry Point

## MAJORITY FAVOR GOOSEBERRY POINT TOURISM

**CHART 8: TOURISM USE OF GOOSEBERRY POINT**



**ANALYSIS:** A slight majority (56%) favor tourism development at Gooseberry Point with 30% indicating tribal-only development such as a longhouse or traditional fishing village, and 14% favoring keeping things “as is”. Those favoring tourism development appear split between a cultural concept such as a longhouse and traditional fishing village (27%), with the tourist marina and shops concept receiving 29%.

## *Respondent Input – For Gooseberry Tourism Development*

- When it had the Lummi Casino there was a nice cafe/restaurant, that is enough.
- A restaurant where the cove was would be great, with multi story shops to be rented out.
- Make into a Marina, restaurant, shopping center, for more employment.
- Have a Land and Water Resort like Rosario Resort on Orcas.
- Add marina along Frog Bay.
- Clean it up. Make the waterfront on Lummi View a park & picnic table area like Birch Bay. Bathrooms & water. Charge the ferry cars for parking.
- Maybe a board walk with booths for local people to set up and sell goods, coffee house.
- Develop Stommish grounds for public events; need new kitchen, landscaping, pavement, sidewalks, park setting, canoe or kayak rental, boat rides to islands, cook traditional foods for events to be held, music events offered at grounds like Barkley village holds and charge fee and invite vendors. I would rather develop cove and Stommish grounds vs Portage.





# Gooseberry Point



## *Respondent Input – For Gooseberry Development, cont.*

- Employment and Income to help community out of high poverty rates and high dependence on social and welfare programs.
- Why does it have to be a replica? I suggest to use Wex'liem for tourism and use Gooseberry development for community longhouse and fishing village real use of community drying racks and smokers etc.
- House a marina and get a tribal owned whale watching tour because tribal members know the importance of our Salish sea and history.
- Marina, restaurants and shops would be best use.
- We have the resources to have a seafood restaurant. Shrimp Shack was a big hit in Whatcom County and is still very missed. Why not have our own restaurant or something similar. It's a beautiful area embrace it. A board walk would be amazing but not sure how that would affect fishing.
- Hotel serving local foods, coffee/pie shop with WI-FI access to huge deck seating Local artists shop to sell their wares.
- Reinvest in the boatyard and run as a fully functioning marina - it's an eyesore and an embarrassment!!
- Tamxwiq'sen (Gooseberry) needs a restaurant; an outdoor amphitheater; a gift shop and an open-vendor market place for Lummi Artists.
- Why don't we have a waterfront restaurant? or waterfront luxury hotel?
- First class Indian Native foods seafood restaurant and lounge with waterfront view.
- Gooseberry point is a great spot for a teaching village.
- Restaurants with traditional foods, also other food options, grocery store (better pricing food items or discounts for tribal members), boat and fun watercraft rentals, an outdoor ocean pool for kids in the community.



# Gooseberry Point



## *Respondent Input – Against Gooseberry Development*

- It would be nice to improve the facilities for Lummi People. It is not appropriate to develop it with tourist shops and restaurants and commercialize the reservation. It may sound good initially, but in the long run development for tourists will cause more people to want to live out there and then price tribal members out of their homes. There are already too many non-native white folks who bought up Lummi land. Heck, realtors selling houses on our reservation including Sandy Point do not even say that the land belongs to the reservation. Fee simple land should be bought back by the tribe
- I have long been open to tourism at Gooseberry Point. However, the older I get, the less I want non-Natives that far into the reservation. The islanders speed all the time and I'm seeing way more non-Indians hanging out on our beaches and kayaking. They have their own places to do this. We need this space for our own people where we feel comfortable to hang out and enjoy the beaches with our families. There is also a growing problem of homelessness and we do not need more non-Lummi squatting around the reservation.
- This is a very fine line to walk and we must be very careful how we proceed.
- Get rid of all the garbage and make tribal members actually pay their bills. There is lots of members that could utilize the space if we got rid of all the squatting members not paying their bills.
- Research environmental and economic impact of tourism on Gooseberry Point.
- Interactive activities with Schelangen and other ways of life at the tribal land area there.
- The old boat launch dock has Band-Aid after Band-aid. We all know how crippled that dock is. {LOL} actually its scary to let dock crew hoist your boat. So with that being said -- its time for hole new dock with good dock equipment.
- This should not be developed, but instead restored with Native plants so it can again be a place to gather traditional foods. The rez shouldn't turn into a circus.
- Leave everything alone unless it serves the community w/o wasted resources. A longhouse should be a longhouse, no electricity.
- Just clean up boat yard area. Honor the area that has historical value. Add a simple informative center that story tells.



# Gooseberry Point



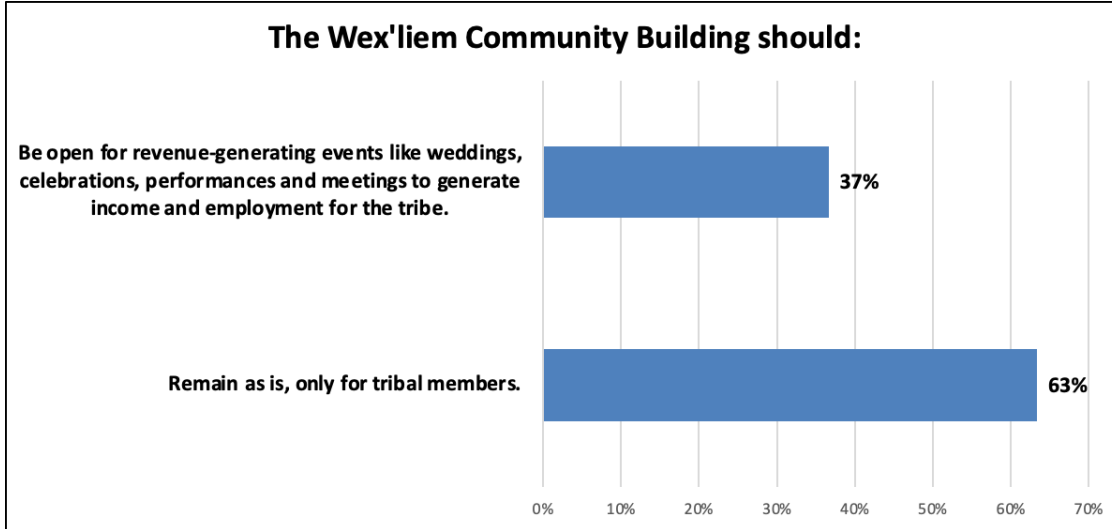
## *Respondent Input - Against Gooseberry Development, cont.*

- Again, I worry about the environmental impact to the area. When I worked at the restaurant at Gooseberry (long, long ago 😊) I thought it could be an amazing tourist destination....now I worry for what little land Lummi actually has....
  - Keeping it as safe and clean as possible for the Native American people.
  - Why would we add a replica long house to Gooseberry Point when the culture commission denied to same thing to our ancestral areas? Why are we asking questions that exploit our culture of who we are. This survey is insulting to our ancestors. This grant clearly didn't get vetted through the culture department prior submission. It shows through the questions. [AUTHOR'S NOTE: The survey questionnaire was submitted to the Cultural Commission for input prior to finalization.]
  - Buy back as many houses along the water as possible then develop as C [commercial?].
  - Acknowledge to all tribal and especially non tribal people, that the Gooseberry land from the road to the water, is tribal not individually owned by anyone else.
- Gooseberry is a sacred area; all the homes and other infrastructure are destroying it.
  - Needs auto and boat part store built to protect products being sold because Lummi has a lot of stunners, a stunner is aka shop lifters.
  - Keep simple.
  - Traditional development.

# Wex'liem Community Building

## WEX'LIEM COMMUNITY BUILDING MAINLY FOR TRIBE

CHART 9: TOURISM USE OF THE WEX'LIEM



**ANALYSIS:** A majority favored retaining Wex'liem only for “as is” for tribal uses. It should be noted that Wex'liem is currently open to non-Lummi rental events, but Lummi events (like funerals) can take precedence and cancel the public event with short notice.

## *Respondent Input – FOR Wex'liem Tourism Use*

- Needs to be open to make money, more employment, etc.
- Develop a separate space for funerals only.
- Need another smaller community building for funeral gathering to open up Wex'liem for other events as it sits a good portion of time.
- If possibly making it more attractive to the public/community. Take advantage of the local beauty. Make a view of the Hales Pass waterway, Lummi Island, and passing boats. Teaming with Whatcom County or Coastal Tribes for events: Coastal Salish 5K Fun Run, Annual Nature, Spiritual, Ancestors Salmon BBQ, Native Art Market, Tribal Triathlon - Running, Biking, and Swimming.
- The building already is open to tribal members. It needs to be expanded to meet the human capital needs for ceremonies and potlaches. Events like Stommish, canoe journey and smokehouse that happen annually should be key indicators.



# Wex'liem Community Building



## *Respondent Input – Against Tourism Use / Lummi Only*

- As long as it is a Lummi Nation based event and is arranged by tribal members. We cry, celebrate and morn life, culture and spirituality there and it is considered sacred grounds to me. Maybe another location if it is going to be open to the non-Native general public and not just tribal members.
- It should remain priority tribal members / Keep simple / Let the people decide / Leave it alone.
- Use it for tourism like Tillicum village. And build a bigger better community buildings. And bring back community breakfast.
- The Wex'liem should remain as is unless it is not being used then it is ok to be used for a wedding or something like that but it should remain closed to the public since that is sacred. That is where we go to have our memorials and heal ourselves from the loss of our loved ones. What will we do if some nonbeliever gets hurt?
- The environmental impacts with increased traffic will not be minor. Lummi Shore is already overwhelmed. If you open up the Wex'liem to others, the prices should be astronomical.
- Opening to the wider community would open up a can of worms. Lummi people need their own space.
- Separate the funerals from the WEXLIUM build a space to grieving the traditional way. we need our own funeral home at Lummi. Lummi has built the MOLES empire.
- The Wex'liem building gets busy enough as it is for our own needs such as funerals, memorials, weddings and other cultural gatherings. We can ill afford to not be able to plan for and schedule our own events if our building is open to the general public.
- Even though I think our Wexliem should be used as it is. I do believe we need a different community building for to be able to split our programs from funerals in one building (Wexliem), and other community functions in another.
- The Wexliem is already pretty busy with community needs. Tourism venue would need it's own site. Too many cultural sacred ceremonies go on there.
- Family monthly gatherings.



# Wex'liem Community Building



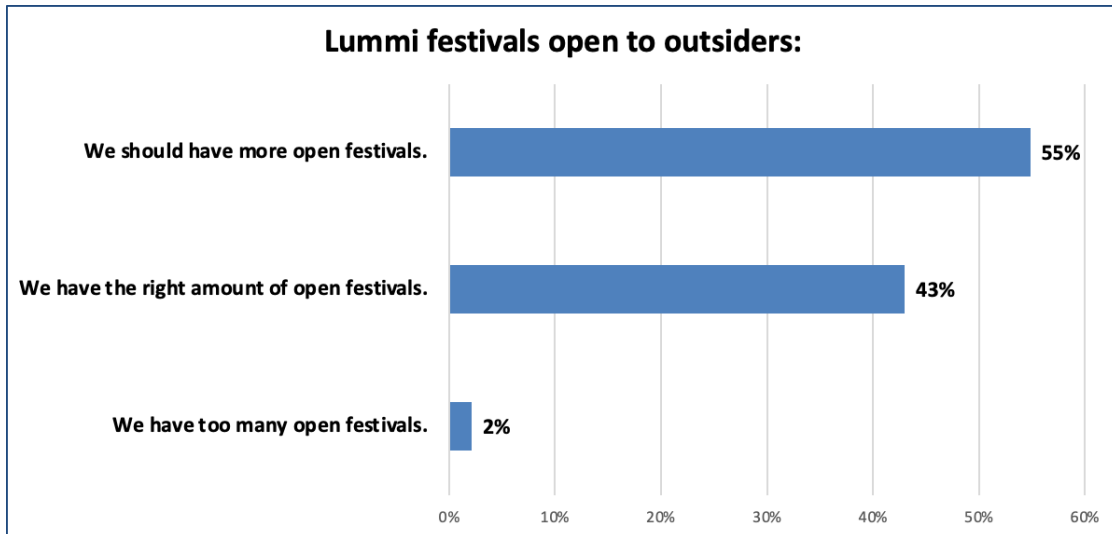
## *Respondent Input - Wex'liem Improvement*

- Better internet and communications / Wifi, technical upgrades / security.
- A deep cleaning.
- Needs to be expanded to hold 14,000 people to keep up with growing population.
- Our frog building in in need of good speaker/mike system.
- Remodel restrooms and shower facilities. Clean the carpeting in the bleachers. Add Lummi art decor and big screen monitor. Add traditional elements.
- Stop the dumping in back by sweat lodge. Bring back community breakfast & dinners .
- Better kitchen items, camping parking lot for events, outdoor bathrooms and showers in the parking lot.
- More showers for community events and emergency shelters during inclement weather.
- Have a lead cook paid from hard dollars to oversee all gatherings in the building as well as the equipment and maintenance of the kitchen.
- Need multiple employees to do the spiritual load it carries. Upgrade exterior. Include our history more.
- Weddings and special event catering paid by the tribe would be more ideal.
- Add sliding door to wall off dining area to hall. Redo carpeting.
- Lummi needs a Wexliem II - a second community building. The building behind the fire pit needs to be upgraded for the hunters and the barbeque pit. There needs to be more storage for the kitchen and the kitchen needs to be professional cleaned on a regular basis (which is NOT). A Lummi Health Inspector needs to be hired to monitor the Wexliem, and the Veterans Hall.
- They should put in couches for our elders and handicap people, and a few for others that sit comfortably, a monitored playground outside for our children, when attending a lengthy activity, and for the worker that takes care of this facility. a lounge are, with apartment accommodations, including, computer access, television water and electrical assistance, for that room.

# Open Lummi Festivals

## MAJORITY FAVOR ADDING LUMMI FESTIVALS

CHART 10: OPEN FESTIVALS



**ANALYSIS:** Only a few respondents were against having open festivals, with a majority favoring more festivals.

## *Respondent Input – For Open Lummi Festivals*

- Water is life festival each season! Follow the seasons of the gatherer's and harvesters festival in partnership with NWIC Cooperative Extension!
- I believe they are improving. Parking will always be an issue as well as traffic.
- Commemorate achievements of cultural and historical significance.
- In the Southwest, Tribes have a Feast Day where each of the clans take turns dancing and they invite lots of people from the cities.
- Music events. Canoe rentals, camping. But the grounds need tremendous improvement.
- More the better.
- Keep simple.
- Lummi don't have money that why we need tourist to come here come to the attraction, stay for the action.
- Storytelling.
- More events at 260 & SRC.



# Open Lummi Festivals



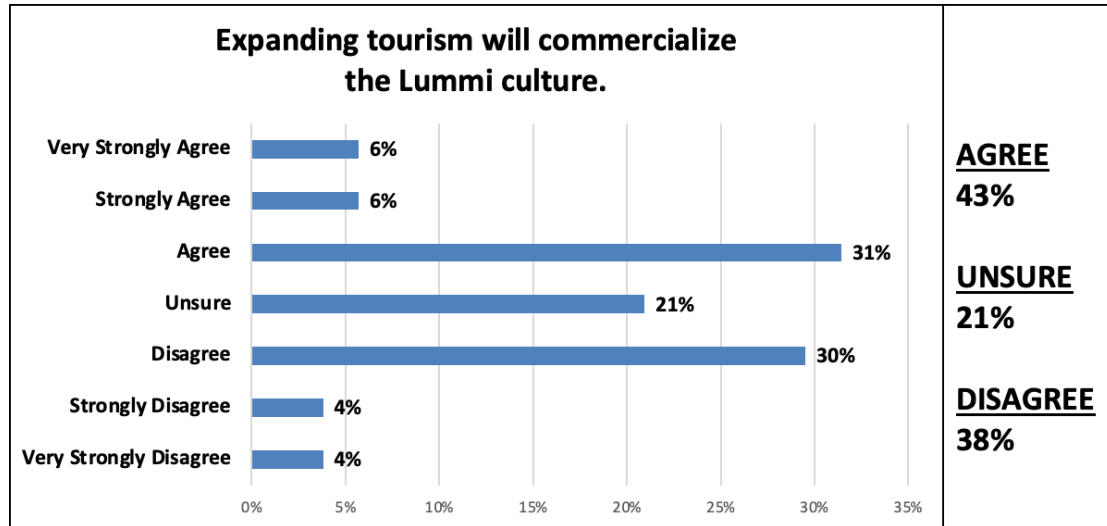
## *Respondent Input – For Open Lummi Festivals, cont.*

- 2 Per year, better advertising to attract more people for daytime activities.
  - PR and relationships with the community as friends and partners can lead to positive things for future generations.
  - Traditional Healing Day of Prayer there were so many people that enjoyed that festival and it is healing for the community.
  - Stay traditional.
  - Maybe be more inclusive....openly inclusive.
  - MORE POW WOWS also inviting more tribes to be a part of. Not only canoe journeys.
  - Huge salmon festival. Before and after school festivities Elders Day once a monthly with monthly elder birthdays.
  - I think that educational festivals about the Point Elliot Treaty, Lhaq' te' mish Day, Billy Frank Jr.
  - Promote our artists and tribal talents, there used to be a Lummi Cultural Resource Center and the tribe ended it?
- It takes money to make money. Where would the on-going money come from to have festivals. Right now that likely comes from hard dollars. Also there is the on-going issue of whose ideas get implemented and whose do not. It's always a matter of personal connections /favors /favoritism no matter what anyone says.
  - Develop Stommish grounds for public events; need new kitchen, landscaping, pavement, sidewalks, park setting, canoe or kayak rental, boat rides to islands, cook traditional foods for events to be held, music events offered at grounds like Barkley village holds and charge fee and invite vendors. I would rather develop cove and Stommish grounds vs Portage.



## ***TOURISM COULD LEAD TO COMMERCIALIZATION***

**CHART 11: TOURISM & CULTURAL COMMERCIALIZATION**

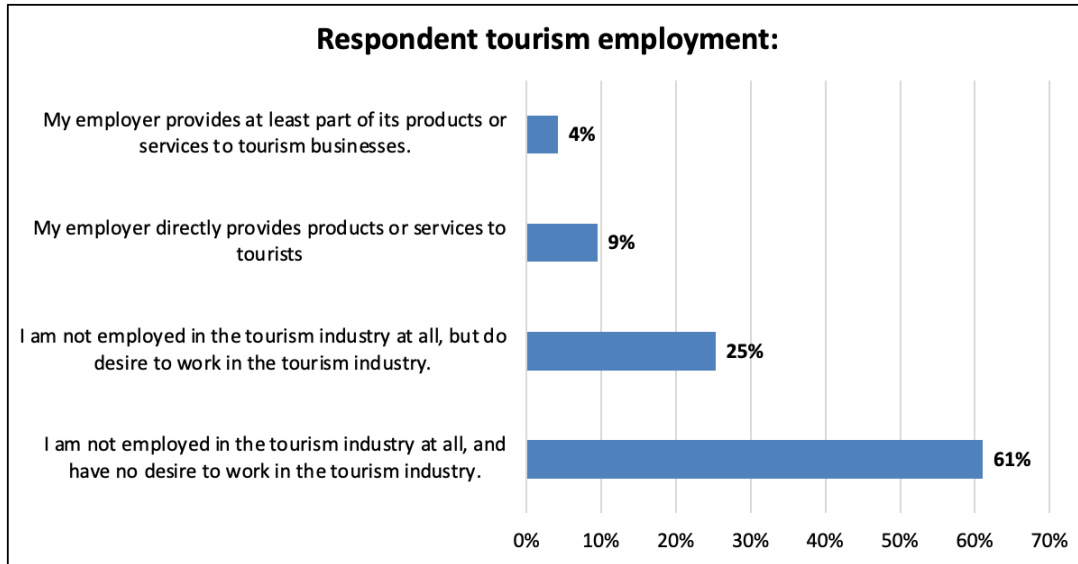


**ANALYSIS:** Commercialization of Lummi culture can be a concern for future types of tourism development.

# Lummi Tourism Employment & Development

## MAJORITY DON'T WANT TOURISM EMPLOYMENT

**CHART 12: TOURISM EMPLOYMENT**



**ANALYSIS:** A majority of respondents have no desire to work in the tourism industry (61%), while 13% have some tourism employment affiliation, and 25% are not employed by tourism but are interested.

## *Respondent Input – Lummi Tourism Development*

- Cultural liaison-follow the Disney way of how they do cultural sharing. Not exploiting but sharing the beautiful rich Lummi culture.
- I am a Coast Salish or Lummi Artist; Carver and Painter, as well as a Hip Hop Artist and Music Producer, Cultural and Spiritual Community Youth Advocate and Activist; Social, Environmental and Cultural Activist. I believe that we have needed a Cultural and Performing Arts Center, where Lummi's can gather and learn, but also show their art and be able to share it and create a platform for them to share it with the greater public and or general public and possibly generate an income and help to break down barriers and ignorant and biased views from non-natives and help generate public opportunity of engagement and education for Lummi Nation and the general public.
- If tourism is to be developed, I suggest a full study of environmental and economic impacts. I prefer to see an ECO-Tourism approach promoting Lummi Nation as Caretakers of the land, wildlife and Salish Sea.
- Partner with existing tribal tourism and gather input, do more research!



# Lummi Tourism Development



## *Respondent Input – Lummi Tourism Development, cont.*

- Fitness and honor park only way Lummi will reduce health care cost is to get our people active the best thing you can give your child and family is good health start giving bikes weightlifting equipment food trucks instead of Lynden fair entry tickets act like you care about our people.
- I worked in South America building plans around eco-tourism. This is exciting to hear the direction this is taking.
- It's a whole new book to Lummi- if a museum happens. It will be a good thing for college students to run the show , learn from our Lummi people.
- Island charters with performances at historical locations, potlatches, culture jams, canoe rides, reef netting, basket weaving, language coarse, traditional food, etc.
- Something similar to the way Swinomish has the trading post store & museum. Recommend that you & this team visit the surrounding tribes to get the vision of what's best, Neah Bay- permits required for Non-tribals access to beach . Generates revenue. Trading post / museum / 7 cedars waterfront museum & visitor center.
- Information center.
- Set up a craft selling station to start? Tourism on Lummi is a tough situation. We don't have the right atmosphere to attract people in? Get more retail. Food vendors, and business that attract people...not so mush lummi culture?
- Teach teach teach! Any position involves some sort of communication with outside people. Need to be able to treat people with respect even when they are not treating you with respect. Need to be able to handle stressful situations with tact. Employee relations is so important and reflects on the whole community. Bad service travels faster than good service!
- Storyteller and folklore, Canoe Families Musician - song & dance
- Renting sailboats, mini excursions.
- I think there could be some controlled tourist activities if run by tribal members only. Salmon education, Saltwater salmon people. Voyaging canoe lessons and cultural significance. Traditional knowledge. Do not exploit traditional medicines and medicinal medicine plant collecting. That is NOT appropriate. Activities that promote understanding and history with non native people. Development often brings crime and exploitation. Any proposal should DO NO HARM to the land, water, people.



# Lummi Tourism Development



## *Respondent Input – Lummi Tourism Development, cont.*

- Historical boat tours and charter boats! I love going on the San Juan ones and we could do that. I always notice how the tour guides only tell the non tribal history. People should get to hear our history.
- Island tourism.
- I work is Social Services, but I am a artist who sells art and it supports may family as we are all artists.
- Provide a Lummi Seafood first class restaurant by the water.
- A museum would be great. Though we have the Archives building, it's being used to house paperwork from LIBC. Not the highest and best use of an environmentally controlled building. We could include so many things in a museum such as permanent and rotating exhibits, a gift shop, archives and demonstrations; all while carefully controlling what is shown to the general public.

## *Respondent Input – Tourism Development Concerns*

- I do NOT SUPPORT tourism on Lummi. I spent some time in a small town that opened up to tourism...the homes are now over 750,000\$. Same homes as when I grew up.
- We are currently working on Elder care facilities and homes projects hopefully they will both generate funds for or community and provide services for our elders.
- I currently do not live on Lummi because of my husband's work situation, but that is not to say I will not ever live on/near Lummi. I am currently researching and working towards a place in the tourism industry in my current locale.
- My worry is Security. Giving too much information will deplete our culture. Tourism will need to be monitored so no garbage is left or dumped. We need a new veterans Hall. Top of the line at Stommish grounds A deck for Elders to watch canoe races and enjoy being outside. One with elevator for wheelchair accessibility.
- Quit exploring who we are and start communicating with cultural knowledge holders. Somethings are more important than building your career.



# Lummi Tourism Development



## *Respondent Input – Tourism Development Concerns, cont.*

- With tourism being such a broad term, it is odd to answer the earlier questions. I haven't researched the impact. This is just asking for perception data. Is the grant specifically for a tourism center? How could the funds be used for something else and what would be the alternative?
- You the people giving this survey need to provide possible tourism opportunities that we the tribe is contemplating, for us to look at first.



# Silver Reef Casino Resort



## *Respondent Input – TSRC Tourism / Cultural Improvements*

- The Casino needs to represent us and who we are better and it should be known as soon as you pull into the parking lot and or walk into the casino, there should be cultural art and references to people and place and the rich history of the land, should all be seen and told from the moment you arrive, you know that you are in the Lummi Nation, the Salmon People and the People of the Sea.
- Put a lot of Lummi art decor in casino and throughout entire resort including hotel and hotel rooms. Show off Lummi Culture not just gaming.
- Needs more native artwork thru out the casino. quit the thinking if I hire one artist, I'll have to hire 10 more.
- Include an information center that focuses on treaty times, treaty area, fishing, trading, pre- contact post contact snippets, truth about Whatcom County how it was taken not won. There were no wars here.
- Cultural demonstrations and regularly sharing for people to pay for and learn from. Examples: weaving demos, showing documentaries, learning about reef net fisheries, language.
- More fun family entertainment options with recreation centers for the greater community.
- An annual Lummi Film Festival of all Lummi Families and wellness.
- Develop amphitheater venue and expand hotel.
- Poker tournaments, more atm access, bigger swimming pool, more jacuzzies, AKC dog contest course contest.
- Celebrate Gaming. It feels like we are taking from gaming without recognizing the foundation of which our gaming is built upon. Sure there is art the represents gaming on the walls but do something that to celebrate the Class One gaming which is the reason why we have class two and three gaming.
- SRC DOES NOT promote Lummi tribal art or history outside of the display of framed art in the hallway of hotel and the elevator floors. It's discouraging because we could promote more history associated with our fisherman when selling our seafood or even sell tribal art in the casino. Not that first nations Canadian art. That money doesn't support our families.



# Silver Reef Casino Resort



## *Respondent Input – Tourism / Cultural Improvements, cont.*

- Not enough presence of Lummi Nation, other casinos have their Council members pictures hanging up.
- I would like it if Reef used local produce and seafood. Supporting our tribal fishermen in our community should be important. We could keep the funding in our community longer and create a stronger tribal economy.
- Need to stick with Lummi performance first, including training.
- U could create space for rotating vendors there, no more expansions unless it's a community pool.
- Add note entertainment, music, serve local crab and fish caught by tribal fishermen, general shellfish beds to sell products to casino eateries, for a start.
- Concerts that also draw younger crowds.
- Having a touring of the waters around our reservation and hotel stay and play. Work with fishers on off fishing season to do trolling and hotel stay and play.



# Notes



## *Survey Report Response & Notes For Future Research*

- Input.