



Ancestral Link and Associates Inc.

Cultural Knowledge & Green Tech Hub

Environmental Experience

David Fierro

First Nations Environmental & Community Strategist

David Fierro (Xa Xa Smanxwt) is a member of the Okanagan Nation. With over 20 years of experience and a multi-disciplined education specializing in biological systems from a First Nation perspective, he works jointly with corporations, industries, and First Nations to develop and implement effective and economical solutions for developments on First Nations Traditional Territories. David takes pride in his work and is committed to positively impacting the environment and the community.

With extensive expertise in Environmental Assessment, economic solutions, and negotiations, David has worked with several entities, including the Squamish Nation, Saulteau First Nation, St'at'imc First Nation, and First Nations Forestry Council. In his role, he is responsible for reviewing development applications across a range of sectors, from residential and commercial to industrial, interpreting environmental assessments, and upholding traditional values on behalf of First Nations.

Additionally, David has forged collaborative partnerships with several First Nations communities on a variety of projects:

- Environment Canada, Musqueam, Tsleil-waututh, Squamish regarding an Environmental Assessment for the Burrard Inlet
- Coast Salish First Nations towards the Howe Sound Marine Use Plan
- New Relationship between the BC Government and First Nations in the Forestry Industry

David has gained an innate understanding of the importance of engaging with First Nations as development partners by working with proponents such as BC Hydro, Port Metro, LNG, Fortis, Forestry, and Mining. His extensive skills and experience are essential as future industries and developments in First Nation's Territories in BC require higher environmental standards, as evidenced by extensive research.

Corporate Ownership:

2001 - present: Owner of Ancestral Link and Associates Inc. Incorporated 2020

Sept 2022 - present: Co-founder of 400 Drums Ltd., COO

Sept 2019 - May 2023: Co-founder of Four Our Future Indigenous Economics, COO

Project Lead - David Fierro

2018 - David Suzuki Foundation, Blueberry FN, Fort Nelson FN

The David Suzuki Foundation is helping First Nations identify areas for preserving Caribou habitats. We researched drill and lease owners and government departments involved in managing PNG resources in North Eastern BC. This project equips First Nations with negotiation skills and knowledge for long-term Caribou and ecological restoration planning.

2016 - St'at'imc Eco Resources (SER) Community Development Specialist

David helps SER and St'at'imc communities with environmental research and negotiation strategies. He renegotiates 30 Water Use Plan contracts with BC Hydro and collaborates with their subcontractors to identify opportunities to restore St'at'imc's river systems and wildlife. David works with St'at'imc communities to share business and training opportunities.

2016 - Britannia Mine Site

David has reviewed the deconstruction plan and environmental analysis for the former dams at the Britannia mine site.

2016 - Woodfibre LNG, North Vancouver

Inspection of proposed Fortis pipeline route to Woodfibre site, Howe Sound. Route review with fly-over and drill site inspections and historical data analysis. Negative assessment due to previous instability. Route scrapped, the new route being investigated.

2016 - BC Hydro

Review BC Hydro's plan to use herbicides on transmission lines and facility areas on reserve and Traditional territory. No formal guidelines exist so that California standards will be used. An exhaustive review of the effects of each herbicide on various organisms was conducted, as well as related links to non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. A plan to use indigenous species to control invasive species without herbicides was proposed based on local traditional knowledge of vegetation. The use of herbicides has been suspended.

2016 - Port of Metro Vancouver

Review and planning for the proposed Point Grey tidal Marsh project.

2016 - Port of Metro Vancouver

Advised on the Village Creek Rehabilitation project for the former Imperial Oil refinery site in Port Moody. Included on-site cleanup and 2300+m² of adjacent lands with lead contamination.

2016 - BC Hydro

Review of Capilano/Seymour Dam water use management plan.

2016 - Intergovernmental MST Technical Steering Committee

Monitoring Plan for Regional Cumulative Effects Assessment in Burrard Inlet with the Province of BC. Includes structuring, budgeting, and zones of study, as well as parameters for restoring test areas to assess species recovery.

2016 - Stanley Park Intergovernmental Committee

- A collaborative steering committee consisting of the Vancouver Parks Board and the Musqueam, Tsleil-Waututh, and Squamish First Nations will be responsible for planning and approving all projects within Stanley Park inclusively.
- The restoration of Beaver Lake will involve reintroducing indigenous muskrats to avoid using geo-tech fabric and dredging a high-value spiritual location.
- The design of the Stanley Park Causeway will be evaluated and monitored for opportunities and environmental impact.
- The proposed excavation of conduits will be redesigned to avoid archaeological sites, and the placement or removal of vegetation will be reviewed and redesigned to prevent disturbing archaeological remains.

2016 - (SCRD) Sunshine Coast Regional District

ARC Branch Applications and Permitting Amendments to development parameters related to geotechnical issues in Elphinstone/West Howe Sound/Roberts Creek were blocked due to the district's overreach to amend permitting on Reserve lands based on climate change modelling.

2016 - Jericho Tennis Club lands upgrade

Assessment of subsurface archaeological values. Disturbances to lands opposed.

2016 - City of Vancouver

Locarno storm sewer outlet dredging. Review of the previous dredging performed to assess archaeological disturbance risks.

2016 - City of Vancouver

Assessment of local species at risk, road design, and negotiation of oil recovery sumps to protect Lynn Creek were conducted during the technical, environmental, and cumulative effects assessment of the proposed Mountain Highway Interchange Functional Design Project.

2016 - City of Vancouver

Technical analysis and negotiations were conducted to redevelop lands adjacent to the Expo site. This includes cultural access to the waters of False Creek and a Long House.

2016 - City of Vancouver

District of West Vancouver Shoreline Protection Plan

A review of erosion and hydrology of Capilano River at Ambleside Park causing beach volume loss.

2016 - Review of the Feasibility of Proposal by (PSSA)

It was proposed that the Salish Sea/Howe Sound be designated as Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) for special protection. The unique sponge reefs in Howe Sound are to be studied and protected from fishing and shipping traffic. Additionally, vessel traffic projections and shipping collision risk assessments will be conducted to ensure the area's safety.

2016 - ICS Petroleum Ltd. (PMV) Steel Mooring Piling Installation

Review of the proposed development of the water lot. Objection as development was in an established rockfish conservation area.

2016 - (PMV) - G3 Grain terminal

Technical analysis of the proposed development of a grain terminal plan, cumulative effects assessment to Burrard Inlet shoreline.

2016 - BC Hydro

Environmental assessment of PCB contamination from transformers for the Britannia substation equipment replacement and evaluation of the remediation plan for proper disposal of contaminated soils.

2016 - Environment Canada (SARA)

The protection of species at risk in Squamish Territory is of utmost importance. To ensure their recovery, we participated in planning and gathering information from various sources such as BC Hydro, BC Parks staff, Friends of Howe Sound, Vancouver Aquarium, Squamish Elders, and Forestry reports. We mapped areas of particular interest by analyzing this data and previous information on ungulates, bears, and goats. This information was used to contour Forestry and development planning, focusing on protecting at-risk areas of spiritual, cultural, and species.

2016 - Metro Vancouver

Proposed new pipeline to supply Vancouver with water supply, running from Coquitlam into Metro Vancouver.

2016 - BC Hydro - Retrofit of Cheakamus Hydro-Electric Power Plant

The proposed project includes technical analysis of infrastructure, turbines, and penstock while negotiating for land accommodations.

2016 - City of Vancouver

Locarno Area Management Planning table. Intergovernmental technical group (City of Vancouver MST First Nations, Deputy Minister. Residential planning, architectural options to mitigate disturbances to the Locarno Midden, and preserving disturbed remains. Negotiations on a graveyard site located on the Midden for accidentally disinterred remains due to community development. Discussion on legal ramifications of redesignating the area to a cultural/ ancestral burial ground and the risk of grave robbery if the information was made public/ impact on land value by re-designating area or altering development parameters for home design in the area/ possible quantification of Locarno borders

2016 - BC Hydro- Metro North 230 kV Transmission Line

Study Assessment of wildlife management, vegetation work plan, ARC investigation on potential line routes on the north side of Burrard Inlet, midden ARC concerns South Burrard Inlet and possible finds in undisturbed areas adjacent to Barnet Highway.

2016 - Sea to Sky Natural Resource District

Occupant License to Cut (OLTC) timber to expand Britannia Quarry within Browning Lake Cultural Site (3 village sites and middens). Turned down the application.

2016 - Intergovernmental technical and planning table

MST Burrard Stewardship Council- to develop regional cumulative effects monitoring project component, shipping risks, erosion effects, oil spill response, sewage treatment, water quality, pre-contact species baseline based on midden archaeological results.

2016- Inter-tribal MST Elders Symposium at Vancouver Aquarium

Planning facilitating a symposium to acquire historical information to integrate into the Squamish Nation Howe Sound Marine Use Plan.

2016 - BC Hydro

A review of Best Management Practices for wildland stewardship should include:

- Breakdown of herbicides used, identifying toxicity on flora and fauna
- Toxicity of spraying formula adjuncts
- Countries banning these substances
- Cross-referencing studies to identify gaps in understanding health effects on humans and bacteria in the soil
- Longevity of herbicides in water and different soils
- Secondary delivery of herbicides by foragers in sensitive areas

2016 - Squamish & BC Hydro Consultation Committee

Review all projects proposed on Squamish territory and Metro Vancouver for the next ten years: technical analysis, environmental impacts, design, and remediation of older sites.

2016 - City of Vancouver-George Massey Tunnel Replacement Proposal/ Project

Hydrology, bridge design, eulachon and salmon habitats, air quality, dredging, and tunnel removal plan were reviewed.

2016 - Study of the Elaho Fire Impact Assessment

Erosion and flooding concerns in the fall/winter after the fire; I advised about increasing the height of the dike protecting Squamish Tantalus Reserve and the study of the Navigable Waters Act to find funding.

2015 - 2016 - MST group/PMV

New Brighton Park's shoreline habitat restoration project involved a thorough review of technical data, soil samples, remediation efforts, public consultations, and participation in the preliminary and final park design stages.

2015 - 2016 - Parks Board and Ministry of Forests

An on-site inspection was conducted to preserve primary ungulate travel corridors and grizzly hibernation locations, and the Brandywine snowmobile trail, Powder Mountain Snowmobile trail, Pleasure trail, and Darling Lake trail were rerouted.

2015 - 2016 - BC Hydro

The proposed BC Hydro project analysis on Squamish Territory and Metro Vancouver, including AIA, AOA, routing, cultural sites, site contamination, and appropriated lands.

2015 - 2016 - Forestry

This is a review of logging maps to accommodate nesting, rearing, and hunting areas for the Goshawk Recovery Program.

2015 - (PMV) Port of Metro Vancouver

Lands West of Cates Park- Metal contamination remediation and mud flats restoration in Tsleil-Waututh/ Squamish shared territory cultural site.

2015 - Port of Metro Vancouver

Environmental analysis of Lions Gate Bridge to Port Moody Arm dredge and disposal project, including Cumulative Impact Assessment of increased tanker size and traffic, erosion of clam beds at Purdy's Farm, and removal of decommissioned oil lines transecting Burrard Inlet (100,000m²).

2015 - Locarno Management Plan

Collaborative study with First Nations and the City of Vancouver to protect ancestral remains at Locarno Beach. Proposed changes to the Heritage Conservation Act and new architectural restrictions for residential buildings. I advised geotech designers on the fragility of ancestral remains within the Midden.

2015 - FCRSA

Black Mount Logging Application at Gambier Island was rejected due to evidence of herring spawning after 50 years of closure. I was monitoring proposed to gather data on spawning revival for potential reinvigoration of other abandoned industrial sites.

2015 - (SCRD) - Wedge Creek Clean Energy Project

Proposal to increase diversion volume of Wedge Creek to IPP. Technical analysis of plans showed detrimental impacts on fish species. Rejected.

2015 - Squamish Nation

Repatriation and reburial of ancestral remains in Gibsons, BC

2015 - Squamish Nation

Review of land development files with redrawing of a development plan to avoid disturbance of subsoil village sites: Gibsons & Sechelt

2015 - BCMEA

Western Stevedoring's Soil Remediation Project involved the removal of underground fuel storage tanks, analysis of petroleum contamination leaching towards Lynn Creek, and remediation of affected lands prior to the industrial site's redevelopment.

2015 - Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources

Review of environmental assessment and building development for condominiums, remediation and rehabilitation of development land adjacent to Creek and riparian area, and conservation of midden within the creek at Polygon Cates Landing.

2015 - Lehigh Hanson Construction Materials Terminal, South Richmond

Habitat inventory survey and remediation plan review for sensitive Fraser River habitat area derelict wharf and lands.

2015 - City of Vancouver - Burrard corridor project analysis

The Burrard Street Bridge retrofit project includes several aspects such as lighting, bike and pedestrian accessibility, drainage, expansion joints, reconfiguration of intersections, and installation of new sewer and water lines from St. Paul's Hospital to the bridge deck. Archaeological monitoring will also be conducted, and negotiations are underway to extend water, sewer, and optical cable lines into Squamish Reserve at the south end of the bridge.

2014 - Squamish Valley remediation proposal

Inclusive Ashlu mine site remediation includes acid rock drainage and soil restoration, upper Squamish spring salmon reintroduction, agroforestry plan, erosion control, and potential income streams.

Contact

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