

**February 10, 2021, 7:00 PM Skagway Town Hall Meeting- 2021 Tourism Planning Strategies  
Chat Comments from Microsoft TEAMS**

[02/10/2021 7:01 PM] Jeff Brady (Guest)

Good call, over 150 watching now.

(2 liked)

[02/10/2021 7:15 PM] Kaitlyn Jared (Guest)

Andrew, have you or the Tourism Department members been in contact with the State to see if they are going to reduce or lift the testing and quarantining requirements at the state level?

[02/10/2021 7:16 PM] Angela McCain (Guest)

If there was a business that opened and did need to hire and have employees (few) come into Skagway...since most young people cannot get vaccinated in the lower 48 would they be able to get vaccinated in Skagway? or are you requiring people coming in to be vaccinated?

[02/10/2021 7:19 PM] Jeff Brady (Guest)

I think our goal should be full employment locally with who is here now. And with herd immunity achieved among those workers (as a condition of employment) we can then promote ourselves as a safe community to visit this summer. And that we all will be masked, and there will be social distancing, etc.

[02/10/2021 7:19 PM] Verhaeghe, Jason R

Hi Andrew, Has any of the large cruise lines been at all receptive to registering as a US vessel and sailing in US waters

[02/10/2021 7:20 PM] Ms C (Guest)

Market our outdoor adventure corridor and small cruise vessels. We can do this!

[02/10/2021 7:20 PM] Nedler (Guest)

This format of town hall meeting is the most accessible and my favorite type so far. I hope this is used more often.

[02/10/2021 7:20 PM] Alaskanfairytale Skagway AK (Guest)

I personally would like my staff to wear masks in my shop and offer hand sanitizer to my staff and customers.

[02/10/2021 7:23 PM] Alaskanfairytale Skagway AK (Guest)

Yes, I also agree that the more that we hire locally the better off our community will be. Let's support each other.

[02/10/2021 7:23 PM] Brian Cozzens (Alaska Coach Tours) (Guest)

Hi All! As you are all aware, there is a medium/large contingency of us that consider Skagway home, but are not currently physically there. In the event of small American flagged lines coming, is there a plan for allowing those of us in the lower 48, who may not have had access to the vaccine, to come home to work?

[02/10/2021 7:25 PM] Jeff Brady (Guest)

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I see John Walsh, our lobbyist, is on the call. John and Andrew, is it worth our effort to lobby the state to push for better ferry service with the opportunity to use those US-bottomed ships to get more people to SE Alaska.

[02/10/2021 7:27 PM] Duff & Karla Ray (Guest)

Are there any Marketing plans and dollars available to market Skagway as the mecca for independent travel this summer?

[02/10/2021 7:27 PM] Danielle (Guest)

Are there statistics published on the actual number of individuals in our community who are currently vaccinated in relation to our population?

[02/10/2021 7:29 PM] C.C. (Guest)

<https://www.skagway.org/administration/page/coronavirus-covid-19-information-page> @danielle its at the top of the page... 60 with 2 doses...

[02/10/2021 7:29 PM] Angela McCain (Guest)

Totally understandable on all of those points. Thanks!

[02/10/2021 7:31 PM] Alaskanfairytale Skagway AK (Guest)

Andrew have you had any conversations with other Southeast communities like Ketchikan, Juneau, Hoonah, Haines and essentially pooling our resources for advertising or marketing Southeast Alaska as a whole?

[02/10/2021 7:36 PM] sherry corrington (Guest)

Has anyone contacted Hyder to discuss how they were able to get their variance and access Canada? Can we mirror this for local residents?

[02/10/2021 7:44 PM] Janilyn Heger (Guest)

Remote workers is a great idea,

[02/10/2021 7:47 PM] munson\_melinda (Guest)

Danielle, as of Monday, 617 adults in Skagway had received their first COVID vaccine.

[02/10/2021 7:52 PM] Ms C (Guest)

Bingo Andrew. No US vessel with US workers can compete with the cruise lines notoriously overworked and underpaid minorities. No better example of ethnic inequity.

[02/10/2021 7:52 PM] Unknown User PI left the conversation.

[02/10/2021 7:53 PM] Paul (Guest)

Please don't assume that returning seasonal workers would take jobs from residents. They sometimes bring skills that are not otherwise found in the community.

[02/10/2021 7:56 PM] Lauren Taylor (Guest)

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What can be done to help promote local shops with websites to boost sales online till we can open again?

[02/10/2021 8:03 PM] Paul (Guest)  
How many beds are there in Skagway?

[02/10/2021 8:05 PM] cou (Guest)  
because he is annoying.

[02/10/2021 8:06 PM] Hillery Lesh (Guest)  
Has there been any talk about hosting an annual event in town to attract other Alaskans and travelers? Haines has Beer Fest and the SE State Fair, Juneau has Folk Fest... What can we do to attract everyone to town for a week each year? Some sort of festival or multi-day event to promote local businesses at Deadman's Stage, or Pullen Pond, or the flats campground area? Give multiple restaurants, businesses, breweries, etc the opportunity to set up temporary stands and allow our campgrounds to be filled with tents, and not just monthly RV slots.

[02/10/2021 8:07 PM] Janilyn Heger (Guest)  
I like this format and hope it's added to future meetings

[02/10/2021 8:07 PM] munson\_melinda (Guest)  
Can anyone see speakers? I can hear, see chat, and that's it.

[02/10/2021 8:08 PM] Yvonne (Guest)  
Cruise lines use crew from foreign countries so they cannot get their crew back to sail soon. There is a lot that goes into sailing a large ship that the cruise lines haven't been able to resolve. It will be great when it has been resolved

[02/10/2021 8:09 PM] Janilyn Heger (Guest)  
Melinda try arrow at top left of this screen

[02/10/2021 8:09 PM] Angela McCain (Guest)  
If they don't have their cameras on you won't see them. I think a lot just have their mics on

[02/10/2021 8:09 PM] Ryan Mandeville (Guest)  
This is Lisa Mandeville. I keep hearing that Skagway will be close to herd immunity with the vaccinations underway, but does that include the children under age 18 or 16 who cannot be vaccinated yet? I'm concerned for kids in our community; kids can get sick, and sometimes seriously sick from Covid.

[02/10/2021 8:09 PM] munson\_melinda (Guest)  
Can anyone see Andrew?

[02/10/2021 8:10 PM] deb potter (Guest)  
i can

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[02/10/2021 8:11 PM] Red & Tami (Guest)  
munson\_melinda: in the lower right corner

[02/10/2021 8:11 PM] Verhaeghe, Jason R  
munson\_melinda can you see circles with people's initials at the bottom of the screen?

[02/10/2021 8:11 PM] Miller (Guest)  
I'm also wondering about the youth being vaccinated since we hire several under the age of 18.

[02/10/2021 8:14 PM] Red & Tami (Guest)  
can you make this screen available for download to use on our fb pages?

[02/10/2021 8:15 PM] Cindy O'D (Guest)  
Costs of travel for SE residents is, at this point, cost prohibitive. If we could convince our state government to offer travel incentives on the ferry such as 'Driver Goes Free', group discounts for families, etc, it would go a long way to getting regional visitors.

[02/10/2021 8:15 PM] Janilyn Heger (Guest)  
What about hiking the Chilkoot Trail?

[02/10/2021 8:15 PM] Jeff Brady (Guest)  
This plan will also show people that you can get here without jumping on a cruise ship, and stay longer!

[02/10/2021 8:15 PM] Sager (Guest)  
Along the same lines as Hillary's suggestion...a restaurant festival. Block off Broadway. Restaurants can serve samplings of their best dishes. People can graze, have a drink, shop, and walk around. This used to be a huge event in my home town.  
(1 liked)

[02/10/2021 8:16 PM] Red & Tami (Guest)  
travel packages with Alaska seaplanes

[02/10/2021 8:19 PM] Kaitlyn Jared (Guest)  
Jim that's a great idea!

[02/10/2021 8:19 PM] Gary Heger (Guest)  
How about working on the state to improve the ferry service to be more like it was designed, for SE resident transportation and visitors to SE and the interior. The service has been diminished and become far from affordable. This might be more of a drawing card to get more travelers coming our way.

[02/10/2021 8:20 PM] Kaitlyn Jared (Guest)  
SDC can help with events by using our special event permits to host beer gardens at events

[02/10/2021 8:20 PM] Mark Larsen (Guest)

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Lets advertise in Whitehorse to get them working to get the Canandian government to open up

[02/10/2021 8:20 PM] Jeff and Becky Mull (Guest)

Very positive ideas! Let's do this, Skagway! I'll help in any way I can to help in going forward with combined tours, housing, etc...

[02/10/2021 8:22 PM] Nicholle (Guest)

It would be helpful if there was a contact for the USA flagged ships. Would the city be able to provide who to contact? I would gladly write a letter.

[02/10/2021 8:22 PM] John Tronrud (Guest)

Going into Canada is not realistic, until COVID is under control.

[02/10/2021 8:23 PM] KayLynn H. (Guest)

You can still hike to Sheep Camp!

[02/10/2021 8:23 PM] KayLynn H. (Guest)

Need permit from the NPS for overnights, which they were still issuing last summer.

[02/10/2021 8:24 PM] Alaskanfairytale Skagway AK (Guest)

I would also love contact information for the US flagged ships. I am all in for doing a weekly art event for travelers at Alaskan Fairytales. I would happily piggyback with other businesses to make weekly or monthly events as travelers come in.

[02/10/2021 8:28 PM] Ms C (Guest)

We need to get INTO this situation, with vim and vigor and promotion of what we all know and love about this place.

[02/10/2021 8:28 PM] John Tronrud (Guest)

To promote any type of traveler from Whitehorse, can someone check what they need to do to come to Skagway and then return to Canada?

[02/10/2021 8:31 PM] Gretchen (Guest)

Wel.....there is a ferry for sale...

[02/10/2021 8:31 PM] Cindy O'D (Guest)

I think this refers to Whitehorse residents coming to Skagway

[02/10/2021 8:31 PM] munson\_melinda (Guest)

NATALIE: For Andrew: What about children who can't be vaccinated? There are several comments regarding this in the above thread.

(1 liked)

[02/10/2021 8:31 PM] Red & Tami (Guest)

I'll meet you at the border if you bring me KFC

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[02/10/2021 8:32 PM] Gretchen (Guest)  
I know..... it was an ill timed attempt at humor

[02/10/2021 8:32 PM] Mike Olivo (Guest)  
On Behalf of American Cruise Lines. emails can be sent to [docking@americancruiselines.com](mailto:docking@americancruiselines.com)

[02/10/2021 8:33 PM] Angela McCain (Guest)  
Right now only Canadian residents and ppl with PR can cross land borders. But you will have to present a negative covid test that is 72hrs or less. Otherwise they will be fined. Hopefully, the Yukon and BC will be lifting their quarantine requirements soon too. They just released this information today for the land crossings

[02/10/2021 8:33 PM] Steve Hites (Guest)  
The ferry idea is interesting...too expensive, but the Fjordland will be sailing back and forth to JNU which will help.

[02/10/2021 8:33 PM] Fa (Guest)  
Rufus is a God.

[02/10/2021 8:33 PM] Verhaeghe, Jason R  
you are a great mayor! we are lucky to have you. thank you

[02/10/2021 8:34 PM] Jeff Brady (Guest)  
Thanks Mayor, lots of good feedback tonight. A great start!

[02/10/2021 8:34 PM] Paul (Guest)  
Thank you Mayor Cremata

[02/10/2021 8:34 PM] Andrew Wurst  
Thank you for using this platform. Works great in Texas and can't wait to get back.

[02/10/2021 8:34 PM] Steve Hites (Guest)  
Thank you Andrew

[02/10/2021 8:34 PM] Kaitlyn Jared (Guest)  
Quick shout out, more information to come but SDC is hosting a community catch up on March 11th with our Federal delegation if you have any questions to ask them, it will be a great time to use our voice

[02/10/2021 8:34 PM] Angela McCain (Guest)  
Thanks for the meeting! Really liked this format/platform. Miss you Skagway!

[02/10/2021 8:34 PM] Marv Russell (Guest)  
Thank you Andrew for a great meeting! keep up the good work

[02/10/2021 8:35 PM] Duff & Karla Ray (Guest)

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Thanks for the meeting!!!

[02/10/2021 8:35 PM] Jaime Bricker (Guest)

Thank you!