

COMPLEXITY

PRINCIPLES

- ▶ Harmony and balance whilst meeting shared needs.
- ▶ Triple bottom line accounting (discover what has been done to evaluate the environmental, social and economic development).
- ▶ No commitments to action in isolation, so as to maintain integrity and focus on the whole.
- ▶ Model human communities on the complexity and diversity of the whole.
- ▶ Economic, social and environmental factors are interdependent and must be considered together.
- ▶ Decisions need to consider unexpected and or unintended effects.

ISSUES/ IDEAS

- ▶ Future generations will be affected by our actions.
- ▶ Responsible evaluation of all factors by criteria (standards) independent of any one group's interests.
- ▶ We must educate ourselves about the benefits of supporting our local economy (blueberry farm, cranberry farm, potatoes, carrots, eggs, chicken, honey).
- ▶ Agriculture and forestry need encouragement. They need access to the best market.
- ▶ Keep it simple and accurate
- ▶ Our ecosystems are stable when diverse and complex. Thereby our communities will be more stable when diverse and complex. We cannot continue to isolate residential from work, play, shopping and personal services.
- ▶ Preservation and enhancement of agricultural land.
- ▶ How sustainable is our current situation?
- ▶ Respect for water courses, wetlands, aquifers, drinking water.
- ▶ Use existing prediction modelling technology to show realistic impact of proposed changes.
- ▶ Triple bottom line accounting focuses on giving value to economic, social, and environmental – the challenge is quantifying social and environmental wellness in terms equivalent to economics (\$).
- ▶ Future planning must consider the complexity of the impact of peak oil and climate change and thereby plan for a changing paradigm (more personal food production, alternative transportation to car, etc.).

- ▶ Controlled growth allowing for preservation of the environment and the rural nature of the area outside of the village.
- ▶ Preserve farmland and green space (food security, 100 mile diet, etc.)
- ▶ The need to support non-motorized traffic
 - Non-vehicle modes of transportation
 - Get out of the car.
- ▶ Future generations will need to be self-sustaining.
- ▶ Recognize nature's unpredictability, and prepare for natural disasters.

PARTICIPATION 1

PRINCIPLES

- ▶ Develop an open communication between the RDN and the local community.
- ▶ Work towards our local community having a stronger voice.
- ▶ Increase participation in local elections and building a platform for youths to vote on relevant issues.
- ▶ Keep local traditions in the community.
- ▶ Effective sharing of information within the community.
- ▶ Keep an open mind.

ISSUES/ IDEAS

- ▶ Members of Citizens' Committee should ensure information is distributed to their respective community.
- ▶ Newsletters for local information about events – circulation of information
- ▶ Monthly communication between officials and community.
- ▶ Go to all meetings and be heard
- ▶ Have opinions
- ▶ Council – good support and someone who understands rural living to support residents' concerns.
- ▶ Full participation can only be accomplished if all involved are in possession of all the facts – i.e. no hidden agendas
- ▶ The facts and nothing but the facts and NO fibs
- ▶ Non-confrontation is essential. Differing opinions must be respected.
- ▶ Participation of local people with the RDN (and vice versa) in all decision making processes which affect this community.

- ▶ Focus on local government and local economy.
- ▶ More local power to local people.
- ▶ Local council
- ▶ Participation of local people in development issues.

PARTICIPATION 2

PRINCIPLES

- ▶ Provide a welcoming environment to allow participation by all segments of the community
- ▶ Ensure a meaningful outcome is developed from the input of each public session – that is reflected in the OCP.
- ▶ Encourage participation of community groups.

ISSUES/ IDEAS

- ▶ Encourage and seek out participation from all stakeholders.
- ▶ Participation must be meaningful
- ▶ People must realize their participation may make a difference.
- ▶ Discuss common interests and not focus on positions.
- ▶ Seek out community opinion in several ways (open forums, surveys etc.) to establish goals.
- ▶ All inclusive, interest focussed, open and safe.
- ▶ Process must be recorded and auditable to the OCP outcome.
- ▶ Process should include multiple formats to allow input – from first nations, schools, etc.
- ▶ Provide a comfortable environment for people to express their interests in sustainability
- ▶ RDN Area Director could attend meetings of community groups and PAC (school) groups to find out what is important to the people and to network.
- ▶ Provide full information to the public before decisions are made.
- ▶ Contact Cowichan District and find out how they got 84% of their voters to turn out.
- ▶ How do we get the majority to be less sceptical about their ability to affect change
- ▶ Encourage community groups (associations, school PACs etc.) by providing support and funding. Community groups spend so much time fundraising just to

survive. Help set up a method for these groups (based in each community i.e. Cassidy, SW, Cedar, Yellowpoint) to network ideas, concerns, interests.

- ▶ RDN bulletins need headlines that would capture interest so people get involved.

EFFICIENCY 1

PRINCIPLES

- ▶ Support safe and cost effective methods of transportation of people and goods.
- ▶ Promote and support food production on agricultural land
- ▶ Ensure efficient use of water resources (surface and subsurface)
- ▶ Protect and sustain existing water resources.
- ▶ Support best practices for development
- ▶ Promote effective communication of community activities and changes.
- ▶ From Sheet:
 - Promote active, healthy and creative living
 - Support local food production
 - Support best practices for development

ISSUES/ IDEAS

- ▶ Support safe and cost effective transport of people and goods to reduce fossil fuel consumption and increase safety and cost of infrastructure
- ▶ Integrate: bike, air, water, road, light rail transit, bus
- ▶ Protect food production on agricultural land through incentives
- ▶ Efficient communication of development/ change, i.e. notice posted for change of land use posted on site i.e. logging of large sites without notice to neighbours
- ▶ Support/ facilitate communication of land use changes
- ▶ Encourage efficient use of water resources
- ▶ Reduce reliance on automobile
- ▶ Efficient transport.
- ▶ Toll bridge to Cedar. Free for local residents and South Wellington!

EFFICIENCY 2

PRINCIPLES

- ▶ Use local resources first.
- ▶ Facilitate movement within the Region
- ▶ Apply flexibility with application of regulations.

ISSUES/ IDEAS

- ▶ Getting off the grid and/or adding to the grid:
 - Small scale wind power and rooftop power generation
 - Supply the local electrical grid with renewable energy
 - Encourage green building and ways to sell power back to the grid
 - Encourage the efficient use of renewable resources
- ▶ Transportation efficiency:
 - Bike paths and walking paths to encourage people to get out of their cars.
 - Shorten the route between S. Wellington and Cedar for walkers and riders
 - Build a bridge connecting Morden Rd and Hemer Park for community and transportation purposes – for non-motorized traffic only
 - Connect area residents with trails and bridge
 - Emphasize the importance of rail nodes
 - More efficient bus service (scheduling) – smaller bus that came more often like the handy dart size. Needs less passengers and would be more efficient.
- ▶ Farming
 - Local market for area products – accessible and sheltered
 - Have a year round farmers' market – Encourage people to grow their food
 - Bureaucracy does not allow for 100-mile diet due to too many unreasonable rules and regulations, e.g. not allowed to butcher beef and stringent rules for farmer markets do not encourage eating locally
 - Community exchange network for local small producers
 - RDN to promote use of land fill site for greenhouse food production i.e. free use of land and methane collection.
- ▶ Gardening
 - Community gardens
 - Compost in the community
 - Legalise composting toilets and greywater use
 - Local food production vs. trucked in and out food

- ▶ Reduce external inputs. Increase local production
- ▶ Encourage all agencies i.e. health, highways, VIU, City of Nanaimo, RDN, NCID to share all of their studies and data on water, sewer, environment, etc.
- ▶ More flexibility for regulation changes to permit efficiencies to take place
- ▶ Openness to new ideas and exploring rigidity
- ▶ Make it easier for farmers to actually farm i.e. nowhere to take animals for butchering
- ▶ RDN to reduce (eliminate bureaucracy for farmers markets – i.e. shady mile problems.
- ▶ Develop an internal transportation network that connects to external networks

EQUITY 1

PRINCIPLES

- ▶ Stewardship of our habitat (humans, animals, plants, natural processes) projects the broadest interpretation of the principle of equity
- ▶ Work to promote dependence of choice in how land holdings can be used by the owners; freedom to farm, or to do otherwise, and not be driven by artificial residential development based valuations.
- ▶ Shift Area A to a role as buffer for Gulf Islands Marine Conservation Area
- ▶ Ensure that process control and transparency in land use planning for Area A puts the residents on an even footing with professional developers.
- ▶ Alternative transportation options for be given equal status
- ▶ Young people – opportunity to put down roots.

ISSUES/ IDEAS

- ▶ Equity is the representation of all interest groups at the table, and giving that representation equal voice in decision-making. E.g. this means that the needs of plants and animals are considered as important as people's (in fact, as human needs themselves) because respect for the world in which we are a part is critical for sustainable futures. We are in the mess we are because we have not respected other needs, to the point where we can no longer respect the human needs of each other.
- ▶ Therefore, take into account all human needs, rather than wants and project them into the future as wants of animals (which we are) and plants (which we depend on for food).
- ▶ Residents interests to be given at least as much weight as developers
- ▶ Mutuality, interdependence
- ▶ Recognizing need for stewardship of the earth and ourselves.

- ▶ Create opportunity for young residents to put down their own roots and remain in the area as adults
- ▶ Provide transparency in land use and growth management so that any resident can understand the process
- ▶ Process to inform and involve residents when development proposed
- ▶ Future generations need to be able to make a decent living from farming without being taxed to death or have many hoops to jump through – otherwise they should be allowed to subdivide
- ▶ Have less people in government doing nothing but make up rules and levying taxes – gouging people at every turn
- ▶ Encourage agriculture, forestry and industry
- ▶ Develop walking, biking trails
- ▶ Paved road shoulders
- ▶ Develop meat processing facility
- ▶ Allow property owners to use their land as they see fit, provided they don't pollute the neighbourhood, or the greater environment

EQUITY 2

PRINCIPLES

- ▶ Make sure that municipalities and electoral areas are equal partners in the Regional Growth Management Strategy and the sustainability principles so that all citizens in the Regional District are treated in an equitable manner.
- ▶ Recognize and encourage that limited incremental growth is required to allow our future generations to live in the community they grew up in
- ▶ Recognize that the community includes all levels of economic diversity when making decisions on community planning.
- ▶ Recognize that rural integrity primarily means living in a community of large lots and acreages that have access to limited services.

ISSUES/ IDEAS

- ▶ Recognize the diverse income levels that exist in electoral Area A when making decisions. There is very low to medium to high incomes all within the community.
- ▶ Keeping our children in Cedar – keeping it affordable for them to live here.
- ▶ Improve roads and shoulders to encourage walking, biking, etc.
- ▶ Include all levels of economic diversity in community planning

- ▶ Find a way to allow incremental growth that will allow our children to raise their families in the community they grew up in.
- ▶ Lands which cannot sustain income to be usable for income-producing ideas.
- ▶ Provide more liveable space in areas that are not farm land
- ▶ Large development projects shouldn't be allowed. Small incremental growth must be permitted.
- ▶ Eliminate inequities between municipalities and electoral areas on growth management and sustainability principles
- ▶ Permit growth based on carbon balance – perform carbon balance inventory
- ▶ Remove city appointees from RDN Board. Only area elected representatives on the Board.
- ▶ To provide local services such as to sustain a community in its own social and economic diversity (shopping, schools, churches, industrial) so that we don't need to travel to town.
- ▶ Newcomers to the District need to recognize that now that they have their prized piece of property, the gates to future development shouldn't be closed.

ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY 1

PRINCIPLES

- ▶ Minimize our ecological footprint
- ▶ Preservation of biodiversity
- ▶ Recognize and respect the interconnectedness of Life
- ▶ Protect ecological integrity for the greater good of all without placing an unfair burden on individuals
- ▶ Support ecological education

ISSUES/ IDEAS

- ▶ Reduce the impact of human activities in the environment to ensure that future generations continue to enjoy a healthy lifestyle (i.e. restrict herbicide/ pesticide use).
- ▶ Short term solutions must benefit the ecology of our area in the long term
- ▶ We need laws to protect the environment and people who are protecting the environment
- ▶ Need a trespass act which will protect property owners and the RCMP
- ▶ Require carbon tax payment for all official RDN work – i.e. practice sustainability in an economic way.

- ▶ Reduce the impact of human activities on the environment. Save the world!
- ▶ Must not impact our remaining natural capital
- ▶ Incorporate rigorous precautionary principles in the OCP/ RGS
- ▶ Find innovative ways 'environmentally friendly' to improve mobility and energy consumption
- ▶ No airport expansion – (esp. to facilitate jet aircraft)
- ▶ Transportation should move away from the motor vehicle being supreme. Walking or efficient transportation should be used for daily needs.
- ▶ Recognize that our communities should live in harmony with the environment;
- ▶ Protection of forestry lands in Area A
- ▶ Protection of Biodiversity
- ▶ Protect and/ or restore biodiversity
- ▶ Protect all our water resources
- ▶ Preserve and protect more green space
- ▶ Protect land along rivers and creeks
- ▶ Protect our water and wetlands
- ▶ Let the beaver manage the streams and the fish will be able to spawn again
- ▶ Don't permit development that threatens essential water quality and quantity needs of the region (airports over aquifers!)
- ▶ When allowing development to go forward needs an environmental review
- ▶ Plan from the ground up i.e. within the capacity and reflecting the ecosystem's limits
- ▶ Environment – be inclusive
- ▶ Seriously recognizing the wealth of nature i.e. make the environment as important as the economy
- ▶ Maintain the UCB to reflect the ecosystems and habitat that provide for the city
- ▶ Encourage personal responsibility
 - Backyard natural gardens
 - Clean-up and restoration of neighbourhood creeks, etc
 - Planting native trees and plants (and de-weeding the invasives)
 - Connect ecosystems and habitat, link them as trails, green corridors, and buffers – to help seed nature in urban areas.
- ▶ Education, inclusion, improvement
- ▶ Means to measure success
- ▶ Any change to the ecology of the area has many effects

- ▶ Protect farms
- ▶ Ensure protection of farmland, including farms not presently in ALR
- ▶ Protect ALR and agricultural capable lands
- ▶ Go organic in our home gardens and farmlands.

ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY 2

NO PRINCIPLES WRITTEN

ISSUES/ IDEAS

- ▶ Self sufficient communities
- ▶ Allow the free flow of water systems
- ▶ Make sure logging companies clean-up their land after removing trees.
- ▶ Clean air, water, soil.
- ▶ A stable ecosystem is diverse, therefore neither monoculture farming or isolated (residential) communities are sustainable in the long term.
- ▶ Provide incentives for eco-sensitive design and development. where the ecological footprint is reduced, the prospects of being sustainable are enhanced.
- ▶ Become a model for ecological integrity.
- ▶ High density nodes for sustaining elderly and young people while respecting the character and integrity of Area A rural settings.
- ▶ Protect existing ecological areas – don't allow development over them, e.g. swamp at T-Bridge Road and Code and Cedar Road.
- ▶ Don't allow scrap yards and subdivisions with septic tanks to build over aquifers
- ▶ Subsidize farmers who lose crops because of setback rules for streams, etc.
- ▶ Sustainable logging and farming
- ▶ No dumping of chemicals, pollutants
- ▶ Protection of aquifer
- ▶ Coordination of different levels of government to ensure ecological integrity
- ▶ Live in harmony with nature
- ▶ We are prepared to make changes in our behaviour and our expectation to maintain ecological integrity.

SENSE OF PLACE 1

PRINCIPLES

- ▶ Safe place founded on the knowledge that individuals are cared for
- ▶ Educate how to preserve the elements that sustain our rural environment
- ▶ Educate, reinforce and preserve local history

ISSUES/ IDEAS

- ▶ Recognize the widest diversity of interests in protecting features of Area A
- ▶ Protect and keep local schools to give children a sense of place
- ▶ Ability to live and work in the community
- ▶ Recognize the importance of community groups which are inclusive of all age groups, interests and have fun together
- ▶ Provide activities for youth as well as activities for seniors within the community
- ▶ Venues for young people
- ▶ Venues for seniors
- ▶ Safe place founded on the knowledge that individuals are cared for.
- ▶ Educate how to preserve the elements that sustain our rural environment
- ▶ Promote heritage celebrations
- ▶ Promote school educational programs
- ▶ Enhance signage of historical/ ecological sites
- ▶ Bring out the presence of the Nanaimo River more strongly, protection, access, stewardship
- ▶ Clarify terms, i.e. rural values, rural integrity

SENSE OF PLACE 2

PRINCIPLES

- ▶ Sustainable
- ▶ Beautiful
- ▶ Healthy
- ▶ Treed vistas
- ▶ Peaceful
- ▶ Sense of community
- ▶ Ecological buildings
- ▶ Half acre lots
- ▶ Minimize size of homes

- ▶ Strong farming
- ▶ Self-sufficiency

ISSUES/ IDEAS

- ▶ Minimal development - non impact on the environment and natural resources
- ▶ Live in an area with natural surroundings of an abundance of trees and pure, clean water resources, and sufficient to produce self-sufficiency in food production, and no mechanical noise from industry
- ▶ Sustainable logging within all driving distances
- ▶ Freedom for people to live on their own property as they see fit
- ▶ Socialist approach to preserving community
- ▶ No widening highways
- ▶ Parks playground
- ▶ Regulate size of property and number of houses per lot to sustain rural community feel
- ▶ Build safe sidewalks to maintain a healthy community
- ▶ Water and sewer capacity is only sustainable by large properties
- ▶ Preserve farming – permanent market
- ▶ Surroundings allow us to live in harmony with nature
- ▶ Reserve small community feel by focussing on local economy and self-sufficiency
- ▶ Sustaining water – river, oceans – lakes, aquifer
- ▶ Knowing your neighbours

GARDEN OF IDEAS/ BURNING ISSUES

RANDOM CARDS

- ▶ Major development
- ▶ Roads
- ▶ Save Schools
- ▶ Responsible Development with environment and property owner in mind
- ▶ Better communications between RDN and Area A citizens
- ▶ Consensus
- ▶ Road Maintenance

- ▶ Proper and safe sidewalks
- ▶ Development
- ▶ Transportation - BC Ferries, public?
- ▶ Local Government (District Municipality)
- ▶ Decrease distance between people and government

GOALS

- ▶ Support green building and development that will protect the rural integrity of our community
- ▶ Local, rural sustainability – filter all plans to this objective
- ▶ Protect our groundwater
- ▶ Protecting green space and wetlands: aquifers, creeks, rivers, streams, swamps, ponds
- ▶ As a sustainability concept, ensure that ideas other than the status quo are encouraged and nourished (bulk water provision, on-site liquid waste treatment)
- ▶ Preservation of rural lifestyle throughout the area. Need to prevent encroachment of rural lands by ‘businesses’ and ‘development’ whose bottom line is what they can get out of it and not the preservation of a lifestyle for which many people moved here
- ▶ Reduce reliance on automobile
- ▶ Inequities between municipalities and electoral areas on growth management and sustainability principles
- ▶ Find a way to allow incremental growth that will allow our children to raise their families in the community they grew up in.
- ▶ We must find ways to evaluate developments (triple bottom line) and provide incentives to encourage the most sustainable green initiatives.

STRATEGIES

- ▶ Increase reliability, not runway length
- ▶ Diversity with respect for equilibrium and present uses
- ▶ Process to inform and involve residents when development is proposed
- ▶ Interlocking trails joining historical, natural, and cultural places and residential
- ▶ Think global, act local – plan for climate change and 7th generation
- ▶ Require buffers between properties – indigenous plants and habitat
- ▶ Biosphere reserve – National Marine Conservation Area to the south
- ▶ Relocate airport to less sensitive area
- ▶ Lot size 100X200’, house no bigger than 2000 sq.’, build to sun energy or sustainable energy

- ▶ Integrate transportation methods i.e. highway, railroad, airport, to reduce fossil fuel consumption and greenhouse gases – land use in OCP to support
- ▶ We do not need a bigger airport
- ▶ Alternative transportation
- ▶ Get cars off the roads and planes out of the sky
- ▶ To provide local services such as to sustain a community in it's own social and economic diversity
- ▶ To provide property for our children so they can continue to live in the community and be active members and contribute to the local legacy
- ▶ Use Christaller's Central Place Theory to plan nodes and to link them
- ▶ Developing a shared social/ political process that more effectively ensures decisions that are consistent with principles of sustainability

POLICIES

- ▶ Land use changes on large properties should be communicated to neighbours before activity begins
- ▶ Given the low voter turnout regionally at the recent election, we need to engage 'people' – children through to the elderly in recognizing the importance of voting. People feel that there is no choice and are disillusioned
- ▶ Keep existing minimum 5 acre lots
- ▶ No inappropriate development outside of the urban containment area ever
- ▶ Maintain our environment
- ▶ Keep Area A rural
- ▶ Do not allow resorts, pubs, subdivisions, golf courses or other developments outside of the urban containment boundary
- ▶ Noise – issue re. airport and industry
- ▶ Water – protection especially on aquifers, river, runoff
- ▶ Logging – clearcuts hurt the soul and spirit of the viewer
- ▶ Clean air – Harmac needs to cap it's odours
- ▶ Save water and energy by giving incentives
- ▶ Keep rural lifestyle and farms by incentives (lower taxes)
- ▶ Local land use decisions to contribute to broader transportation infrastructure decisions to reduce our carbon footprint, allowing different modes of transport to exist i.e. light rail node
- ▶ Recognize the importance of consensus building models of communication – find common ground, be honest, listen
- ▶ Don't just talk to those you agree with
- ▶ Consensus is slow, but reduces sabotage

- ▶ Do not hold 'sham' public meetings where the information is not important to determining outcome of decision but is for show only
- ▶ Airport impact on farming community
- ▶ How will outcomes (regulations) affect the taxation of residents
- ▶ Will the rural needs be respected when urban areas expand
- ▶ Is government trying to eliminate the small farms by making extensive regulations?

ASSETS

- ▶ Build a non-motorized bridge using the Morden-Colliery trail to connect South Wellington and Cedar
- ▶ Support community schools as centres of each community in Area A
- ▶ Smaller schools in rural areas
- ▶ Need school in Cassidy – lack of school = no playgrounds, no playing fields, no meeting space.