



## Creating stronger, more vibrant and sustainable communities across BC

Smart Planning for Communities (SPC) is a BC-wide, collaborative initiative providing resources and tools to local and First Nations governments for planning socially, culturally, economically and environmentally sustainable communities.

The Smart Planning for Communities initiative offers practical and current information and advice on integrated community sustainability planning from expert Sustainability Facilitators located across British Columbia. Smart Planning for Communities helps to build mutually beneficial partnerships and develop an information-sharing and resource network. The result will be stronger, more vibrant and sustainable communities.

### Our Facilitators

SPC Sustainability Facilitators bring a depth and breadth of expertise to support communities in all stages of sustainability planning. Working with a wide array of experts in the field of sustainability planning and implementation, the SPC team offers assistance in multiple areas.

### Our Services

#### PROCESS ADVICE

SPC offers advice and assistance for communities interested in developing and implementing sustainability plans or planning processes. This includes assistance with:

- assessing capacity for developing an integrated sustainability plan or planning process
- accessing information and support to meet your community's specific needs and goals
- selecting sustainability principles, frameworks and indicators that "fit" your community
- integrating sustainability principles and objectives into existing planning processes
- establishing effective working relationships, collaboration and partnerships related to sustainability planning and implementation



## STRATEGIC SUPPORT

SPC assists communities with:

- determining the support needed for integrated sustainability planning and related projects
- identifying opportunities for community engagement
- finding and accessing funding
- making connections by linking communities with experts and advisors that meet their unique needs

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

SPC will host learning forums for communities where public, private and other organizations can disseminate best practices and lessons learned in particular areas of sustainability planning. The forums provide an excellent opportunity to build relationships within and among communities and sectors and support inter-organizational learning.

## TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

SPC responds to community requests for technical expertise on specific sustainability issues and topics by providing in-house advice or connecting communities with experts from our pool of partners in the SPC Resource Network.

## SPC WEBSITE

SPC provides easy access to online tools, resources and information for local and First Nations government staff, complementing the “hands-on” support of our Sustainability Facilitators.

[www.fraserbasin.bc.ca/programs/smart\\_planning.html](http://www.fraserbasin.bc.ca/programs/smart_planning.html)

## SPC PRINCIPLES

**long-term thinking** – planning / plans are future-oriented to enhance sustainability and take into account implications for future generations.

**broad scope** – planning / plans consider the communities' environmental, economic, social and cultural sustainability, including governance systems. They may also consider a broad geographic or (bio-)regional approach.

**integration** – planning processes / plans reflect a coordinated approach to enhance community sustainability through linkages between different types of plans or planning activities as well as across departments and organizations.

**collaboration** – planning processes engage community members and other partners to support community sustainability (e.g. First Nations, neighboring communities, NGOs, private sector, other levels of government).

**public engagement & education** – planning processes are designed to enhance public understanding, participation and input.

**implementation** – plans are living documents that are kept off the shelves and put into action.

**monitoring & evaluation** – setting targets and tracking results to celebrate progress and focus efforts on areas that need the most improvement.



PHOTO: Natasha Ewing



PHOTO: Martin Parboe, Resort Municipality of Whistler



## FUNDERS GROUP

Smart Planning for Communities is administered by the Fraser Basin Council on behalf of the Funders Group, including: BC Hydro, BC Ministry of Agriculture and Lands, BC Ministry of Community Development, BC Ministry of Environment, First Nations Mountain Pine Beetle Initiative, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, and the Real Estate Foundation of BC.

## THE FRASER BASIN COUNCIL

is a non-profit society that brings people together to advance sustainability in the Fraser River Basin and throughout British Columbia. The Council works in support of healthy ecosystems, vibrant economies and strong communities, reports on progress towards a more sustainable river basin and facilitates the resolution of complex sustainability issues.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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