

Smart Planning for Communities

Assessing Impact: Select 2009-10 Community Profiles

Prepared for the Ministry of Community and Rural Development | April 1, 2010



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Executive Summary

This report, *Assessing Impact: Select 2009-10 Community Profiles*, provides 10 profiles of BC communities and the support and assistance provided to them by the Smart Planning for Communities program (SPC). While not a comprehensive evaluation of program impact¹, it is intended to provide examples of both the qualitative and quantitative aspects of program delivery and insight into the relationships SPC builds with local and First Nations governments. Each profile provides project background, SPC services provided, project partners and collaborators and outcomes. Profiles are also organized to reflect SPC goals and objectives as described in the SPC five-year business plan:

SPC Goals:

1. Increased number of communities with effective, informed and integrated plans and planning processes
2. Increased linkages between aboriginal and non-aboriginal communities in sharing planning, resource information and best practices
3. Increased number of communities that implement strategies and track results against key objectives
4. Increased accessibility of resources and support regarding sustainability planning by local and First Nations governments in BC

SPC Objectives:

1. Support movement toward sustainability planning, including sharing of expertise in and across BC communities to integrate multiple objectives – social, cultural, economic and environmental – into their planning processes and set their own priorities for action
2. Create synergies among service providers who are promoting sustainability planning in the province and nationally, and across aboriginal and non-aboriginal communities
3. Provide easier and personalized access to the wide range of resources on sustainability, so that decisions made by communities are strengthened and implemented efficiently
4. Implement existing community efforts more quickly and efficiently by facilitating access to funds and service providers
5. Link policy, practice, research and funding efforts – including across government agencies – so that these better support the development and implementation of sustainability planning in the province

SPC is striving to effect change: change in the way BC communities address and solve issues, by encouraging local government and First Nations to integrate multiple objectives – social, cultural, environmental, and economic – into their planning processes. Regional Districts, smaller and rural communities, and First Nations communities often require different information along their journey to sustainability. Moreover, even within a given scale of community, information and approached need to be tailored to be most effective.

Impact in this context is more than a mere resulting effect, but is a forceful consequence of action that would not have otherwise been present. The following 10 case studies are snapshots of how the SPC initiative accelerates community sustainability planning. SPC's effectiveness is in helping communities make the shift from traditional planning to smart planning, as reflected in the case studies in this report.

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¹ 2009-10 is the second year of the SCP five-year business plan. A full program impact evaluation is planned for the end of year three (2010-11).

About Smart Planning for Communities

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

Smart Planning for Communities (SPC) builds upon the funding opportunity from the 2005 Gas Tax Agreement (GTA) between federal, provincial and local governments. SPC is a five-year capacity building initiative that addresses the requirement for local governments to conduct long range planning, as called for under the GTA².

SPC is managed as a program of the Fraser Basin Council, on behalf of a *Funders Group* that provides financial support to the initiative and approves the Smart Planning for Communities Business Plan, including monitoring financial status and program results, reviewing the annual reports, and evaluation. The Funders Group consists of representatives from: Ministry of Community & Rural Development, Ministry of Environment, Real Estate Foundation of BC, BC Hydro, Indian & Northern Affairs Canada- BC & Yukon, Canadian Rural Partnership (Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada), and Ducks Unlimited Canada (Green Bylaws Toolkit).

Skilled, informed and knowledgeable staff located across BC is the cornerstone of SPC. Smart Planning for Communities has established a network of six *Sustainability Facilitators* who function as a collaborative team to help identify resources (both financial and informational) and assist communities in developing their respective planning processes before taking action to implement the strategies. As a result of this collaborative team approach, Smart Planning for Communities can reach more communities, and each community has access to a broader wealth of expertise and knowledge than would otherwise be possible.

SPC Services and Expertise

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 the following areas:

Process Advice

SPC offers consistent and targeted advice and assistance for communities interested in developing and implementing sustainability plans or planning processes.

Strategic Support

SPC supports community integrated sustainability planning by assisting communities to identify opportunities for community engagement and support for integrated sustainability planning and related projects (e.g., climate change action), and identifying and accessing relevant funding sources.

Education & Training

SPC facilitates training and provides information across communities that address general and specific issues related to sustainability planning and implementation. Learning forums among communities and interested organizations can disseminate best practices and lessons learned on the ground, building relationships and supporting inter-organizational learning.

² The GTA was originally named Integrated Community Sustainability Planning or ICSP.

Technical Expertise

SPC responds to community needs and requests for technical expertise on specific sustainability issues and topics by providing in-house advice or connecting communities with experts or advisors that meet the community's specific needs from our Partners Group.

Websites

The SPC website (www.smartplanningbc.ca) provides links to online Integrated Community Sustainability Planning (ICSP) tools, resources and information. SPC also manages the BC Climate Action Toolkit (www.toolkit.bc.ca), a climate action resource for local government, in partnership with the Province and the Union of BC Municipalities.

For more information on the Smart Planning for Communities program, including the SPC five-year Business Plan and staff profiles, go to www.smartplanningbc.ca.

About Fraser Basin Council

The Fraser Basin Council (FBC) was established in 1997 as a unique non-governmental, not-for-profit, non-partisan organization. The FBC plays a key leadership role in helping to resolve conflicts, educating the public about sustainability and taking advantage of opportunities to advance sustainability throughout the Fraser River Basin and across BC.

To achieve its goals, the FBC acts as an impartial, trusted facilitator operating under a unique model of collaborative leadership that is inherently open, informed, inclusive and flexible. A 36 member Board of Directors oversees the work of the FBC and sets strategic priorities. Under this model, FBC Directors from four orders of Canadian government - Federal, Provincial, Municipal and First Nations - the private sector and civil society work together as equals to overcome conflict, find common ground, make informed and responsible decisions, generate long-term solutions to complex issues and take advantage of opportunities to enhance sustainability "on the ground."

For more information about the Fraser Basin Council, go to www.fraserbasin.bc.ca.

Thank you to Smart Planning for Communities, I am really pleased they are keeping us connected"

– Joanne DeVries, Fresh Outlook Foundation

Regional District of Central Kootenay

Community Project: Integrated Community Sustainability Planning (ICSP) Community Assessment

SPC Service Provided: Process Advice, Strategic Support, Education and Training

Partners / Collaborators: Regional District of Central Kootenays, CTQ Consultants



Background: The Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) covers a geographically diverse area from Creston to Nelson, up the Slocan Valley and around to Kaslo. The Regional District is the first in the Kootenays to begin to tackle sustainability planning and had just commenced their community assessment. They had contracted CTQ Consultants to work with their staff to facilitate the process.

SPC staff was asked to support the process by running a Sustainability 101 presentation outlining the concept of sustainability, the process of sustainability planning and examples from around the province. At the core meetings, there were community priority exercises. SPC staff also worked in tandem with staff and consultants presenting information and answering community questions.

Outcomes:

SPC facilitation provided the RDCK with increased resources for the community assessment process at the Public Open House and subsequent meetings. The District used the knowledge to complete a Community Assessment, which included sustainability goals. SPC staff also assisted with developing the Request for Proposals for the ICSP.

The public and staff increased their knowledge of sustainability planning principles and processes and were able to use this knowledge in their planning process. The Smart Planning program extended public engagement and outreach to very rural areas with information about sustainability planning. These engagement processes increased collaboration between diverse rural areas. SPC continues to act as a mechanism for sharing the RDCK process and successes with other Regional Districts.

SPC Goals addressed:

- Increased number of communities with effective informed and integrated plans and planning processes
- Increased number of communities that implement strategies and track results against key objectives
- Increased accessibility of resources and support regarding sustainability planning by local and First Nations governments in BC

SPC Objectives addressed:

- Support movement toward sustainability planning, including sharing of expertise in and across BC communities to integrate multiple objectives – social, cultural, economic and environmental – into their planning processes and set their own priorities for action.
- Create synergies among service providers who are promoting sustainability planning in the province and nationally, and across aboriginal and non-aboriginal communities
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- Implement existing community efforts more quickly and efficiently by facilitating access to funds and service providers

Related Links:

- Regional District:
http://www.rdck.bc.ca/development/planning/projects/smart_planning_for_communities_initiative.html

Southern Interior BC: Cranbrook, Kamloops, Kelowna, Nelson, Williams Lake

Community Project: *Common Ground for Sustainability: Integrating Economic Development and Planning for Healthy Communities*

SPC Services Provided: Strategic Support, Education and Training

Partners / Collaborators: BC Recreation & Parks Association (BEAT Initiative), Interior Health Authority (IHA), Ministry of Community and Rural Development - RuralBC Secretariat (MCRD)



Background: *Common Ground* was a unique multi-partner workshop with social and economic development content initiated by SPC and further partnered by IHA, BCRPA and MCRD (see Partners / Collaborators). Attended by participants in the Southern Interior, it brought together economic development officers, administrators and planners from local and First Nations governments, health professionals, and parks and recreation staff. At the event, video-conferencing services were set up in Williams Lake, Kelowna, Kamloops, Nelson and Cranbrook, where participants discussed common goals and challenges to planning for community sustainability.

Outcomes

Common Ground provided a platform for 125 people to exchange ideas and develop strategies for local and shared challenges across the Southern Interior and within smaller groups at each site. The video-conferencing component of this workshop contributed to the participation of a greater number of local and first Nations government staff than would otherwise have been able to attend because of limited resources for travel time and cost. The event generated an “ideas and actions” list of ways communities can apply the principles discussed at the event in their communities. The multi-venue, multi-community approach proved to be highly transferable as a method to disseminate information across large areas. The partnership with the BC Rural Secretariat will continue to develop the collaboration and potentially the method of program delivery.

SPC Goals addressed:

- Increased linkages between aboriginal and non-aboriginal communities in sharing planning, resource information and best practices
- Increased accessibility of resources and support regarding sustainability planning by local and First Nations governments in BC

SPC Objectives addressed:

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Related Links

- Common Ground agenda and presentations <http://smartplanning.pcna.ca/files/CommonGround/>

Similkameen Valley, Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen



Community Project: The Sustainable Similkameen Project

SPC Services Provided: Process Advice, Strategic Support

Partners / Collaborators: Regional District Okanagan Similkameen (RDOS), South Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Program (SOSCP), and the Similkameen Valley Planning Society a unique partnership which includes the municipalities of Keremeos and Princeton, the Lower Similkameen Indian Band, the Upper Similkameen Indian Band and Electoral Areas 'B', 'G' and 'H' of the Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen.

Background: SPC staff engaged with the project partners to provide assistance in the development of a broad sustainability-planning framework for the Similkameen, in collaboration with RDOS and SOSCP (see Partners / Collaborators). The mission of this ongoing project is “to establish a socio-cultural, economic and environmental sustainability strategy for the Similkameen Valley that will maintain and enhance the quality of our rural and small town lifestyle.” Completion of a consultant-led amenity migration study will be followed by the development of a socio-cultural, economic and environmental sustainability strategy, and coordinate planning in the region, in partnership between local and First Nations government.

Outcomes

SPC staff provided expertise on the process needed to link the Amenity Migration Study with building the Sustainable Similkameen Strategy. SPC staff assisted and supported the District identifying and adding the context statement – a legislative component of the formal Regional Growth Strategy - for existing Official Community Plans.

The support provided by SPC to this multi-stakeholder project has strengthened collaboration between multiple orders of government as well as between First Nations and local government. As a result, there is increased integration between local government and First Nations planning processes. In addition, areas of the region traditionally without land use planning are now engaged in strategic planning on a regional level. The process has led recognition of a broader approach to the organization’s purpose to include all aspects of sustainability.

SPC Goals addressed:

- Increased accessibility of resources and support regarding sustainability planning by local and First Nations governments in BC
- Increased linkages between aboriginal and non-aboriginal communities in sharing planning, resource information and best practices

SPC Objectives addressed:

- Support movement toward sustainability planning, including sharing of expertise in and across BC communities to integrate multiple objectives – social, cultural, economic and environmental – into their planning processes and set their own priorities for action.

Village of Kaslo

Community Project: Kaslo Official Community Plan (OCP) and ICSP process

SPC Services: Process Advice, Education & Training, Strategic Support

Partners / Collaborators: Village of Kaslo, Regional District of Central Kootenay



Background: Kaslo is a small village located on the shores of Kootenay Lake. Kaslo is challenged with limited resources and few staff. The Village was in the middle of an Official Community Plan (OCP) rewrite. They were unhappy with the draft OCP despite investing a significant amount of money. After reviewing the draft they were unsure if the outdated OCP actually needed major changes. There were also questions about whether many of the items addressed in the draft OCP were more appropriate for an ICSP. Based on these observations Kaslo was considering changing their strategic direction.

SPC staff was invited to provide a presentation on Sustainability Checklists. However, at the meeting, it was clear that they were not ready to discuss checklists and that they needed help figuring out what they were going to do with their OCP, ICSP and the proposed capacity building position. Instead of the planned-for checklist presentation, SPC staff proposed a daylong workshop with Council, the OCP planning committee, village staff and the Planning Director at the Regional District of Central Kootenay. The goals of this workshop were:

1. Understand the purpose and required content of Official Community Plans
2. Understand the purpose, process and general content of ICSPs
3. Assess the current OCP and the Draft OCP for strengths and areas that required change
4. Determine what is still needed to complete the OCP and conduct an ICSP
5. Develop a path forward for completing both the OCP and an ICSP

Jointly facilitating with the Kaslo Planning Director, SPC staff answered questions and providing general planning knowledge. Council and the planning committee were engaged through hands-on assessment activities and discussion about OCP and ICSP differences. Throughout the day it became clear that there was value in both OCP documents and that with some additional work and reorganizing much of the original OCP could be retained.

Outcomes:

Kaslo decided to proceed with an ICSP based on the increased staff, council and committee knowledge of sustainability principles and process, general land use planning and clarity of purpose gained from the Smart Planning assistance. Kaslo staff and elected officials recognized where they could use the information that had already been generated in the OCP review process, and where it needed to be supplemented. Kaslo now had confidence that creating a position to see these projects to completion and build local capacity to implement these plans was a valid step.

SPC Goals addressed:

- Increased number of communities with effective, informed and integrated plans and planning processes

"We were very happy with the turnout and with the quality of the dialogue, and hope these discussions can support the development of practical strategies to address the housing concerns of our communities" Aimee Ambrosone, Manager, CBT Planning and Development.

- Increased accessibility of resources and support regarding sustainability planning by local and First Nations governments in BC

SPC Objectives addressed:

- Support movement toward sustainability planning, including sharing of expertise in and across BC communities to integrate multiple objectives – social, cultural, economic and environmental – into their planning processes and set their own priorities for action.
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Related Links

- <http://www.kaslo.ca/siteengine/ActivePage.asp?PageID=208>

City of Langford

Community Project: Community Energy and Emissions Reduction Strategy

SPC Services: Organizing Education and Training; Technical Expertise, Strategic Support

Partners / Collaborators: Langford Staff and Consultant; BC Hydro; Ministry of Community and Rural Development



Background: In May 2009, the SPC program helped to organize and deliver public and stakeholder workshops to support the preparation of Langford's Community Energy and Emissions Reduction Strategy. The workshops articulated ambitious and visionary policy proposals that addressed Langford's corporate and community energy use, greenhouse gas emissions, water, transportation, buildings, and solid waste. A final public open house was held on February 24, 2010

Outcomes:

The resulting Community Energy and Emissions Reduction Strategy will enhance Langford as a place to live, work and invest. Formerly perceived as a less desirable "suburb" within greater Victoria, the workshops and Strategy jointly facilitated by SPC reinforce and enhance Langford's remarkable progress in its transition to a complete, compact community. The Strategy identifies 10, 20 and 30 year community energy and greenhouse gas emissions reductions targets, and Langford's green action initiatives to achieve them. The City is working on an amending bylaw to include these reduction targets, policies, and actions in the Langford Official Community Plan. Implementation plans, public awareness and engagement, and a monitoring and reporting protocol will follow the amendment.

SPC Goals addressed:

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SPC Objectives addressed:

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Related Links:

Public Open House on Langford's Community Energy and Emissions Reduction Strategy

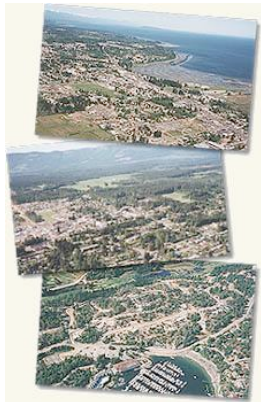
<http://www.cityoflangford.ca/newsarticle.asp?TopicID=732>

Regional District of Nanaimo

Community Project: Bowser Village Plan Process (started as 3 Area 'H' Villages)

SPC Services: Process Advice, Strategic Support, Education and Training

Partners / Collaborators: Su Hallat (private consultant); Niels Gram, Community Futures Central Island Office; Sebastian Moffatt, Sheltair Group (designed and led the charette)



Background: Staff working on the Village Plan process in part of Electoral Area H first requested a workshop for the public to help them understand how sustainable planning principles could help inform a village area plan. SPC staff provided advice on engagement, reaching out to topical specialists (such as economic development specialists and health unit staff). SPC staff then advertised, coordinated and facilitated an evening presentation and workshop. The community identified a need for information about appropriate sewage technology that would support compact development land use forms. SPC staff developed a presentation on that topic and gave it as part of an informational open house held at a later date. SPC staff took part in a one-day design charette to help ensure sustainability planning principles were reflected.

Outcomes:

SPC advice increased staff and public knowledge of sustainability principles, and of rural area-appropriate sewage treatment alternatives. SPC services also increased capacity of staff and public to discuss and consider compact land-forms in rural areas, benefits of complete communities, how to seek appropriate technologies to meet community sustainability goals. The Bowser Village Plan, informed by community participation and direction, now provides clear direction to guide future applications for development, and is a more robust village area plan in terms of ICSP than would have been the case without SPC support. The plan's first content section outlines six sustainability principles that guide the document. GHG reduction and climate change adaptation and mitigation area specifically mentioned in the introduction section as key goals of the document. Five specific policies related to innovative and 'green' wastewater treatments are included, most likely as a direct result of dialogue with, and information provided by, SPC staff.

SPC Goals addressed:

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SPC Objectives addressed:

- Support movement toward sustainability planning, including sharing of expertise in and across BC communities to integrate multiple objectives – social, cultural, economic and environmental – into their planning processes and set their own priorities for action
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- Link policy, practice, research and funding efforts – including across government agencies – so that these better support the development and implementation of sustainability planning in the province

Related Links

- Documents and process description www.rdn.bc.ca/cms.asp?wpID=2059

Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN)

Community Project: Review of RFP for a Community Sewer Servicing Study for Electoral Area 'A'

SPC Services: Education and Training, Process Advice



Background: RDN staff working on the Official Community Plan review for the area south of the City of Nanaimo (Area 'A') asked SPC for advice on securing technical guidance for how to meet sewage treatment needs that met community goals related to sustainability principles. Specifically, present conditions and costs of conventional treatment seemed to prohibit Village Centres. SPC provided company names from our Resource Sharing Network; discussed principles and options with staff; made contacts and sought advice from appropriate Provincial

government experts; and helped to craft the wording of a Request for Proposals for a study to investigate sewage treatment options.

Outcomes:

The advice and resources from SPC resulted in an RFP document which reflected social and economic questions related to sewage treatment, and incorporated a broader consideration of environmental protection than has been typical for Area Plan background studies. A triple-bottom-line approach and the requirement for an interdisciplinary team were highlighted. RDN identified needed resources and innovative concepts for a study that will help inform a more thorough and detailed discussion of Village Centre options for the OCP review. The process also increased capacity of the staff and community to explore the benefits of compact, complete rural community landforms; and to consider technology that will allow for appropriate localized costs, and will support water and resource conservation.

SPC Goals addressed:

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- Increased accessibility of resources and support regarding sustainability planning by local and First Nations governments in BC

SPC Objectives addressed:

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“The Foundation remains profoundly interested in the SPC initiative and how it may deliver services most effectively.”

Tim Pringle, Director of Special Programs

The Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia

City of North Vancouver

Community Project: Measuring and Communicating Sustainability

Progress Within the City of North Vancouver: A Sustainability Review”

SPC Services: Strategic Support, Process Advice, Education and Training

Partners / Collaborators: Fraser Basin Council (SPC Program, Regional Manager, Sea to Sky Region)



Background: The City of North Vancouver is considered a leader in sustainability planning. Their Mayor and Council requested that Smart Planning for Communities provide a sustainability audit of City work to date in order to help inform their future actions, especially the upcoming Official Community Plan (OCP) update in 2010. A ‘high level’ review was agreed to and undertaken. The review was augmented by community well-being indicators developed by Fraser Basin Council staff.

Outcomes:

SPC provided the City was provided with an objective, 3rd party report that recommends:

- Topic areas to reflect more strongly in future city guiding documents and actions, (potable water, marine ecosystem, natural assets/services, urban forest, adaptation to climate change, food security, solid waste/materials flows, integration)
- Ideas for implementation, monitoring and evaluation of ICSP
- The level of staff knowledge about sustainability
- How staff wish to learn more about sustainability, actual learning format preferences
- What staff think are key community issues that will have to be addressed in the future
- How the City ranks in terms of key indicators related to the rest of BC & its Region

Based on the findings of the report, the City of North Vancouver has increased capacity to create a more effective OCP, by reflecting the principles of sustainability planning, as well as a stronger Official Community Plan process, with organizational buy-in for a more fully integrated approach to City policies and actions. SPC staff has begun referring other community requests to both specific individuals/peers within the City, and to specific model programs and documents we are now aware of.

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SPC Objectives addressed:

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Village of Telkwa

Community Project: Integrated Community Sustainability Planning (ICSP)

SPC Services: Education and Training; Process Advice



Background: The Village of Telkwa (pop. 1400) is located in northwestern BC on Highway 16, halfway between Prince George and Prince Rupert. Like so many other communities in this region, it faces challenges such as those posed by a rapidly changing global economy, climate change (e.g. mountain pine beetle, flood hazard), and limited financial resources. However, the Village also has many attributes: a gorgeous setting surrounded by mountains, lakes and the Bulkley and Telkwa Rivers; major transportation routes (road, rail); historical buildings; and dedicated leaders.

SPC staff was invited to meet with staff and several Council members, to provide an overview of the SPC program and integrated community sustainability planning (ICSP). A follow-up session was then organized, for a formal presentation to Mayor and Council to raise awareness and to provide information, as part of their decision making process to conduct ICSP. Once the formal decision was made later that fall, SPC staff assisted staff by reviewing draft versions of the Request for Proposals (RFP). The assistance helped clarify how the results of the ICSP process would be incorporated into updating the Village's OCP and zoning bylaws, as well as other key documents such as infrastructure (water), economic development, and housing.

Outcomes:

Telkwa has increased its capacity to conduct an ICSP, based on SPC resources and knowledge, resulting in a long-term vision and strategy for the Village Council and the community. The Village Council is proceeding with an ICSP, and staff have developed and issued the RFP, and hired consultants

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- Provide easier and personalized access to the wide range of resources on sustainability, so that decisions made by communities are strengthened and implemented efficiently

"Joan was instrumental in helping our council and staff understand the Smart Planning process and the larger provincial context. Her presentation and follow-up provided the impetus for getting our own Smart Planning initiative off the ground." Taylor Bachrach, Telkwa Councilor

District of Vanderhoof, Saik'uz First Nation, RD of Bulkley Nechako-Area F

Community Project: Preparing for Integrated Community Sustainability Planning

SPC Services: Process Advice, Strategic Support, Education and Training

Partners / Collaborators: District of Vanderhoof, Saik'uz First Nation, RD Bulkley Nechako Area F; LIRN committee (Nechako Valley Community Services Society, College of New Caledonia, Nechako Healthy Community Alliance, District of Vanderhoof, Saik'uz First Nation)



Background: The District of Vanderhoof (pop. 4000) is about 100 km west of Prince George. The Saik'uz First Nation (pop. 1000) is the original community of Carrier people in the area, about 12 km south of Vanderhoof. Area F of the Bulkley Nechako Regional District encompasses the large rural area (pop. 3100) around these two main communities, as well as other small hamlets. All these communities are in the Nechako

River valley, with agriculture, forest products and tourism forming the main economic base.

Elected officials, agency staff and volunteers have been working on such projects as community energy efficiency, local food security, cultural awareness and economic development. The District had coordinated a successful application with several partners, to the Learning Initiatives for Rural and Northern BC (LIRN), to host an event on the general theme of community sustainability.

SPC staff was asked to assist the local committee with the LIRN event. Working with the committee, the SPC developed and conducted the LIRN workshop, held in November 2009, starting with an overview presentation on ICSP and then moderating small group discussions on the readiness of communities and their respective governments to embark on a joint ICSP process.

Outcomes:

Staff, residents and volunteers have increased awareness and understanding awareness of sustainability and the ICSP process provided through SPC facilitation. The three area governments have expressed willingness to engage in a collaborative ICSP process.

SPC Goals addressed:

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- Increased linkages between aboriginal and non-aboriginal communities in sharing planning, resource information and best practices
- Increased accessibility of resources and support regarding sustainability planning by local and First Nations governments in BC

SPC Objectives addressed:

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- Provide easier and personalized access to the wide range of resources on sustainability, so that decisions made by communities are strengthened and implemented efficiently

“a very successful event... we moved in groups, "World Café" style around the room responding to questions to help in developing and implementing a sustainability plan...the groups showed great enthusiasm in their contributions ” Kathie LaForge,
EDO - District of Vanderhoof

Related Links:

- SPC news page: http://fraserbasin.bc.ca/programs/spc_news/spc_news_10-01-BCLIRN.html