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April 28, 2009

Regional District of Central Kootenay
Box 590, 202 Lakeside Drive
Nelson, BC V1L 5R4

Via Email: mhorton@rdck.bc.ca

Attention: Mr. Monty Horton, Project Administrator

COST

TIME

QUALITY

Re: Smart Planning for Communities Initiative - Community Assessment – Final Report

Thank you for your efforts in coordinating the recently held Smart Planning for Communities - Community Assessment Public Open House / Workshop for the Regional District of Central Kootenay region. The Open House / Workshop provided an opportunity both for ourselves to explain in more detail what the goal was for the Community Assessment and on a broader level what Smart Planning and Sustainable Community Planning involved and opportunity for the public to ask questions and participate in a dot-democracy to identify their highest and lowest priorities for sustainable community planning. As you mentioned in your introduction at the Workshop, the goals of the Smart Planning for Communities program area as follows:

- *Long-term thinking* – time-frames for planning processes and/or plans are broadened to take into account implications for future generations (e.g. communities may become more resilient to the anticipated effects of climate change by planning ahead and adapting to changing circumstances)
- *Broad in scope* – planning or plans consider the communities' environmental, economic, social and cultural sustainability, including organizational and governance systems. They may also consider a broad geographic or (bio-) regional approach
- *Integration* – planning processes or plans reflect a coordinated approach to enhance community sustainability by establishing linkages among 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, neighbouring communities, NGOs, private sector, educational institutions, other levels of government)
- *Public engagement and education* – planning processes enhance public understanding, participation and direction
- *Implementation* – communities ensure that plans are living documents that are kept off the shelf and put into action
- *Monitoring and evaluation* – plans outline targets and track results in order to monitor and celebrate progress and focus efforts on areas that need the most improvement.

The Public Open House / Workshop provided an opportunity for further explanation on the adapted Community Assessment Survey and to answer any questions that may have arisen during the questionnaire process. Take-away surveys were available at the Public Open House / Workshop.

BACKGROUND

The following tasks were completed in preparation for the Smart Planning Public Open House / Workshop:

- A review of existing documents included Official Community Plans, Rural Land Use Bylaws, Zoning Bylaws and Liquid Waste Management Plans.

- The Smart Planning (formerly the Integrated Community Sustainability Planning) Community Assessment Template which was adapted and modified to provide a more easily accessible and targeted survey. Components of the template were modified to provide a more quantitative survey. The template was then separated into two surveys: the first was targeted at the general community and the second, which incorporated assessment aspects of the current planning documents and local government decision making, was targeted at people associated with local governments and familiar with planning documents.   A "Strongly Agree – Strongly Disagree" ranking system was added to the survey to enable identify, by local residents, of priority areas (Appendix A).

- Digital versions of the surveys (community & local government) were forwarded to the Regional District staff for immediate circulation.

- The surveys were reformatted to accommodate an on-line version to be completed by area residents. The online option was provided to allow for residents from dispersed areas or residents with mobility challenges to complete the survey. The surveys were posted on the Regional District's website in a PDF version to allow residents to printed a hardcopy of the survey for ease of access as well, a link was provided to the online survey (Appendix B).

- A review of key stake holders and existing networks was also conducted. Identification and engagement of the existing networks within the region will be critical to the success of implementing of the sustainable planning initiative (Appendix C).

- The survey was then forwarded to local government participants and identified key stakeholders by the Regional District.

- CTQ staff met with Laurie Cordell, Sustainability Facilitator (Kootenay Region), Smart Planning for Communities - Fraser Basin Council to discuss collaboration and possible assistance options for the Regional District and member communities. Laurie also provided a short presentation to further explain her role within Smart Planning.

- Notification was published in the local paper and a few of the smaller community papers indicating date, time and location of the Smart Planning for Communities Open House and Presentation (Appendix D).

- The Public Open House and Presentation was hosted on March 18, 2009 from 2:00pm approximately 9:30 – 10:00 pm. A PowerPoint presentation was given by Darwin Horning (CTQ Consultants). A short presentation was given by Laurie Corbett (Smart Plan Facilitator) explaining further the Smart Planning for Communities process. Contact information was collected from the participants.

- All hardcopy and online surveys were collated and the results analyzed (Appendix I).

- Follow up contact was initiated with a few of the Public Open House attendees to ensure full input was received. One response particularly has been attached as there were some important recommendations for future implementation of the Smart Planning program

- A final report was produced highlighting the findings from the public process and identifying the next steps required for implementation a full Smart Planning program within the Regional.

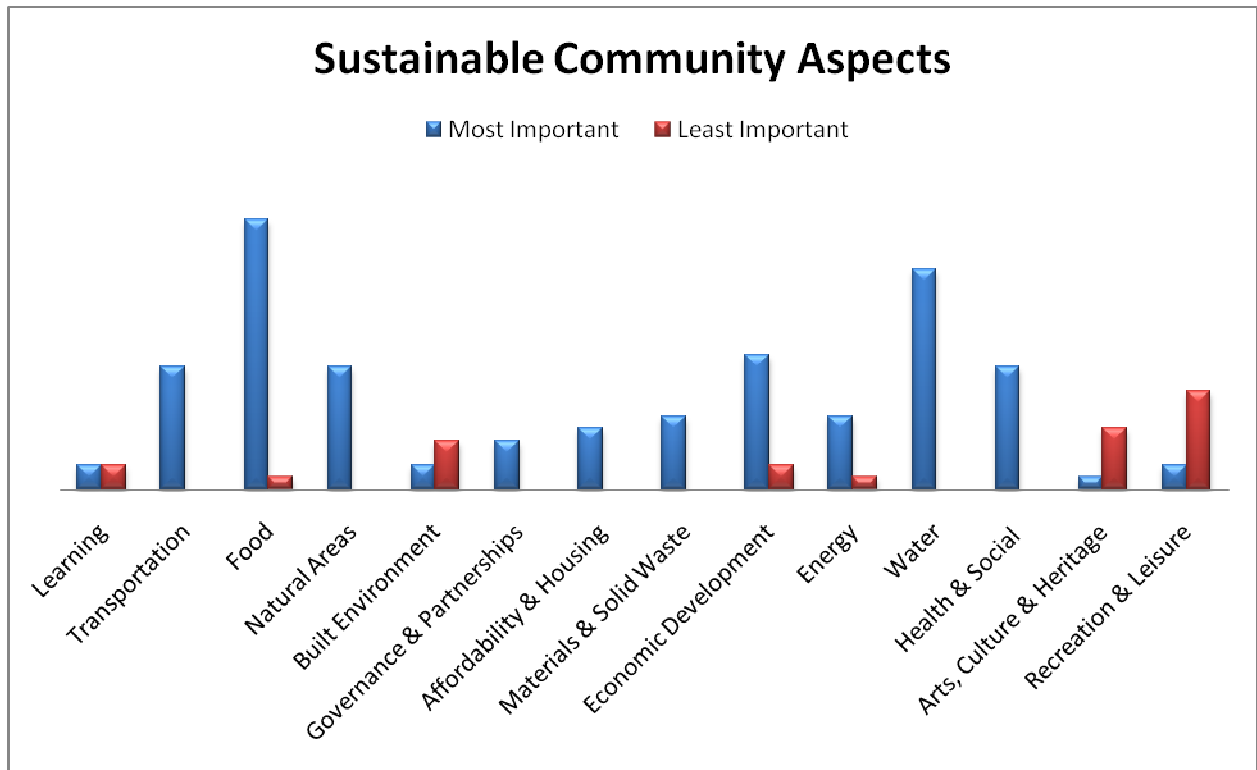**PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE AND PRESENTATION**

The Public Open House and Presentation took place on March 18, 2009 starting at 2:00 pm (with a few early arrivals) and running to close to 10:00 pm. Participant's contact information was collected at the door where the priority stickers (dots) were picked up. There were nine large format information boards in total and a powerpoint presentation was developed and presented to approximately 40-50 attendees (some missed signing in – Appendix G).

The Open House information panels included the following fourteen Community Aspect categories derived from the Smart Planning template (Appendix E):

- Learning
- Transportation
- Food
- Natural Areas
- Built Environment
- Governance & Partnerships
- Affordability & Housing
- Materials & Solid Waste
- Economic Development
- Energy
- Water
- Health & Social
- Arts, Culture & Heritage
- Recreation & Leisure

The purpose of the information boards was twofold, 1) to provide information on the range of community elements which must be considered within the sustainable community planning framework and 2) provide an opportunity for participants to read about the community aspects in a relaxed atmosphere and use stickers provide to (dot-democracy) to identify their priorities for moving their community towards a sustainable future.

A fourth sticker was placed to identify the least important priority. Comment sheets were also available to collect further comment on each of the community aspects (Appendix F). The results of the dot-democracy were as follows:

As the above graphic indicates the top three Community Aspect priorities identified to move the community towards sustainability were as follows:

1. Food
2. Water
3. Transportation / Natural Areas / Economic Development / Health & Social

The least important community aspects with respect to sustainability were:

1. Recreation & Leisure
2. Arts, Culture & Heritage
3. Build Environment

The initial presentation was scheduled to start at 3:00 pm and last approximately thirty minutes. The presentation reviewed what Smart Planning (Sustainable Community Planning) entailed and then reviewed the survey for further explanation. An extended discussion period which lasted approximate 1.5 to 2 hours with an engaging level of dialogue and questions followed the presentation.

The comments and questions ranged from a theme of "not another planning exercise" to "we know what we need to do, let's get on with doing some". The Regional District Board members in attendance were unanimous in their support for engaging in sustainable community planning recognizing the need to provide opportunity for residents to provide planning direction to the Board and Regional District staff.

COMMUNITY SURVEY

The survey response resulted in a sporadic representation of residents from across the RDCK area. At the time of this report there were a total of forty two surveys submitted for the Community Survey (Part I) and only 1 survey for the Local Government Survey (Part II). The survey was structured to assist respondents review a broad range of key elements constituting community sustainability.

The survey begins with asking the respondents to list the top three items associated with what makes their community special and unique and then challenges the respondent to identify the most significant challenges their community faces. The respondents are then asked to identify elements which constitute general community context including:

- Individual & Community well-being
- Economy
- Environment

One of the concerns identified was the lack of action with respect to sustainability planning. Recognizing the RDCK resource limitations (staff, funding, etc.), sections A.6 Community Capacity was developed to prioritize community aspects to guide the implementation of the Smart Planning recommendations.

The Community Aspects were organized into four main categories as follows:

- ❖ Community Capacity
  - o Economic Development
  - o Food
  - o Learning
  - o Affordable Housing
- ❖ Governance Networks
  - o Governance Partnerships
  - o Community Groups
  - o Collaboration
- ❖ Natural Environment
  - o Energy
  - o Water
  - o Materials and Solid Waste
  - o Air Quality
  - o Transportation
  - o Built Environment

- o Natural Areas
- ❖ Social and Cultural Dynamics
  - o Health and Social
  - o Arts / Heritage / Cultural
  - o Recreation and Leisure

The survey provided an opportunity to rank the responses from Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree.

Part B of the Community Survey assessed the current state of Sustainability planning within the communities within the region. Respondents were asked to state their vision for the community and to indicate whether their vision was incorporated within any existing vision statements for their community. The respondents were then asked to reflect upon their answers and identify their community's top priorities and steps which could be taken by the community to implement the identified priorities.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SURVEY

A second survey was developed to specifically target local government employees and people involved with or have working knowledge of planning decision making and documents. The focus for the Local Government Survey included the following:

- ❖ Assessing the State of Planning
  - o Identify existing planning documents
  - o Using assessment matrix, identify the overlaps and duplications in the documents
  - o Identify the missing areas with respect to community aspects
- ❖ Plan Integration
  - o Identify the steps required to improve and integrate the existing plans based upon the assessment matrix
- ❖ Implementation and Decision-making
  - o Assess how well the decision making followed the existing planning documents
  - o Identify ways of implementing the previously identified vision to ensure a sustainable future for the community

Successful implementation of strategies will be facilitated through the engagement of the existing networks within the region. The survey provided opportunity to identify the existing groups and capacities within the region and to make recommendations for key members form a committee to guide the Smart Planning implementation. Finally, the survey requests the respondents to identify the available and possible sources for financial support to engage in sustainability planning.

Part E of the survey is the summary of the completed survey and provides an action sheet for moving forward with Community Smart Planning.

Summary of Survey Results – Community Aspects Rating

The survey results have been collated and are contained in their entirety in Appendix I.

Smart Planning for Communities - Part 1		
Please indicate where within the RDCK you reside or own property:		
Answer Options	**Response Frequency**	**Response Count**
City/Town:	97.4%	37
Province:	100.0%	38
answered question		38
skipped question		2

1

Number	Response Date	City/Town:	Province:
1.	03/11/2009 22:16:00	Nelson	Bc
2.	03/11/2009 22:49:00	Nelson	BC
3.	03/13/2009 03:25:00	Canyon	B.C.
4.	03/14/2009 16:36:00	Winlaw	BC
5.	03/14/2009 22:53:00	Castlegar	BC
6.	03/15/2009 18:07:00	Procter	BC
7.	03/16/2009 16:06:00	procter	bc
8.	03/16/2009 16:44:00	Nelson	BC
9.	03/17/2009 03:58:00	Silverton	BC
10.	03/17/2009 21:17:00	Slocan Valley	BC
11.	03/19/2009 00:46:00	Blewett, rural	B.C.
12.	03/19/2009 15:31:00	South Slocan	BC
13.	03/19/2009 16:35:00	Mountain Station	BC
14.	03/20/2009 05:48:00	salmo	bc
15.	03/20/2009 07:12:00	Nelson	BC
16.	03/20/2009 16:55:00	Lakeview	BC
17.	03/20/2009 22:21:00	Nelson	BC
18.	03/24/2009 16:56:00	nelson	b.c.
19.	03/25/2009 18:55:00	Nelson	BC
20.	03/27/2009 22:30:00	Nelson	BC
21.	03/30/2009 18:46:00	Creston	BC
22.	03/30/2009 19:06:00	Queen's Bay	BC
23.	03/30/2009 19:21:00	Creston	dah
24.	03/30/2009 21:34:00	Bonnington	BC
25.	03/30/2009 21:38:00	Nelson	BC
26.	03/30/2009 22:03:00	Nelson	BC
27.	03/30/2009 22:40:00		BC
28.	03/30/2009 23:22:00	Kaslo	BC

29.	**03/31/2009 07:51:00**	kaslo	b.c.
30.	**03/31/2009 16:36:00**	Nelson	BC
31.	**03/31/2009 17:06:00**	Procter	BC
32.	**03/31/2009 18:05:00**	New Denver	BC
33.	**03/31/2009 18:48:00**	Nelson	BC
34.	**03/31/2009 20:52:00**	Nelson	BC
35.	**04/02/2009 15:17:00**	Creston	BC
36.	**04/02/2009 22:52:00**	Nelson	BC

Built Infrastructure rating including

Smart Planning for Communities - Part 1		
A.3 Economy	**f) Please rate the general condition of your communities infrastructure, i.e. roads, hospitals, schools, etc.**	
Answer Options	**Response Frequency**	**Response Count**
1. Very Good	3.0%	1
2. Good	36.4%	12
3. Neutral	24.2%	8
4. Poor	21.2%	7
5. Very Poor	6.1%	2
6. N/A	9.1%	3
	answered question	33
	skipped question	7

Ranking of Economic Development issues

Smart Planning for Communities - Part 1							
A.6 COMMUNITY CAPACITY				**a) Economic Development**			
Answer Options	**Strongly Agree**	**Agree**	**Neutral**	**Disagree**	**Strongly Disagree**	**N/A**	**Response Count**
The economic base of our community is reasonably diverse	3	10	5	8	1	2	29
Our community recognizes and seizes new or changing business opportunities.	0	5	11	10	2	2	30
There is sufficient industrial space available in the community.	3	10	6	7	3	0	29
There is suffcient commercial space available in the community.	3	16	9	1	1	0	30
Local products and services are purchased rather than those from out-of-area.	2	7	8	11	2	0	30
Wealth generated within the community remains here.	3	8	8	8	1	1	29
answered question							31
skipped question							9

Ranking of Community Capacity- Food

Smart Planning for Communities - Part 1						
A.6 Community Capacity						**b) Food**

Answer Options	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	Response Count
There is access to healthy affordable food choices within the community.	2	16	4	4	5	0	31
There are opportunities for residents to cultivate their own food sources including education programs on production and storage of foods.	6	7	6	8	4	0	31
There is access to locally grown and produced foods including fruits, vegetables, meat, and dairy products.	4	9	9	5	4	0	31
					answered question		31
					skipped question		9

Ranking of Community Capacity- Learning

Smart Planning for Communities - Part 1						
A.6 Community Capacity						**c) Learning**

Answer Options	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	Response Count
There is strong public education system within the community that provides opportunity and choice for students from kindergarten through post secondary.	2	14	6	5	2	0	29
There are opportunities for advanced education and training within the community.	2	17	4	5	2	0	30
There are opportunities for basic life skills development and literacy training within the community.	2	17	4	4	1	1	29
There are community facilities available for residents to gain access to the internet.	2	14	9	3	1	1	30
					answered question		30

Ranking of Community Capacity- Affordability and Housing

Smart Planning for Communities - Part 1							
A.6 Community Capacity					**d) Affordability and Housing**		
Answer Options	**Strongly Agree**	**Agree**	**Neutral**	**Disagree**	**Strongly Disagree**	**N/A**	**Response Count**
The average middle income earner in our community can afford a home?	1	3	9	9	7	1	30
There are a variety of housing choices within our community. (Single family homes, muti-family homes or apartments)	0	7	5	10	6	1	29
There are rental homes available within our community.	1	8	6	11	3	1	30
There is sufficient availability of seniors and congregate care housing within our community.	1	2	5	17	4	1	30
						answered question	30
						skipped question	10

Ranking of Community Capacity – Governance and Partnerships

Smart Planning for Communities - Part 1							
A.7 Governance Network					**a) Governance and Partnerships**		
Answer Options	**Strongly Agree**	**Agree**	**Neutral**	**Disagree**	**Strongly Disagree**	**N/A**	**Response Count**
Community members actively particpate in the governance of the community.	0	12	7	5	3	1	28
Youth are taking active leadership roles within the community.	0	6	7	11	4	1	29
Community leaders and officials cooperate with business and business associations.	1	10	7	8	1	2	29
Community members are engaged in local issues.	4	15	8	2	1	0	30
Members representing interests of the public, private, and government sectors jointly participate in community decision making.	1	5	10	5	6	2	29
						answered question	30
						skipped question	10

Ranking of Governance Networks – Community Groups

Smart Planning for Communities - Part 1							
A.7 Governance Network						**b) Community Groups**	
Answer Options	**Strongly Agree**	**Agree**	**Neutral**	**Disagree**	**Strongly Disagree**	**N/A**	**Response Count**
There is a strong volunteer base within the community	7	16	3	2	0	1	29
There is a diverse base of community groups serving many needs within the community.	5	18	3	2	0	1	29
						answered question	**29**
						skipped question	**11**

Ranking of Governance Networks – Collaboration

Smart Planning for Communities - Part 1							
A.7 Governance Network						**c) Collaboration**	
Answer Options	**Strongly Agree**	**Agree**	**Neutral**	**Disagree**	**Strongly Disagree**	**N/A**	**Response Count**
Community members feel informed about the activities within their community and consulted on community issues.	1	9	4	9	5	1	29
There are clear community plans or visioning documents that serve as a guide for long-term planning in the community.	0	4	5	11	9	1	30
Opportunities for communication with community leaders are frequent and engaging.	1	4	7	10	6	1	29
Community members feel empowered to speak about issues within their community.	3	10	7	4	4	1	29
						answered question	**30**
						skipped question	**10**

Ranking of Governance Networks – Energy

Smart Planning for Communities - Part 1							
A.8 Natural and Built Environment					**a) Energy**		
Answer Options	**Strongly Agree**	**Agree**	**Neutral**	**Disagree**	**Strongly Disagree**	**N/A**	**Response Count**
Our community leaders promote a reduction in energy consumption and maintain a leadership role.	0	6	6	7	9	1	29
Alternative sources of energy are becoming common within the community. (solar power, wind power, geo-thermal, etc.)	0	1	4	14	10	0	29
Buildings are encouraged to meet or exceed minimum standards for green buildings and energy efficiency.	0	1	7	15	6	0	29
					answered question		29
					skipped question		11

Ranking of Natural and Built Environment - Water

Smart Planning for Communities - Part 1							
A.8 Natural and Built Environment					**b) Water**		
Answer Options	**Strongly Agree**	**Agree**	**Neutral**	**Disagree**	**Strongly Disagree**	**N/A**	**Response Count**
The drinking water within the community is good quality and safe for consumption.	10	8	5	3	3	1	30
All residents within the community have access to drinking water.	11	10	5	3	0	0	29
The source(s) for drinking water in the community is well documented and protected.	6	6	4	7	3	3	29
Community leaders actively promote water use reduction strategies. (water metering, xeriscaping, grey water recycling)	1	3	8	7	6	3	28
					answered question		30
					skipped question		10

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Ranking of Natural and Built Environment –Materials and Solid Waste

Smart Planning for Communities - Part 1							
A.8 Natural and Built Environment				**c) Materials and Solid Waste**			
Answer Options	**Strongly Agree**	**Agree**	**Neutral**	**Disagree**	**Strongly Disagree**	**N/A**	**Response Count**
The community actively particpates in solid waste reduction programs. (recycling, composting, re-use programs)	4	10	8	4	3	1	30
Liquid waste (sewage) is managed and disposed of responsibly. Systems are well maintained and upgraded as necessary.	2	7	12	4	4	0	29
answered question							30
skipped question							10

Ranking of Natural and Built Environment –Air Quality

Smart Planning for Communities - Part 1							
A.8 Natural and Built Environment				**d) Air Quality**			
Answer Options	**Strongly Agree**	**Agree**	**Neutral**	**Disagree**	**Strongly Disagree**	**N/A**	**Response Count**
Air quality within the community is good.	9	9	6	3	3	0	30
answered question							30
skipped question							10

Ranking of Natural and Built Environment – Transportation

Smart Planning for Communities - Part 1							
A.8 Natural and Built Environment					**e) Transportation**		
Answer Options	**Strongly Agree**	**Agree**	**Neutral**	**Disagree**	**Strongly Disagree**	**N/A**	**Response Count**
Transportation infrastructure is well maintained and upgrades are timely and efficient.	2	6	8	7	5	1	29
There is adequate access to public transportation for day to day use.	1	4	3	11	8	2	29
There is a trail system for walking or cycling throughout and between communities that provides a safe, accesible, alternative to driving.	3	5	5	8	8	0	29
Residents may choose not to own a car and will still be able to get to their destination relatively easily.	3	3	1	11	9	3	30
There is clear signage marking trails and streets.	1	11	5	8	2	2	29
					answered question		30
					skipped question		10

Ranking of Natural and Built Environment – Built Environment

Smart Planning for Communities - Part 1						
A.8 Natural and Built Environment				**f) Built Environment**		
Answer Options	**Strongly Agree**	**Agree**	**Neutral**	**Disagree**	**Strongly Disagree**	**N/A**	**Response Count**
There are few conflicting land uses within the community. (Industrial land near residential, farm land near urban areas, etc.)	1	6	10	8	2	2	29
The community core is inviting, accessible and pedestrian friendly.	0	13	6	6	4	0	29
The community is compact and does not spread out inefficiently.	1	11	6	8	2	1	29
The community is as complete as possible for its size. The day to day needs of the residents can be met without leaving the community.	3	12	5	6	3	0	29
The built environment of the community is integrated with the natural features, rather than attempting to change them (eg. streams are not diverted to accomodate development)	0	10	8	6	4	1	29
Commercial and industrial developments enhance the community.	0	2	13	6	5	1	27
answered question							29
skipped question							11

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Ranking of Natural and Built Environment – Natural Areas

Smart Planning for Communities - Part 1							
A.8 Natural and Built Environment					**g) Natural Areas**		
Answer Options	**Strongly Agree**	**Agree**	**Neutral**	**Disagree**	**Strongly Disagree**	**N/A**	**Response Count**
Extensive green spaces, natural habitat, and environmentally sensitive areas are protected within the community.	2	14	1	9	4	0	30
Areas with agricultural capability are protected.	2	11	5	6	6	0	30
Community members actively particpate in protecting and maintaining natural areas within the communtity. (ie. Community clean-up days, creek restoration, environmental advocacy)	1	14	7	7	1	0	30
Natural fertilizers and pesticides are encouraged and used within the community.	2	10	5	9	3	0	29
Residents of the community enjoy the natural areas within the community through passive uses such as walking, hiking, or picnicing.	6	21	1	1	0	0	29
						answered question	31
						skipped question	9

Ranking of Social and Cultural Dynamics – Health and Social

Smart Planning for Communities - Part 1							
A.9 Social and Cultural Dynamics					a) **Health and Social**		
Answer Options	**Strongly Agree**	**Agree**	**Neutral**	**Disagree**	**Strongly Disagree**	**N/A**	**Response Count**
Health Services are easily accessed within your community.	1	7	5	10	6	1	30
Health services are adequate for all ages.	1	6	4	9	8	2	30
There are an adequate number of doctors, dentists & health care professionals.	1	8	4	9	7	1	30
There is sufficient and accesible housing in your community.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
There are sufficient number of groups organizing and advocating for your communities health and social needs.	2	7	10	7	2	1	29
Sense of community is strong in your community.	7	18	2	2	1	0	30
There is a strong sense of volunteerism in your community.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
There are many community oriented activities which occur.	3	20	3	2	0	2	30
Your community is a safe, inclusive, and welcoming community.	4	17	6	3	0	0	30
There is strong cohesion between all ages within your community.	3	14	6	6	0	1	30
There is adequate services for the economically and health challenged members of the community.	2	3	5	11	7	2	30
						answered question	**30**
						skipped question	**10**

Ranking of Social and Cultural Dynamics – Arts/Heritage/Cultural

Smart Planning for Communities - Part 1							
A.9 Social and Cultural Dynamics				**b) Arts/Heritage/Cultural**			
Answer Options	**Strongly Agree**	**Agree**	**Neutral**	**Disagree**	**Strongly Disagree**	**N/A**	**Response Count**
There are numerous arts & cultural events both within the community and surrounding municipalities.	9	14	4	1	0	1	29
There is strong support for heritage conservation.	5	14	8	1	0	2	30
There are numerous opportunities to participate in arts & and cultural events for: (1) Children	3	10	10	4	0	2	29
(2) Adults	6	11	8	2	0	2	29
(3) Seniors	4	6	9	6	0	4	29
There are a number of community groups who particpate and support arts and culture.	4	16	5	2	0	1	28
There are enough venues for art and culture events.	3	14	5	5	1	1	29
There is a strong awareness and support from the local government for arts, heritage, and culture.	3	12	6	6	1	1	29
answered question							30
skipped question							10

Ranking of Social and Cultural Dynamics – Recreation and Leisure

Smart Planning for Communities - Part 1							
A.9 Social and Cultural Dynamics				**c) Recreation and Leisure**			
Answer Options	**Strongly Agree**	**Agree**	**Neutral**	**Disagree**	**Strongly Disagree**	**N/A**	**Response Count**
There are abundant opportunities for recreation and leisure.	9	17	2	2	1	0	31
There is a high level of diversity of recreation and leisure opportunities.	6	14	7	3	1	0	31
There is an abundance of multi-use trails in region.	3	13	5	8	1	0	30
There are numerous opportunities to participate in recreation activities all year round.	6	19	4	2	0	0	31
We have a good work-life balance in the region.	4	12	13	2	0	0	31
There are numerous recreation activities for all ages.	4	17	3	6	0	1	31
There is a good balance between organized and unorganized recreation activities.	2	12	10	4	1	1	30
						answered question	31
						skipped question	9

Overall Community Priorities – Commentary on A.1 A.9

Smart Planning for Communities - Part 1

A.10 Overall Community Priorities Reflecting on answers in A.1 to A.9

Response Frequency	Response Count
100.0%	21
95.2%	20
90.5%	19
81.0%	17
61.9%	13
	21
	19

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
environmental protection	creativity and diversity	economic development	affordable housing	emphasis on alternative energy
Keeping ALR zoning and farming more land	Stopping all run of river projects	Keeping air water soil clean	Community Cohesiveness	Keep a watchful eye on gov't and business
Food Security	Re-Localize Industries	Public Transportation	Compact Communities	Urban Agriculture
Support for seniors & disabled	Recreational options	Training & education & leisure pursuits for all	Venues, arenas, better outdoor options, camping	Tourist attractions & services
Community hall/gymnasium/theatre, for procter	garbage/recycling centre	rail/bus service	local farmers market	
Improved Child care	Climate Change	Water Conservation	Zero Waste	Transportation
Upgrade Rails to Trails	Walking trail between Silverton + New Denver	need more welcoming practices for newcomers	need more volunteers to work on skating / curling arena project	Need to advocate with IHA to keep hospital
Food	Natural areas			
curb devlopment in rural areas & protect farmland	leave small water systems alone	improve health care	improve seniors housing & increase affordable housing	sustainability in all areas must be encouraged and supported
Cost of housing is too high	Housing is often inadequate	Roads need repair	Water use/quality is an issue	Those in need in comm. are not cared for.
Keep it small and local	Chemical free water	preserve beach and park as is at East end of town	Discourage large scale development	Better recycling
local food production	transportation alternatives	affordable housing	biophilic water and waste managemant	participatory economics
public transportation	hospital services	housing for low income		

Investment in trail quality and signage				
Development of production capacity for local food systems	support for locally owned businesses, credit unions and co-ops	better use of communal resources to meet our food and gathering needs	better health and social services for the impoverished	more affordable housing
Better communication - one weekly based newspaper	better communication with elected officials, more choices for elected officials	return to provincial services; courthouse, full hours at local emergency room- more doctors	protection of watersheds, land on ALR, more careful scrutiny of industry as it permeates valley, improved adherence to OCP though working public advisory councils	
Transportation	Use of land to produce food	More community networking opportunities	More development of local walking trails	
A new community centre for seniors and other groups	saving green ares within the city not jobs vrs. enviornment	lake health and surrounding wildlife	forrest protection and community control of neighbouring clearcuts	no privatization or resources or barite plant
Promote local farming & Marketing local food	reduce dependancy on foccil fuel	stop walmart & safeway undermining our local economy	Non profit organizations should be collaborated with supported advisory committees are important	
we need a mass awakening of consciousness	we need to give 2-3 acres of land to all citizens who want to homestead and grow their own food, yes give.	those who grow their own food shouldn't have to pay taxes to make it feasable	we need to replace the dependance on chemical agri-business to small scale homestead size farms	pray that we're going to make it and not completely destroy the planet
jobs	health	education		

Community Vision – Vision Horizon

Smart Planning for Communities - Part 1		
B.1 Community Vision	**b) What is the horizon for this vision**	
Answer Options	**Response Frequency**	**Response Count**
5 years	33.3%	5
10 years	20.0%	3
15 years	0.0%	0
20 years	20.0%	3
50 years	26.7%	4
answered question		**15**
skipped question		**25**

Community Vision – Long-term vision required?

Smart Planning for Communities - Part 1		
B.1 Community Vision	**d) If your community does not have a long-term vision, do you think one is needed?**	
Answer Options	**Response Frequency**	**Response Count**
Yes	100.0%	20
No	0.0%	0
answered question		**20**
skipped question		**20**

*Note: At the time of this report only one Local Government Survey had been completed.

Observations and Recommendations:

When asked to define the horizon for the stated vision, 33.3% of the respondents indicated a 5 year horizon while 26.7% indicated a 50 year horizon indicating that many were thinking long term planning should be extended beyond our current standard of 20 years (Official Community Plan) to ensure community sustainability. While at the same time the highest percentage of people indicated less than 5 years which is consistent with comments coming forth in the Public Open House of "let's just get moving on this". There was a 100% positive response in favour of establishing a long-term vision for communities that currently lacked any long-term visioning.

Official Community Plan development, coordination with multi-level governments, education, collaboration between existing networks and tax incentives were all identified as next steps that the community could take to implement sustainable community planning.

Several of the responses indicated that the current community plans did little to encourage the community's vision. There was however, a strong sentiment within the responses that the communities need to initiate sustainable community planning and that local residents and local

community networks should be engaged in a grass roots approach. Education and commitment to full implementation of sustainability planning were mentioned within the survey. Final comments reflected that there were challenges for smaller communities to engage in sustainability planning as it was presented, indicating that there is not a 'one size fits all' approach and that for smaller rural areas, citizen engagement and collaboration with existing networks and networks within the region were critical to engaging within sustainability planning.

Next Steps:

1. **Establish a Sustainability Task Force (STF) based upon identified expertises within the region to assist in the educational process.**
2. **Provide education pertaining to Smart Planning (Sustainable Community Planning) benefits and process to Councils and Boards within the Central Kootenay Region using Best Management Practices for Sustainable Rural Community Planning.**
3. **Establish a sub-committee within the STF to pursue all avenues and all levels of government for funding.**
4. **Using information from Survey choose highest priority area and define and complete project within this area to get early win and increased awareness and buy-in from all that this is not just another planning exercise.**
5. **Coordinate with existing community networks through STF to establish broad area region wide network engaged in sustainability planning.**
6. **Coordinate with the ongoing Carbon Emission Baseline project to ensure coordinated efforts on data collection.**
7. **Identify measurable indicators and make sure all initiatives and progress are not only measured but reported upon to political decision makers and residents to ensure there is strong communication and broad understanding of initiatives occurring.**

Sincerely,

Darwin Horning, MCIP
Senior Planner

APPENDIX A: COMMUNITY & LOCAL GOVERNMENT SURVEYS

APPENDIX B: WEB SITE LINKS

APPENDIX C: LIST OF NETWORKS

APPENDIX D: NEWSPAPER ADD

APPENDIX E: PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE PRESENTATIONS AND PRESENTATION BOARDS

APPENDIX F: PUBIC COMMENTS AND DOT DEMOCRACY RESULTS

ATTACHED PACKAGE

APPENDIX G: SIGN-IN SHEET

APPENDIX H: SMART PLANNING COMMUNITY & LOCAL GOVERNMENT SURVEYS

APPENDIX I: SURVEYS RESULTS