

ENVISION KENTVILLE: PUBLIC CONSULTATION SUMMARY

PHASE ONE: BROAD-BASED COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

June 5, 2008: ICSP Open House (20 participants)

Summary: This meeting (before the Sustainability Coordinator was hired) was an community introduction to the ICSP.

Follow-up: The email list gathered from this event was merged into the ICSP List serve.

March 9, 2009: ICSP Open House (52 participants)

Summary: This meeting was an introductory information session about the ICSP and sustainability, followed by an interactive 'Asset-Mapping' workshop and 'Dotmocracy' exercise to determine community assets of interest. Five key asset areas were identified for the Town of Kentville, including: Recreation, Environment, Health, Land Potential and Human Resources.

Follow Up: The identification of community assets of interest provided an entry point for continued exploration of themes of interest through the community consultation process.

FOUR PILLARS CONSULTATIONS (May 19 - June 9, 2009)

250+ key community and regional stakeholders as well as the general public were openly invited to participate in community based thematic consultations on each of the four pillars of sustainability over a series of 4 weeks on Tuesday afternoons (4:00-6:30pm).

**For the results of these consultations please see the enclosed Envision Kentville Phase One Consultation Report. Upon completion, this report was widely distributed within the community and to regional stakeholders for review and comment.

May 19, 2009: Cultural Consultation (12 participants + 5 staff)

Summary: Sustainability coordinator presented briefly on cultural sustainability + group workshop on community cultural assets, cultural issues/challenges, and cultural vision for the community and cultural sustainability principles.

May 26, 2009: Social Consultation (6 participants + 2 staff)

Summary: Sustainability coordinator presented briefly on social sustainability + group workshop on community social assets, social issues/challenges, and social vision for the community and social sustainability principles.

June 2, 2009: Environmental Consultation (6 participants + 4 staff)

Summary: Sustainability coordinator presented briefly on environmental sustainability + group workshop on community environmental assets, environmental issues/challenges, and environmental vision for the community and environmental sustainability principles.

June 9, 2009: Economic Consultation (9 participants + 5 staff)

Summary: Sustainability coordinator presented briefly on economic sustainability + group workshop on community economic assets, economic issues/challenges, and economic vision for the community and economic sustainability principles.

PHASE TWO: VERIFICATION AND PRIORITIZATION OF SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES

COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY SURVEY (Summer 2009)

Based on the results of Phase One of the ICSP community consultation, a community sustainability survey was designed based on the data collected in Phase One. This survey was delivered door-to-door within the geographic jurisdiction of the Town of Kentville over the course of 4 weeks with the support of 2 summer assistants. The survey target was 350 completed surveys to ensure a representative sample size based on the Town's population of 5815 (2006 Census Data). Additionally the survey sought to ensure demographic representativeness by age category & gender (similarly derived from 2006 Census Data).

The purposes of the survey were:

1. to verify and ensure the reliability of the data gathered through the Phase One consultations by randomly seeking community input in a door-to-door survey,
2. to verify and ensure community support for the Kentville Vision Statement,
3. to create a broad-based community opportunity to further identify and comment on sustainability issues of concern regarding Town of Kentville planning and development,
4. to narrow the scope of the Kentville ICSP by identifying key priority issues areas in 3 categories (social/cultural, environmental, economic) and to identify key priority community assets to form the basis for the strategic sustainability goals & actions
5. to build community capacity and engage support for future sustainability initiatives as well as to promote the 'Envision Kentville' ICSP community-based planning process

296 Kentville citizens participated in the survey. The survey results are considered a directional, social barometer of community interest and opinion 17/20 (95% Confidence Level with +/- 5.55% Confidence Interval). For the complete results, please see the enclosed Phase Two Survey Findings Report.

PHASE THREE: ICSP DRAFT DEVELOPMENT

Based on the results of the Phase One and Phase Two, the Kentville ICSP moves into Phase Three of the ICSP process which includes:

- Setting goals and objectives in the established priority areas
- Setting actions and timelines in the established priority areas
- Setting sustainability indicators of success in the established priority areas

ONGOING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES (FALL 2009)

Community sustainability event are planned for September 30 & November 21. The purposes of the community sustainability event are threefold:

1. To communicate with the general public the results of the Community Sustainability Survey (notably the community-identified priority issue areas) and,
2. To seek additional community input into the next steps for actions on the identified priority issues through an interactive, participatory techniques,
3. To broadly promote regional entrepreneurship in the areas of sustainability (i.e. conservation, renewable energy)

Other Potential public participation for this fall include:

- Ongoing outreach and engagement activities with:
 - Key local and regional stakeholders
 - Ongoing regional ICSP collaboration

COMMUNITY GROUP PRESENTATIONS & PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES

Kings Historical Society: Spring 2009

Summary: The Visioning Worksheet was emailed for distribution to members of the Kings Historical Society at their regular monthly meeting.

Rotary Club: June 8, 2009 (+30 members)

Summary: Presented to the Rotary Club of Kentville on the ICSP process, offered a historical perspective on the community and extended an invitation to members to participate in ICSP process.

New Horizons: May 13, 2009 (20 participants)

Summary: Presented to New Horizons seniors group and gathered group members thoughts and ideas on assets, issues and vision for the community.

April 17-19, 2009: Kentville Home Show

Summary: An informational display booth was set-up and Town of Kentville staff were on hand to solicit community involvement and input into the ICSP through the distribution of Community Visioning Worksheets (designed to identify community values, visions, projects of interest and perceived challenges/barriers) and other informational materials.

April 30, 2009: Kings Active Transportation Forum

Summary: The Kentville ICSP planning process was promoted at the regional Active Transportation Forum.

Sierra Club of Canada/NKEC/KCA & Town of Kentville: Eco-Buddies Initiative

Summary: The Eco-Buddies partnership project with the Sierra Club, NKEC & KCA to introduce sustainability leadership (NKEC - 11 Grade 10 students) and education (KCA - Grade 6 class) was initiated in cooperation with the Town of Kentville Sustainability Coordinator. The objective of the project was to more broadly address community sustainability through youth educational opportunities and include youth perspectives in the ICSP.

April 14, 2009: NKEC Youth Visioning Session (11 participants)

Summary: This meeting was the piloting of a Visioning Workshop geared towards further verifying the current assets of community interest, beginning the process of identifying a long-term community vision, as well as the community projects of interest that work towards the achievement of the vision and as well the perceived barriers and challenges to the achievement of the vision. The group of students that participated were a part of the Eco-Buddies partnership (see description below).

Follow Up: The Visioning Workshop was openly offered and actively promoted to community groups throughout Kentville. As well the Visioning Worksheet was available online and was promoted through the ICSP list serve.

May 13/26, 2009: KCA Grade 6 (+40 participants)

Two visits were made to the Gr.6 class at KCA to solicit their 2030 community visions and to give an educational presentation on sustainability.

Apple Blossom Festival Agri Fun: May 29 - May 30, 2009

Summary: The Kentville ICSP planning process was promoted at the Apple Blossom Festival.

Ongoing: Library Collaboration

Summary: A complete record of the ICSP process is available for display at the Kentville Library.

Kentville Farmer's Market: June 10, July 15, August 19

Summary: Envision Kentville had a booth at the Kentville Farmer's on three occasions throughout the summer to actively promote and seek community input in to sustainability planning process.

Kings RDA, Kings Transit, Town of Kentville & Nova Scotia Youth Conservation Corps (NSYCC: NS Dept of Environment): Summer 2009

A partnership application between Kings RDA, Kings Transit and the Town of Kentville successfully resulted in obtaining funding support through the NSYCC for two summer students to assist in implementing a door-to-door sustainability survey based on the results of Phase One of the Kentville ICSP. Tupon Tajrin & Lucas Brehaut assisted in administering the sustainability survey door-to-door in Kentville as well as assisting in organizing a community sustainability event for the fall 2009.

REGIONAL COLLABORATION

Meetings

April 6, 2009: Climate Change Adaptation Meeting

Summary: This meeting with the Department of Environment for the province of Nova Scotia included regional partners in the discussion of a pilot project on Climate Change Adaptation for the Minas Basin.

Follow-Up: TBA (upon council approval of pilot project)

April 20, 2009: Regional ICSP Meeting (8 participants)

- Town of Kentville (2)
- Kings County (1)

- Town of Berwick (1)
- Town of Wolfville (1)
- Town of Hantsport (1)
- KCED (1)
- UNSM (1)

Summary: This meeting of regional ICSP partners was an opportunity to share information and determine the potential for regional collaboration on shared sustainability issues through the ICSP.

Follow-Up: There was general agreement to explore the potential for regional collaboration on sustainability issues through regional vehicles such as the Kings Partnership and KCED (through their strategic planning process).

Ongoing: Communications with regional and provincial partners on the ICSP

- UNSM
- SMRNS
- Kings County & Regional ICSP Partners
- South Shore Regional ICSP Coordinators

Internet Resources

Summary: The following resources have been made available to public on the internet.

Official Website: http://town.kentville.ns.ca/townhall_sustainability.cfm

Blog: <http://www.envisionkentville.blogspot.com/>

Google List-serve: <http://groups.google.com/group/envision-kentville?hl=en>

- 150 community members

Press

K-Roc 89.3: Local News

2 Articles in Kentville Connection

AVR 97.7FM: Valley @ Noon

3 Articles in Kings County Advertiser

