

Imagine Invermere

Developing an Integrated Community Sustainability Plan

FCM Innovation Webinar Series

Thursday October 13, 2011





Overview of Webinar

- Overview of the Imagine Invermere process and project
- Background / rationale behind the project
- Innovation
- Business case and potential economic benefits
- Challenges and opportunities arising from Imagine Invermere
- Key results and benefits
- Next steps
- Advice to other municipalities

Overview of *Imagine* Invermere

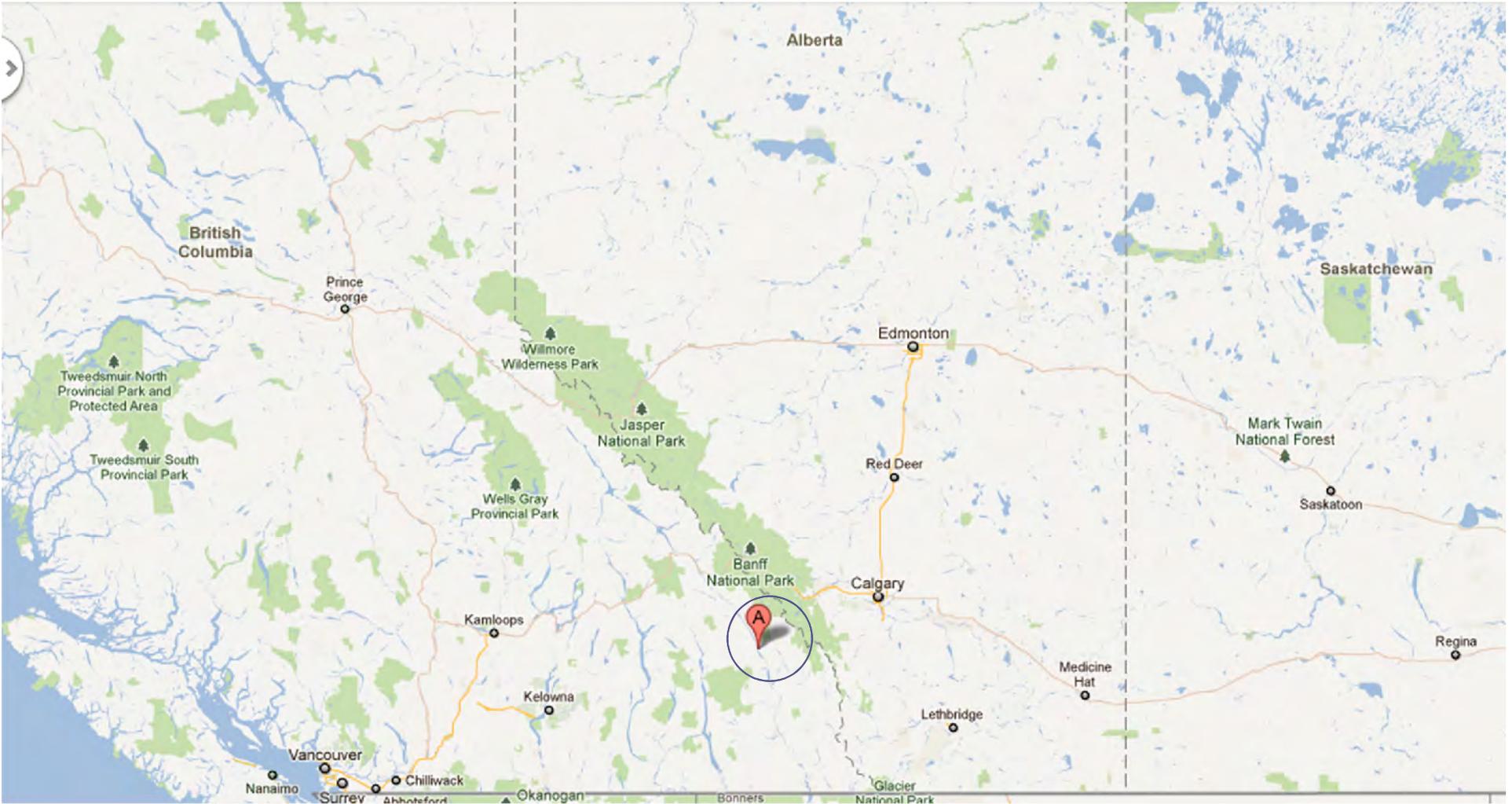
What, where, when, who?



WHAT

Imagine Invermere:

- Is the community's integrated sustainability plan
- Is a guide for the community to move towards a more sustainable future
- Is the community's highest level policy
- Involves long-term thinking, collaborative, integrated, ongoing monitoring and reporting
- Followed the QuickStart ICSP process



British Columbia

Alberta

Saskatchewan

Prince George

Edmonton

Tweedsmuir North Provincial Park and Protected Area

Willmore Wilderness Park

Jasper National Park

Mark Twain National Forest

Tweedsmuir South Provincial Park

Wells Gray Provincial Park

Red Deer

Saskatoon

Banff National Park

Calgary

Regina

Kamloops

Medicine Hat

Kelowna

Lethbridge

Vancouver

Glacier National Park

Nanaimo

Surrey

Chilliwack

Abbotsford

Okanagan

Bonners

WHEN





WHO

- Community Sustainability Action Team (CSAT)
- District of Invermere
- Members of the community
- Whistler Centre for Sustainability



POLL

- How many of you have developed an ICSP?

POLL

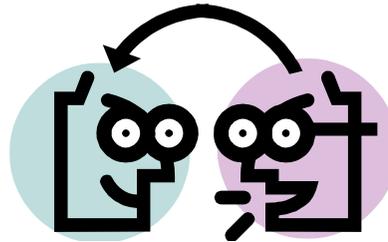
- If yes, who was the champion behind it:
 1. Elected official
 2. Staff
 3. Other (community or business)

How did *Imagine* **Invermere**
come about?

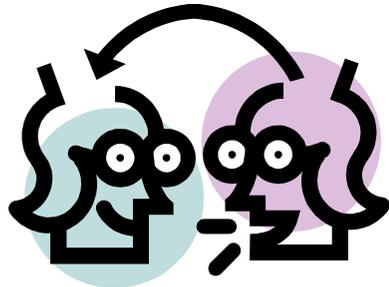




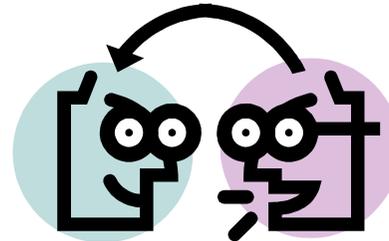
Chris, CAO



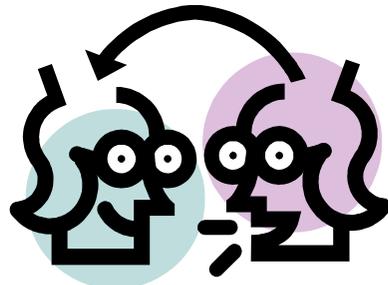
Mayor Gerry



Council



Rory, lead



CSAT

Questions?



Innovative aspects of *Imagine* **Invermere:** The QuickStart process





QuickStart process

1. Create Community Sustainability Action Team
 - Key stakeholders
 - Expertise in field
 - Organizations that can take on implementation of actions
 - Municipal representatives

QuickStart process

2. Visioning around a set of strategies based on community systems (not separate pillars):

➤ Buildings and Sites	➤ Food
➤ Community and Individual Health	➤ Land Use and Natural Areas
➤ Economy and Work	➤ Transportation
➤ Education, Arts, Leisure and Recreation	➤ Water and Waste Systems
➤ Energy	

QuickStart process

3. Sustainability objectives derived from The Natural Step adopted.



Sustainability Objectives

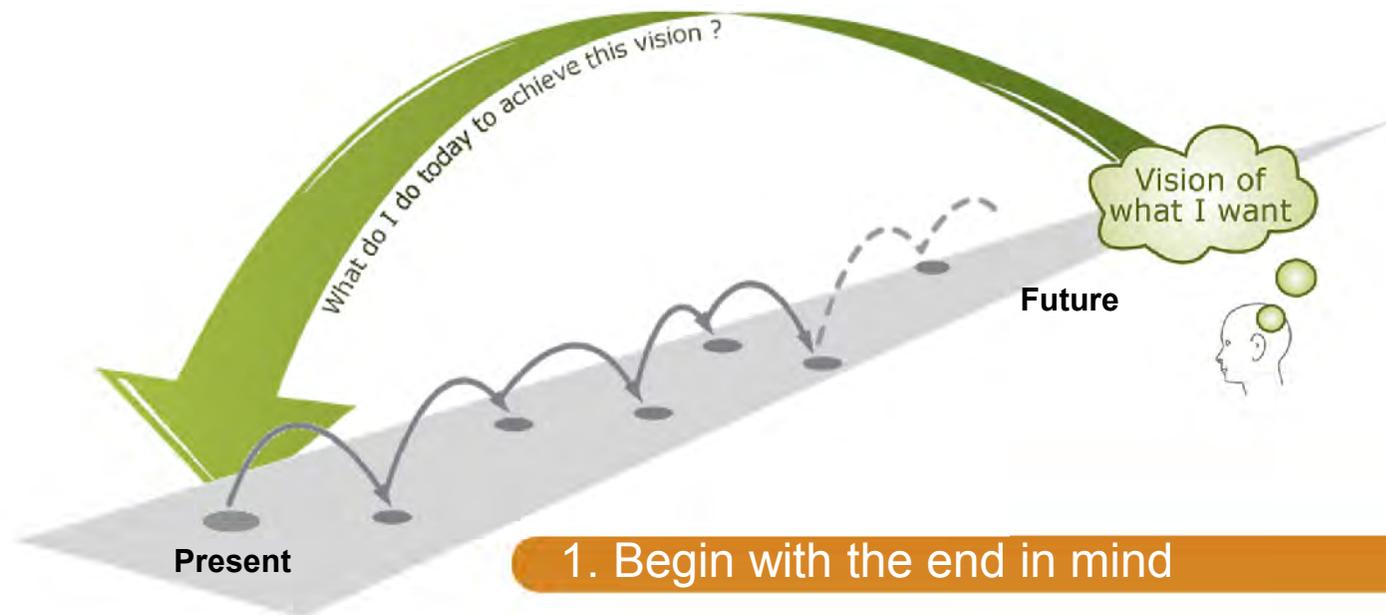
Sustainability Objectives

Sustainability Objectives

Community Vision &
Community Priorities

Sustainability Objectives

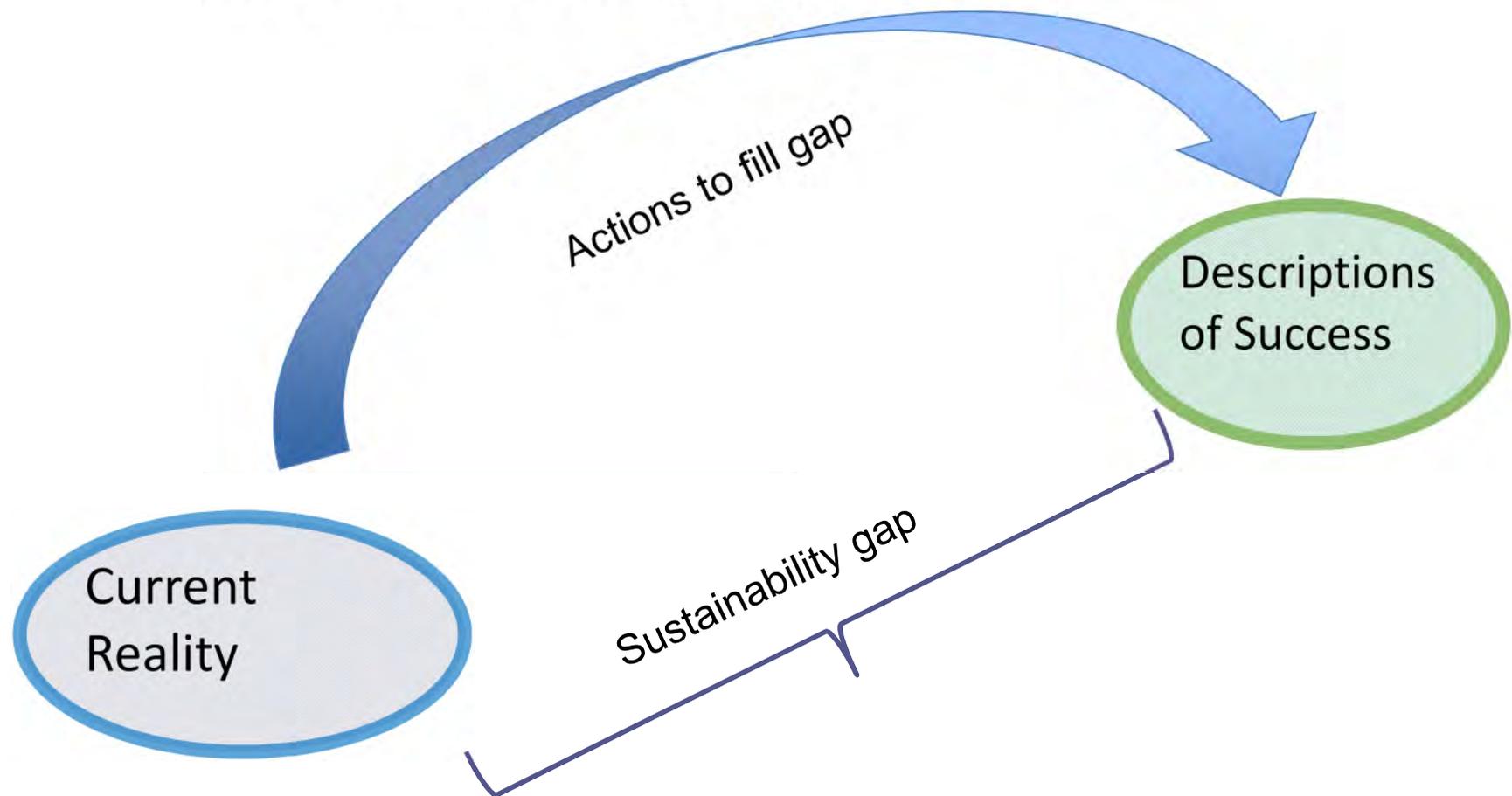
Backcasting



From The Natural Step Canada

QuickStart process

4. Focus on developing actions



QuickStart process

Build Kinsmen Beach recreation facility to advanced green building standard - DoI

Build a multi-use complex for recreation, performing arts, library, community rental space, youth activities, etc. - DoI

Supply and maintain garbage, recycling and washroom facilities around the Whiteway for winter recreational use on Lake Windermere - DoI

Develop a community composting plan - Groundswell

Provide training and professional development courses for local businesses in support of achieving the sustainability objectives - Chamber

Conduct a feasibility study for creating a district energy system in Invermere - DoI

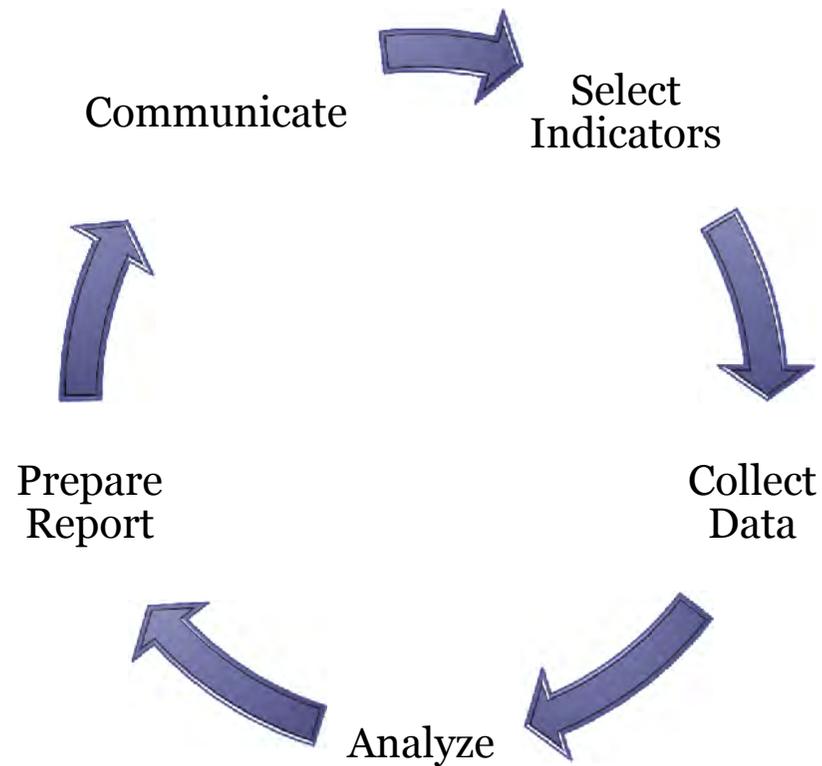
Conduct a feasibility study on whether biogas from sewage can be used as an energy source - DoI

Develop a website to facilitate carpooling to major centres and/or other communities - Wildsight

Create and fund a full-time Economic Development Officer position with a mandate focused on achieving the sustainability objectives - DoI

QuickStart process

5. Monitoring and Reporting



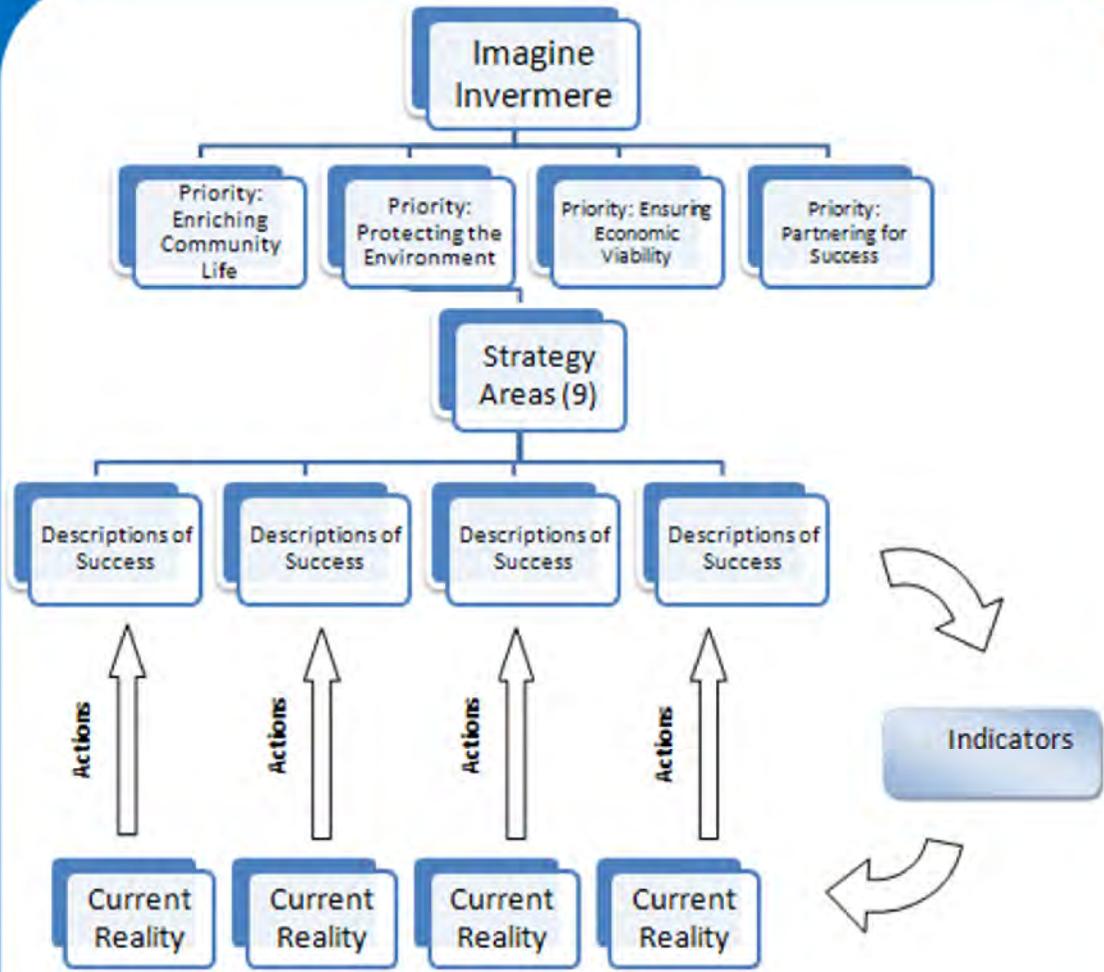
Invermere ICSP Indicators (2010-2020)



197	Ensuring Economic Viability	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
198	Unemployment rate of residents (%)													
199	Unemployment rate of residents (%) - Absolute Change		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
200	Unemployment rate of residents (%) - YOY % Change		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
201	Unemployment rate of residents (%) - 3 year Rolling		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
202	Unemployment rate of residents (%) - 3 year Rolling % Change		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
203	Notes or Commentary for Current Year:													
204														
205														
206														
207														
208														
209														
210														



SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES



SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES

QuickStart process

6. Institutionalizing Imagine Invermere

- ✓ Training session for Council and staff
- ✓ Decision-making framework
- ✓ Staff reports
- ✓ Budget
- ✓ RFP/procurement template
- ✓ CEEP developed alongside ICSP
- ✓ OCP alignment

An Integrated Community Sustainability Plan is the community's highest level policy and guides decision-making at all levels. Ultimately, the vision articulated in the ICSP is implemented through daily decision-making. Below is a worksheet that outlines four strategic questions to help assess any type of action, (plan, policy, project, procurement, or practice) by using the *Imagine Invermere* sustainability framework to inform decision-making. For a more comprehensive and user-friendly version of this tool, visit the <http://imagineinvermere.ca/> web page.

NAME OF PROPOSED ACTION:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION:

DATE:

REVIEWED BY:

1

DOES THE ACTION MOVE INVERMERE TOWARDS OUR SHARED VISION OF SUCCESS?

Indicate which priorities the action supports:

1. Protecting the Environment 2. Ensuring Economic Viability 3. Enriching Community Life 4. Partnering for Success

Indicate the top *Imagine Invermere* Strategy Areas that the action supports:

1. Buildings and Sites 2. Community & Individual Health 3. Economy and Work
 4. Education, Arts, Culture & Recreation 5. Energy 6. Food
 7. Land Use and Natural Areas 8. Transportation and Mobility 9. Water and Waste Systems

Which main Descriptions of Success would the action move us toward? Are there any Descriptions of Success that the action may move us away from?

1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.

2 DOES THE ACTION MOVE INVERMERE TOWARD OUR SHARED SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES?

Does the action reduce and eventually eliminate Invermere's contribution to:

	Toward Quickly	Toward Slowly	Neutral	Away	If 'away,' how could you avoid or minimize this?
 Ongoing build-up of substances taken from the earth's crust.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
 Ongoing build-up of toxic substances produced by society.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
 Ongoing degradation of natural systems by physical means.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
 Undermining the ability of people to meet their human needs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

3 DOES THE ACTION PRESENT A FLEXIBLE PLATFORM FOR FURTHER MOVEMENT TOWARDS IMAGINE INVERMERE?

In general, choosing actions that are as flexible as possible will help you avoid dead end situations. If technical or economic conditions change in the future, investments in flexible solutions will help ensure that these changes do not bring overly punitive costs, do not limit our ability to adapt with more sustainable solutions and ensure that future steps further reduce our impacts on natural systems.

Use the space to the right to indicate how your action incorporates long-term flexibility.

The action incorporates long-term flexibility by:

4 DOES THE ACTION PRESENT A GOOD FINANCIAL INVESTMENT?

	Capital: \$		Operating: \$/year	
What is the approximate cost of the action?				
Does this action reduce long term operating costs/ have a strong return on investment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
If so, what is the approximate associated pay-back period for the investment?	Years:			
Have non-market costs been considered in your decision making?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Are there financial costs to other stakeholders or citizens from the implementation of this action?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No



4 Guiding Strategic Questions:

1. Does this action move us toward our Priorities and Strategy Descriptions of Success?
2. Does this action move us toward our Sustainability Objectives?
3. Is this action a flexible platform for future improvement toward sustainability and success?
4. Is this action a good financial investment?

Imagine Invermere

Plans and Policies

Affordable Housing Plans

Community Energy and
Emissions Plan

Transportation Plan

Resort Development
Strategy

Official Community Plan

Development approvals

Subdivision Bylaw

Project approvals

Staff reports to Council

Purchasing and
Procurement

Economic
Development
Strategy

Questions?



Business case for *Imagine* Invermere





Business case

- ✓ Affordable, time-efficient process
- ✓ Clear time commitments from CSAT
- ✓ Clear outcomes and actions for moving forward from a business perspective
- ✓ Provides clarity and certainty regarding expectations for projects
- ✓ Shared long-term vision for economic development
- ✓ Emphasis on partnerships

Challenges and Opportunities arising from *Imagine* Invermere



Challenges

- Ongoing momentum; increasing buy-in
- Resources
- On the ground results take time
- Change in Council
- Recognition and buy-in of regional impacts

Opportunities

- Increased engagement; creation of implementation committee
- Institutionalizing into regular, budgeted processes
- Step-by-step actions toward descriptions of success
- Processes in place; require training of new Council and staff
- Regional partnerships and collaboration

Key results and benefits expected from *Imagine* Invermere





Results and Benefits

- Clear vision to guide decisions and actions
- Commitment to sustainability – brand, community support and pride
- Specific actions that link to required GHG targets
- Sustainability initiatives are good RoI
- Creates resiliency and self-sufficiency (e.g. food, local building economy)



POLL

- Who has begun implementation of your ICSP?



POLL

- What is an example of an action that is being implemented (type in your response)?

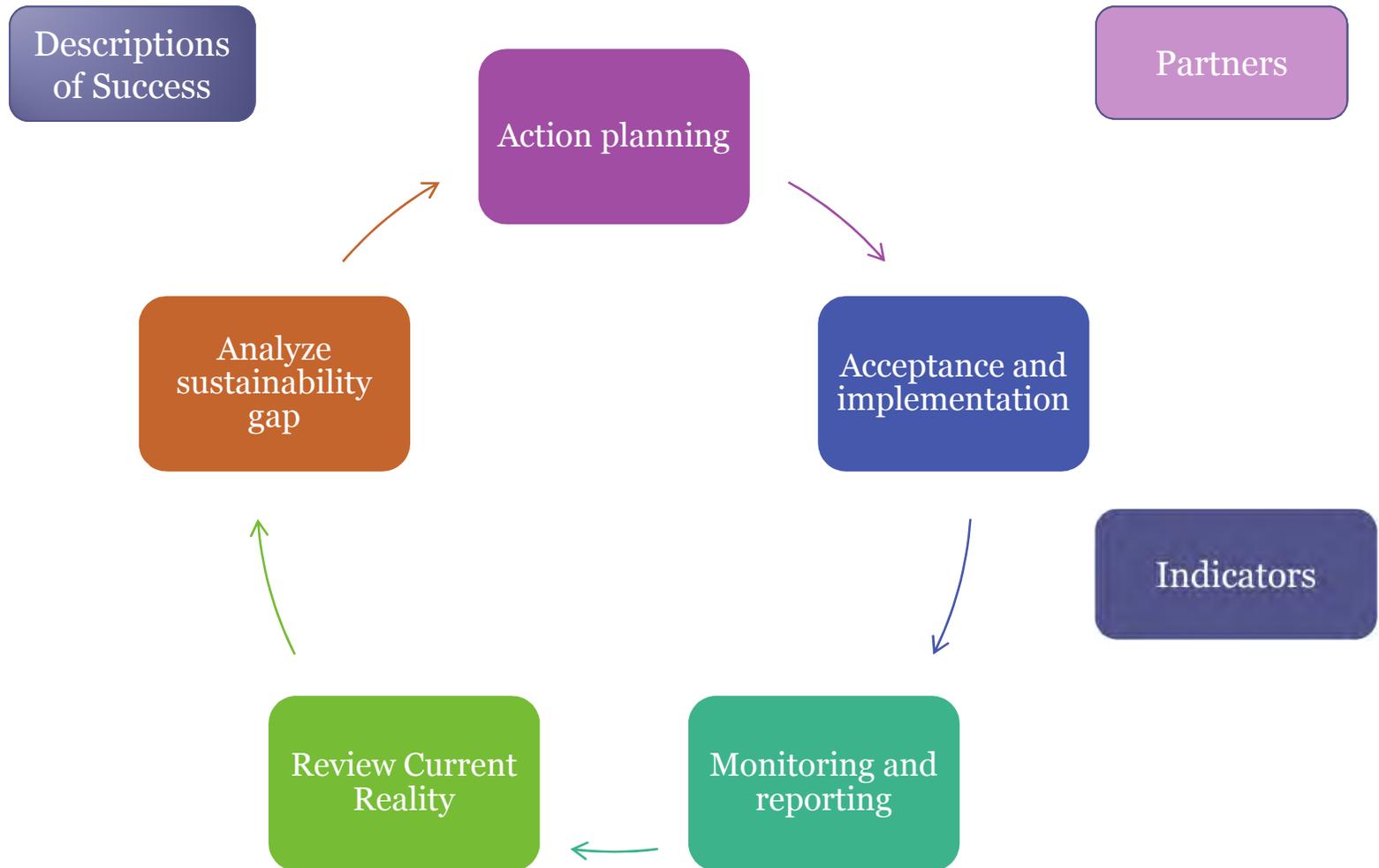
Next Steps



Next Steps

- Creation of ICSP implementation team
- Alignment of other plans, e.g. OCP
- Using ICSP for decision-making
- Connecting with regional partners to plan for regional economic development strategy based on ICSP vision
- Begin monitoring and reporting

Imagine Invermere





Dol Role:

- ✓ Be champions of the plan and process
- ✓ Institutionalize the ICSP into daily decision-making
- ✓ Provide resources to facilitate the process
- ✓ Implement actions
- ✓ Annually monitor and report on performance



Words of advice....





- Get a champion on board
- Ensure Council understanding and involvement throughout
- Creating a shared vision is essential
- Get key community organizations involved early on
- Be conscious of timing to get full community support

Questions?





<http://imagineinvermere.ca/>