



**HelioTrust, Centre Burlington, NS**

**How can the regional  
food system ensure  
the well-being of  
future generations?**





Lockeport, NS

**How can citizens  
retain the valued  
characteristics of local  
culture and lifestyle?**



A scenic view of a harbor with a large sailboat in the foreground and a city skyline in the background. The sailboat has white sails and a red and white striped mast. The city skyline features several tall buildings, including a prominent one with a blue and white facade. The water is blue, and the sky is a clear blue with some light clouds. The text "How can tourism contribute to a sustainable local economy?" is overlaid in white on the bottom half of the image.

**How can tourism contribute to a sustainable local economy?**

**How can the region harness  
wind, tidal, solar, geothermal  
and other power sources?**

**Scotian Windfields, NS**



A photograph of a person surfing on a wave. The surfer is wearing a dark wetsuit and is positioned in the center of the frame, riding a wave that is breaking to the right. The water is a dark, murky green color, and the sky is overcast. The text "Lawrencetown, NS" is overlaid in white at the top center of the image.

**Lawrencetown, NS**

**How can citizens increase  
their well-being?**



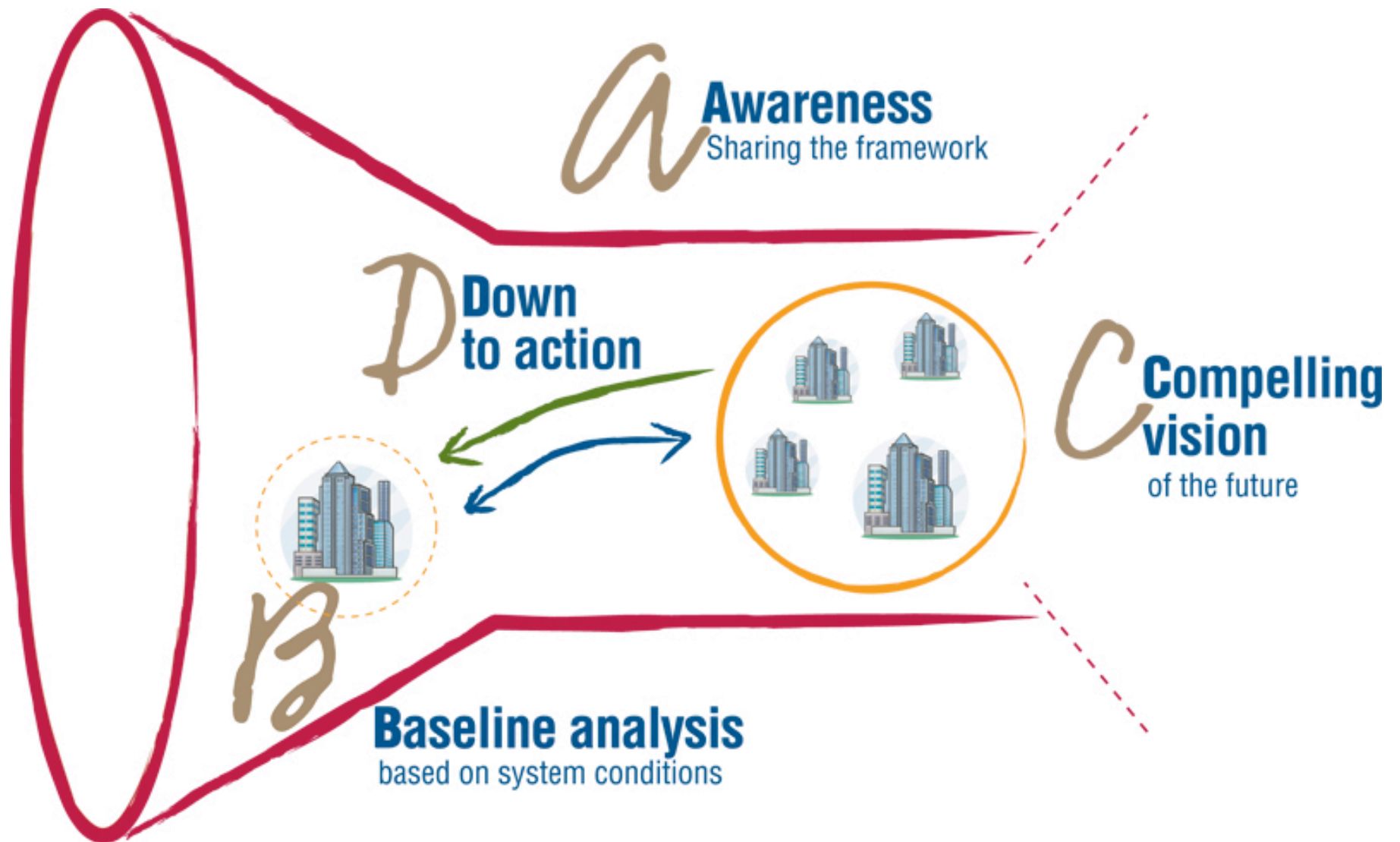
# Community Leadership towards Sustainability: The Natural Step

Laura MacKay  
Mitch Rhodes

[laurajmackay@gmail.com](mailto:laurajmackay@gmail.com)  
[rhodesm9@telus.net](mailto:rhodesm9@telus.net)

30 June, 2006







# The System Conditions



In the sustainable society, nature is not subject to systematically increasing:

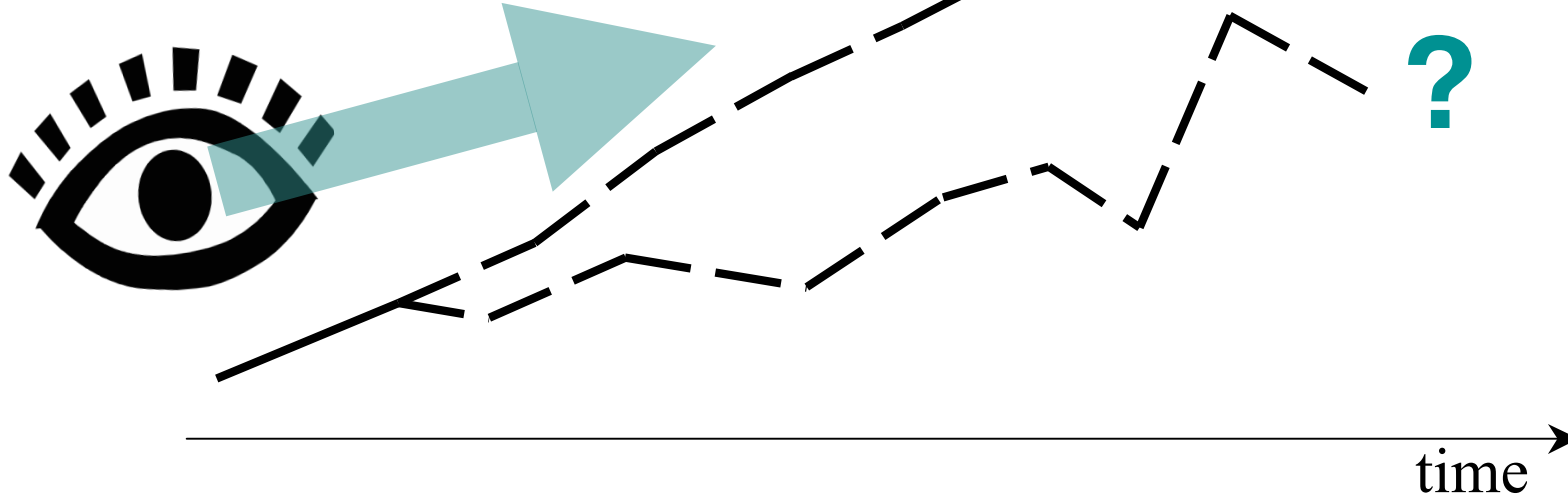
1. concentrations of substances extracted from the Earth's crust,
2. concentrations of substances produced by society,
3. degradation by physical means and, in that society. . .
4. people are not subject to conditions that systematically undermine their capacity to meet their needs.





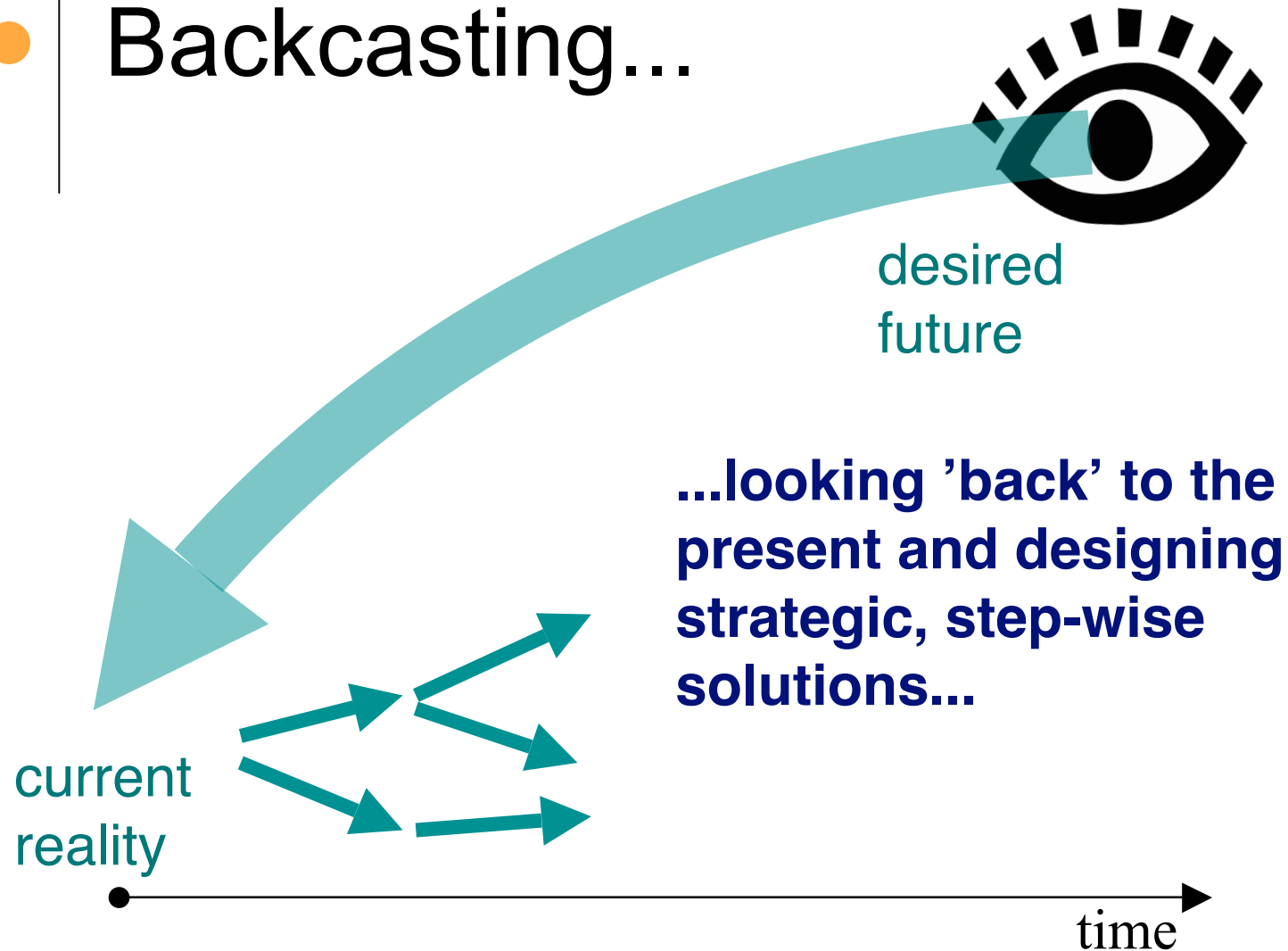
# Forecasting...

Based on trends,  
looking towards what  
'might' happen and...





# Backcasting...







# Whistler Early Adopters



Association of Whistler Area  
Residents for the Environment  
(AWARE)

Tourism Whistler

Resort Municipality of Whistler

Fairmont Chateau Whistler

Whistler Blackcomb

Whistler Fotosource



# Canmore Early Adopters



Alpine Insurance  
Canmore Public Library  
Canmore Seniors' Association  
Radisson Hotel  
Riverdale Homes

The Rocky Mountain Flatbread  
Company  
Polar Pin  
Three Sisters Mountain Village  
Tourism Canmore  
Town of Canmore



# Broader Community Engagement



## **Canmore:**

- Speaker series
- On-line resource library
- E-learning module
- Biosphere Resource Centre

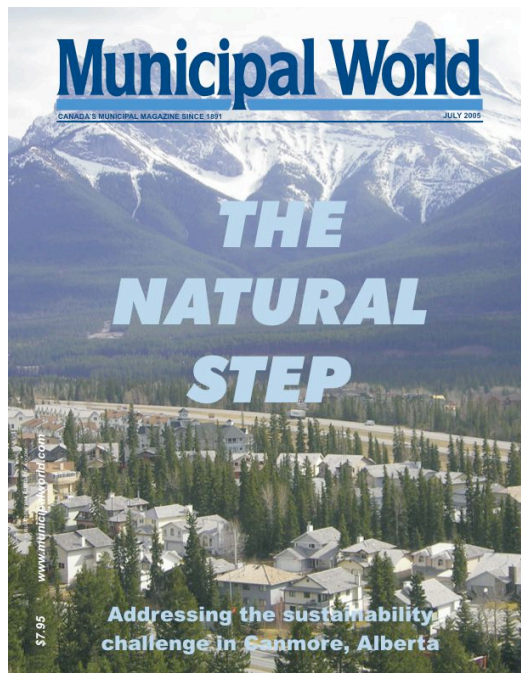


## **Whistler:**

- Speaker series
- Toolkits
- Train-the-trainers
- Website
- Multimedia show
- Whistler Centre for Sustainability



# Canmore's Sustainability Declaration



## A Sustainability Declaration

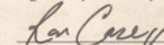
As Mayor and Councillors of the Town of Canmore, we acknowledge society's desire to create a stable, sustainable future. We further acknowledge that such a future is not certain, and that it will take the good will and determined work of many individuals, organizations, and communities around the world to achieve our goal.

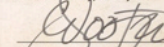
We are proud to be part of a community as rich in natural amenities, economic opportunities, and social possibilities as Canmore, and to be working on behalf of a future in which our economy, environment, society and governance are integrated in ways that foster vibrant communities, strong economies, and healthy ecosystems. To that end, we commit ourselves to creating the conditions necessary for a sustainable future. By seeking innovative and flexible solutions to the challenges that confront us, by sharing our knowledge, and by coordinating our actions, we strive to:

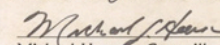
- Reduce and eventually eliminate our contribution to the progressive buildup of materials (and their associated wastes) that are extracted from the Earth's crust;
- Reduce and eventually eliminate our contribution to the progressive buildup of synthetic materials produced by society;
- Reduce and eventually eliminate our contribution to the ongoing physical degradation of Nature; and
- Reduce and eventually eliminate our contribution to conditions that undermine people's ability to meet their basic needs.

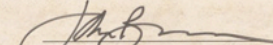
April 4, 2006  
Canmore, Alberta

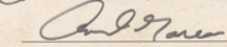
Signed by the Mayor and Councillors of the Town of Canmore

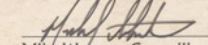
  
Ron Casey, Mayor

  
Corina Dootjes, Councillor

  
Michael Heenan, Councillor

  
John Borrowman, Councillor

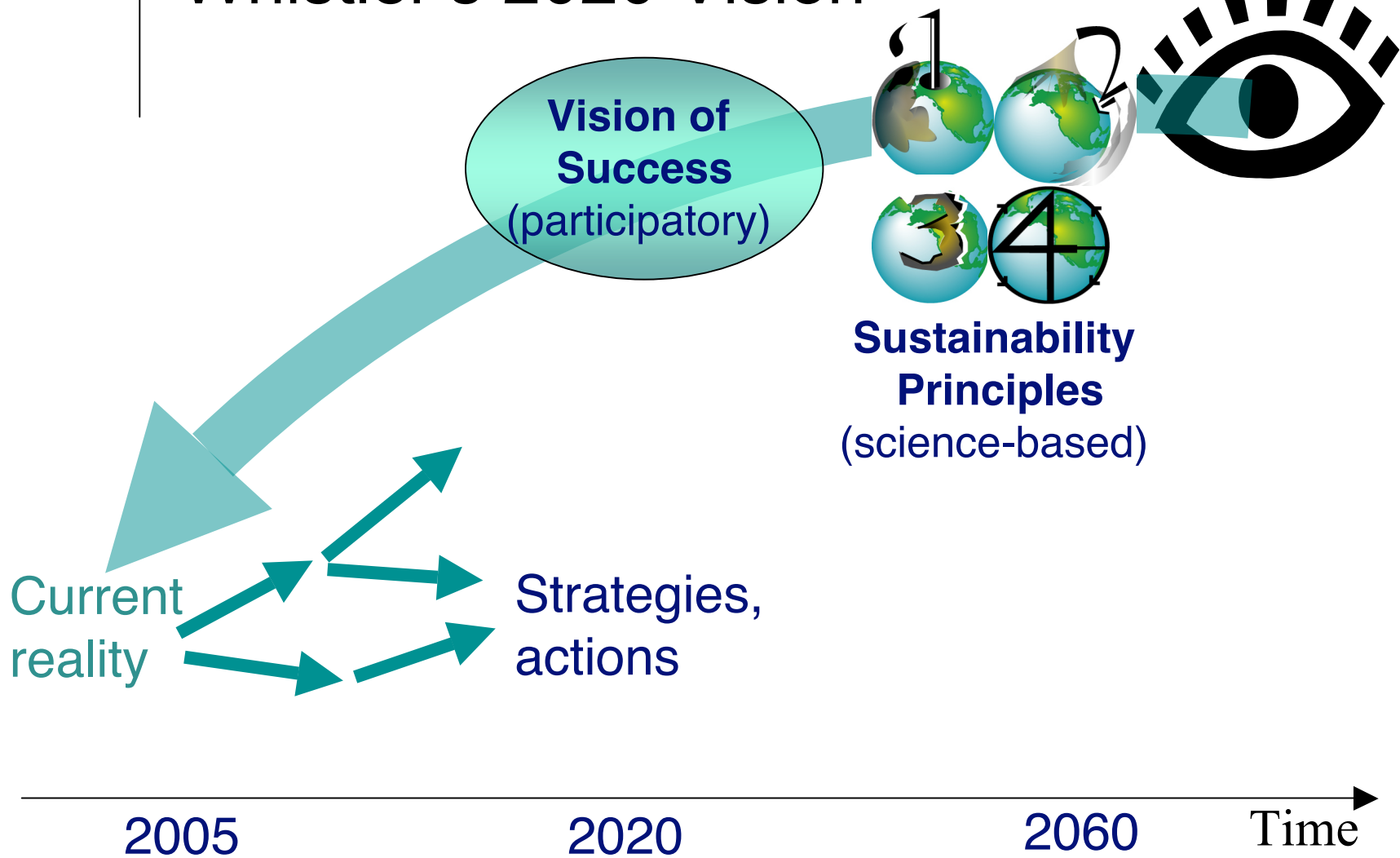
  
Andre Gareau, Councillor

  
Mike Western, Councillor





# Whistler's 2020 Vision



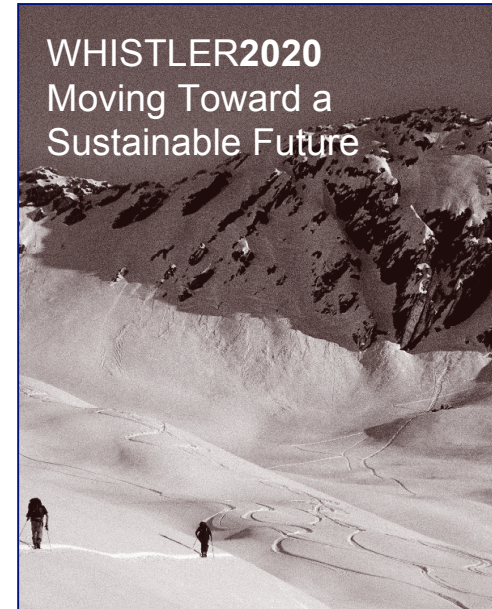
[www.whistler.ca](http://www.whistler.ca)



# Whistler's 2020 Vision

## **“Best Long Term Planning”**

2005 LivCom Awards,  
La Caruna, Spain

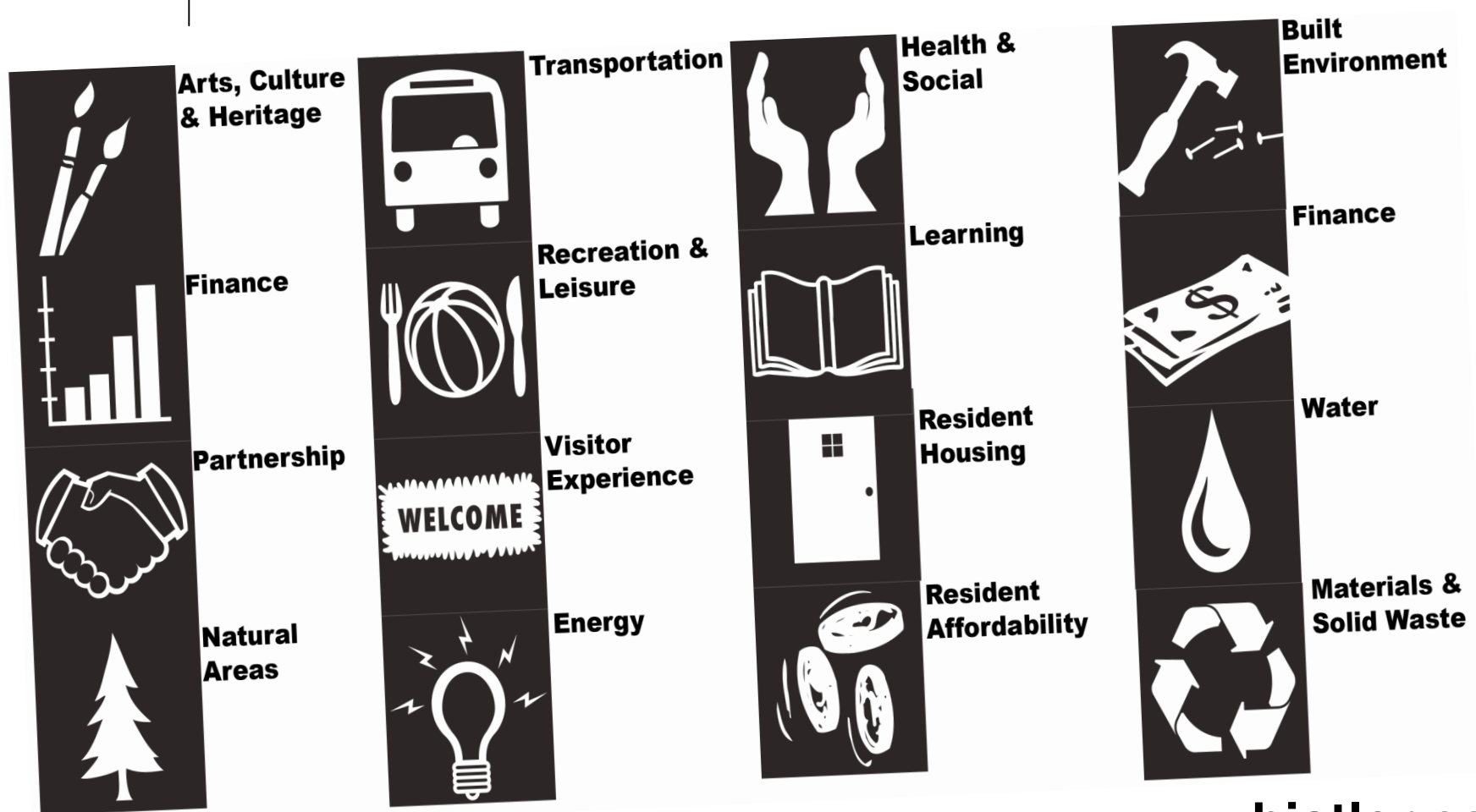


- ✓ Strategic
- ✓ Comprehensive
- ✓ Participatory  
/decentralised

[www.whistler.ca](http://www.whistler.ca)



# Comprehensive (16 Strategies, 1000s of Actions)



[www.whistler.ca](http://www.whistler.ca)





# Aspirations for Halifax

Tremendous  
body of  
knowledge from  
the Vedas

Kids have enough to  
eat at school; all Nova  
Scotians earn a living  
wage

Innovative potential  
leveraged from  
people who want to  
make a change

People are mindful of  
purchases and lifecycle  
of products

Youth engaged in  
community

Tufts Cove is  
pollution-free

Labor management  
issues are resolved in  
a sustainable way

Rural - city  
transport without  
a car; fossil free  
commuting

People see Al  
Gore's film, and  
act on what they  
learn

Sense of renewal  
from rural places,  
rural-urban  
continuum

In St Margaret's  
Bay - sustainability  
is a fun game!

Peace and  
harmony;  
relaxation into  
collaboration

How can we  
cultivate  
renewable  
sources of  
community  
leadership  
**fire souls!**  
towards your  
highest  
aspirations?





## Public lecture



Dr. Karl-Henrik Robèrt,  
founder of The Natural Step  
September 22, 2006





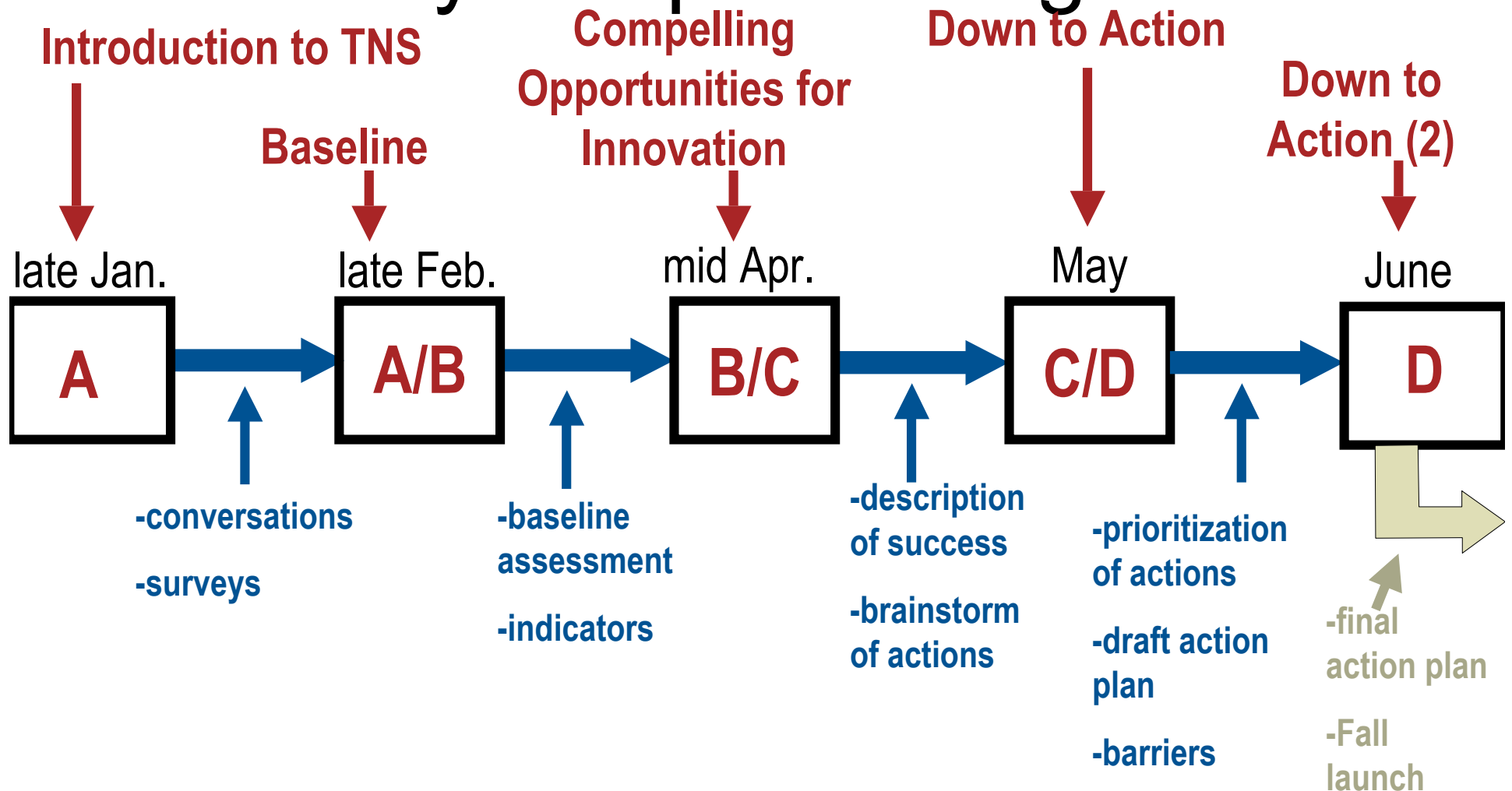
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# Early Adopters Program



# Canmore Early Adopters

## Objectives:

- To create a **shared language** for sustainability within Early Adopter organizations in the Town of Canmore
- To **strengthen** the **capacity** of Early Adopter participants to lead change toward sustainability by familiarizing them with The Natural Step Framework
- To develop **sustainability action plans** for Early Adopter organizations in Canmore
- To inspire **commitment** to and **leadership** for *The Natural Step to a Sustainable Canmore* program



# Today's decisions...

... guided by strategic questions

**1** Does this action move Whistler toward our shared **Vision of Success**?

Does this action move Whistler toward our shared **Sustainability Principles**?

**2**

**3** Is the action a **good financial investment**?

Does the action present a **flexible** platform for further movement toward **Success** in the future?

**4**

# **100% Pesticide Free Parks** (naturescaping, steam, cider vinegar and mechanical weeding)



# Ground Source Heating (and cooling)...



■ ■ ■



# Proposed Natural Gas Pipeline...

~\$42 Cdn. million; 50 km.,  
high pressure, capacity for  
doubled energy loads

