



**REPORT TO PLANNING, TRANSPORTATION AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2013**

**SUBJECT INFORMATION NOTE - NOTICE OF MOTION: EVALUATION OF THE DRAFT
REGIONAL SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY**

PURPOSE

In response to a Notice of Motion received from Director Derman, this report is to advise the Planning, Transportation and Protective Services Committee on how the Regional Sustainability Strategy (RSS) process will develop localized criteria to evaluate the draft RSS and subsequent municipal context statements.

BACKGROUND

The Regional and Strategic Planning Division is actively developing engagement-ready policies for the 12 strategic areas identified in the RSS framework (Attachment 1). The Division is also developing a set of localized criteria as a framework to evaluate RSS drafts and subsequent municipal context statements. Guidelines will also be developed for consistency and clarity in preparing regional context statements.

The RSS development process and Work Plan (Attachment 2) employed by the Division includes working closely with provincial and local government and agency representatives through the Intergovernmental Advisory Committee (IAC) and the Development Planning Advisory Committee (DPAC). An integral component of the process involves aligning Regional policies with equivalent Provincial policies, as well as integration of climate action mitigation and adaptation guidelines within each strategic area.

Provincial policies being considered include, and are not limited to the following:

- *Local Government Act* – especially Sections 849 and 850 as amended
- BC Climate Action Plan
- Living Water Smart Plan
- BC Energy Plan
- BC Transit
- Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure
- BC Air Action Plan
- Agricultural Land Reserve Regulations
- Privately Managed Forests Lands Regulations

Each strategic area will contain a set of goals, policies and action statements as well as performance-based targets. This approach is intended to set clear direction for the Region to incorporate Provincial policies, guidelines and targets, while providing flexibility on how individual municipalities can work towards achieving mutually agreed upon and locally relevant performance-based targets. A monitoring and implementation framework will be established in conjunction with RSS policies and strategies to track progress towards target achievement. Once the RSS is adopted results will be reported to the Board regularly.

CONCLUSION

Consideration of provincial goals and policies into the RSS engagement-ready policy development process, as well as localized criteria as a framework to evaluate RSS drafts and subsequent municipal context statements are critical to an effective and relevant Strategy. The relationship between these elements and engagement-ready RSS policies and targets will be clearly documented to assist the Committee and the Board in evaluating the draft RSS policies and proposed monitoring framework.

RECOMMENDATION

That this be received for information by the Planning, Transportation and Protective Services Committee.

****Original Signed****

Susan Palmer, MCIP, RPP
Senior Project Coordinator
Regional and Strategic Planning

Sue Hallatt, MCIP, RPP
Acting Senior Manager
Regional and Strategic Planning

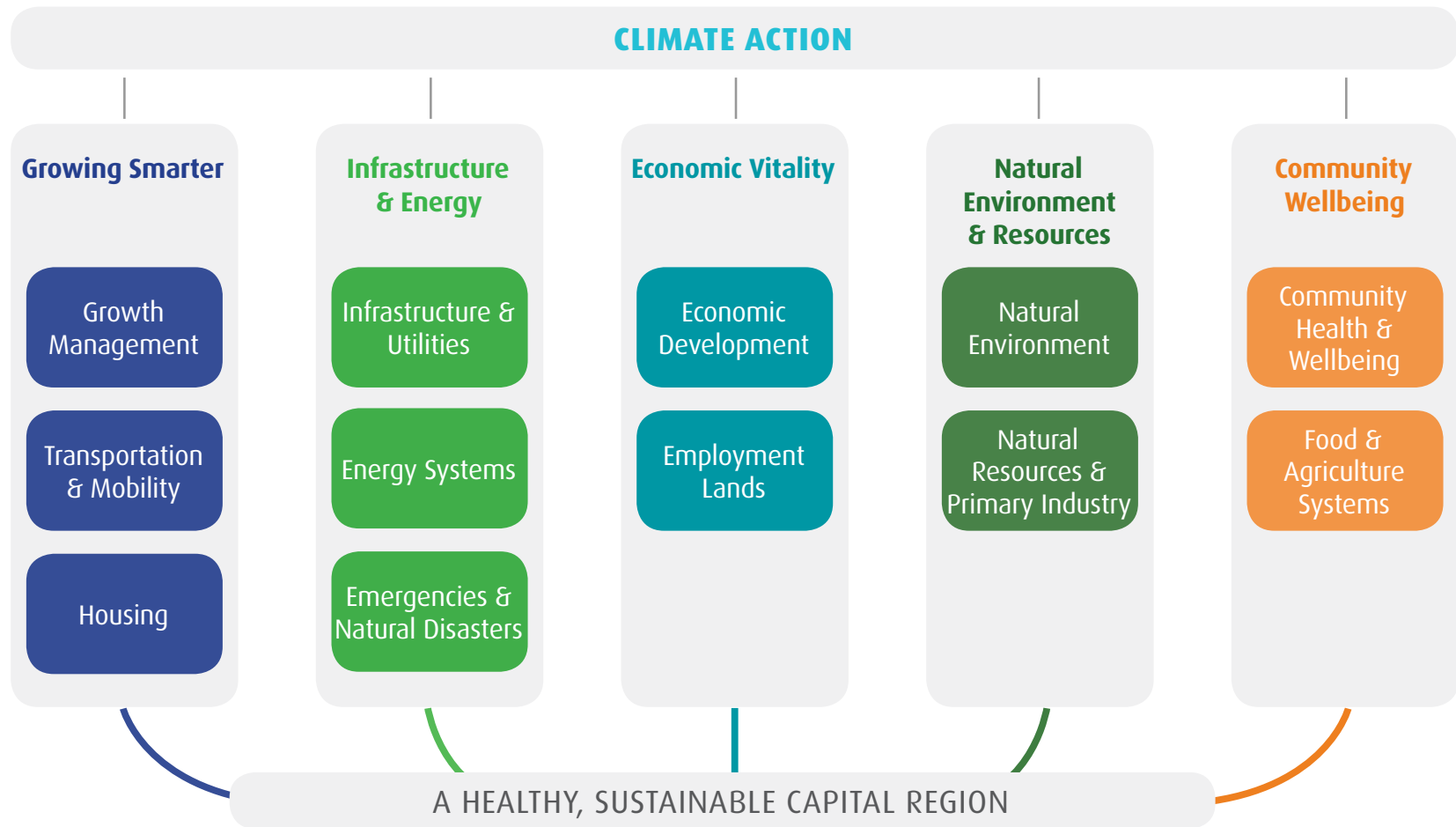
Maurice Rachwalski, PhD
Acting General Manager
Planning and Protective Services
Concurrence

Attachment: 2



The Regional Sustainability Strategy

Working together on 5 interwoven themes

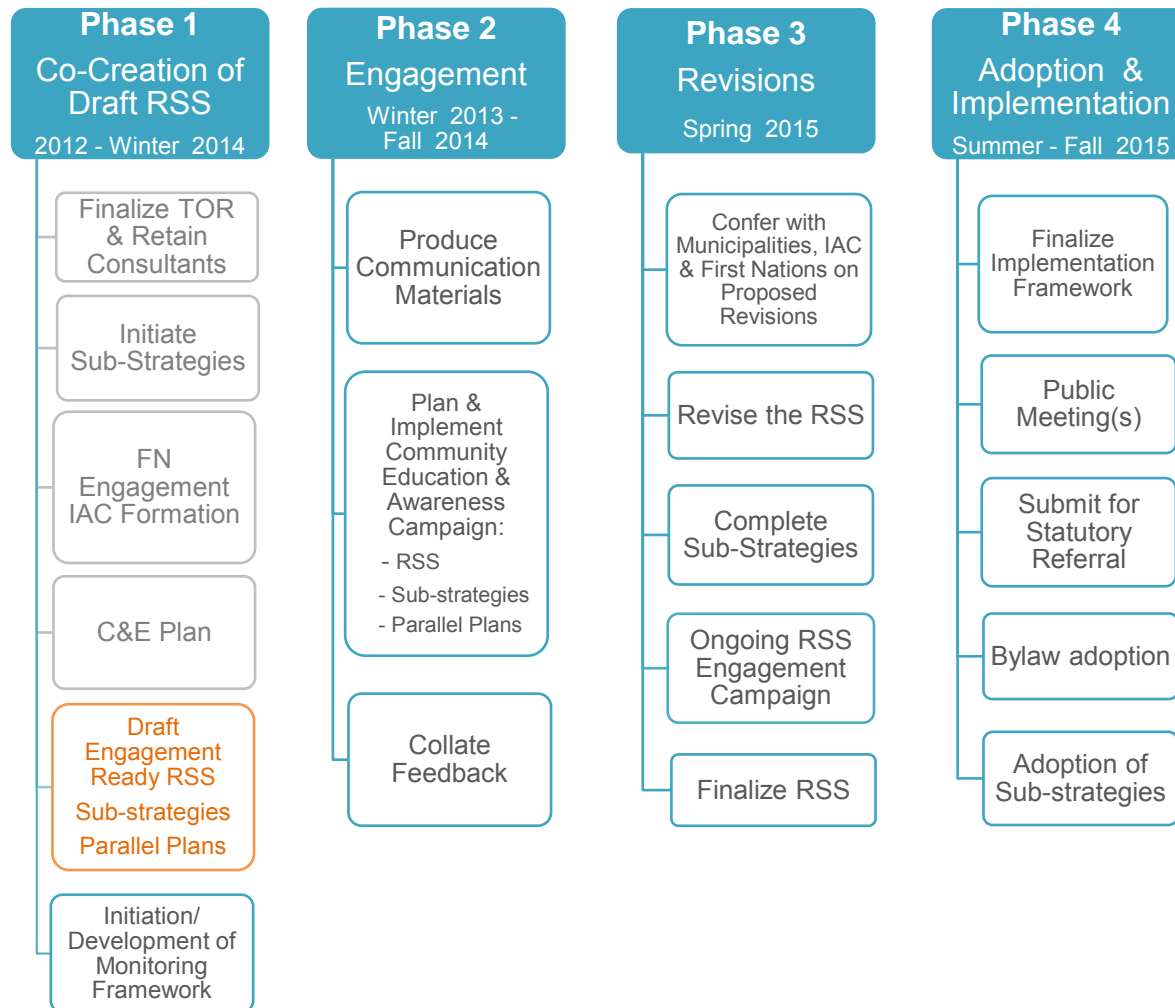


Making a difference...together



Regional Sustainability Strategy

RGS-RSS Work Plan



Legend

