



Town of Channel-Port aux Basques

Integrated Community Sustainability Plan 2010

Building a Sustainable Future

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**TOWN OF CHANNEL - PORT AUX BASQUES
MUNICIPAL PLAN 2010 APPENDIX
INTEGRATED COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY PLAN**

1 OVERVIEW

The Channel - Port Aux Basques Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP) has been prepared concurrently with and under the same process as the Town of Channel - Port Aux Basques Municipal Plan 2010. Another important source for this ICSP is the Channel-Port Aux Basques Strategic Economic Plan 2009 that was completed in July 2009.

All three major documents work toward the same basic goal: to enable the community of Channel – Port Aux Basques to become a more sustainable, liveable community for present and future generations.

The municipal plan and development regulations focus on land use issues, the built and natural environments and the management of these help to create a better community. The Strategic Economic Plan that was prepared after much consultation focuses on the economic, social and cultural aspects of the Town's development, with a strong emphasis on port development. The Integrated Community Sustainability Plan is designed to emphasize the sustainability aspects of physical, social and economic development. Both the Municipal Plan and the Strategic Economic Plan provided opportunities for community consultation and public input that was used to identify community values and priorities.

This ICSP is referred to in the Municipal Plan as an important tool in implementing the goals and policies of the Plan. At the same time, the Municipal Plan and the Development Regulations under the Municipal Plan through the policies and regulations pertaining to sustainability related matters are a vital element in ensuring the success of the Channel - Port Aux Basques ICSP.

The ICSP is an appendix to the Channel - Port Aux Basques Municipal Plan and can be amended and upgraded without amending or altering in any way the Municipal Plan and Development Regulations.

The Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP) for Channel - Port Aux Basques, is a Provincial requirement for Municipalities availing themselves of infrastructure funding under the Newfoundland and Labrador – Government of Canada Gas Tax Agreement (GTA).



With the assistance of Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador, on August 28th, 2009 the Council of Channel-Port aux Basques completed the Sustainability Self Assessment Tool Kit. This process identified various areas that needed to be addressed during the upcoming Municipal Plan review. The most notable areas for sustainability referred to upgrading and improving Town infrastructure and creating opportunities to attract and retain the population base.

Under ICSP Framework document, “some of the characteristics a sustainable community displays [are as follows]:

- Manages resources within ecological limits by developing infrastructure and service delivery programs that preserve biodiversity and keep greenhouse gases to a minimum.
- Provides the means for citizens to meet economic needs by availing of local vendors and service providers while providing a “liveable wage” to employees.
- Promotes socially just and inclusive communities by engaging the public, developing community cohesiveness and empowering citizens with decision-making capacity.
- Promotes creative and vibrant communities through activities that celebrate and cultivate heritage and cultural expression.”

The ICSP Framework document further identifies the following sustainability pillars, namely:

- Environmental Sustainability
- Economic Sustainability
- Cultural Sustainability
- Social Sustainability
- Governance Sustainability.

These pillars are slightly modified because of the unique nature of Channel-Port Aux Basques.

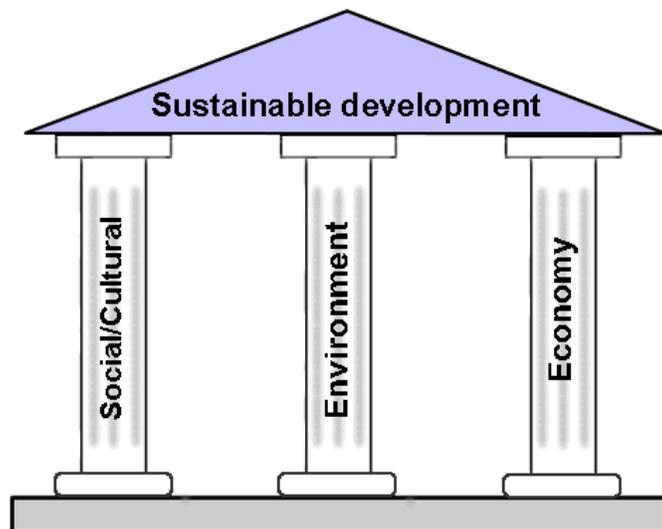


2 SUSTAINABILITY

Growth is a major goal of most communities, yet sustainability is the reality in much of Newfoundland and Labrador. An increasing emphasis for rural Newfoundland has been on meeting the current needs of the population without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Channel-Port aux Basques has embarked on a Municipal Plan and Strategic Economic Planning process to determine areas of possible growth and sustainability for the community. Under this process the Town is setting out the positive actions that community leaders and citizens can pursue to ensure the longevity of the community. The sustainability of the Town will be supported by the environmental, social, cultural and economic sectors – and good governance in the form of prudent fiscal management and a transparent governance process which entails a high level of citizen participation.

Viewing sustainability in relation to the pillars supporting the community allows leaders to identify community issues and construct a multi-faceted approach to implement sustainable development. The environment is a critical pillar to community sustainability, especially in a culture increasing aware of resource usage. This was evident once the environment was selected as criteria in determining development. The economy and employment are desired areas of stability the residents of the community would like addressed. With an emphasis on the economy and growth, the Town completed a Strategic Economic Plan to coincide with the sustainability plan. Finally, the social and cultural heritage of the community will need to remain strong to cement the history of the Town.





2.1 Environmental Sustainability

Creating a sustainable environment helps ensure a clean and healthy environment for the future residents of Channel-Port aux Basques. The environment is the base on which social, economic and cultural sustainability must be built. Founded on the fishing industry and experiencing growth in resource exploration in the region, the environment is key to economic growth. This growth must ensure the preservation of the environment to allow future generations the ability to be sustainable in those industries and others. At the same time as resource exploration, the community is experiencing a growth in the tourism industry. Maintaining a pristine and sustainable environment aids the growth of this and other sectors which also contributes to the overall sustainability of the community.

Nestled between the sea and Table Mountains, the culture of Channel-Port aux Basques has fundamentally relied upon the environment for employment, recreation and the basic necessities of living. In all future developments, a respect and enhancement of the environment will need to be addressed to ensure the best possibly quality of life and to make the community an attractive place to live. Some of the issues that Council must face in creating a sustainable environment will be the treatment of waste water entering the waterways, a healthy water supply and green space for recreation and leisure. Council will also adhere to the new provincial waste management strategy for solid household waste. As the largest municipality on the Southwest Coast, the Town will lead the region in the establishment of a regional waste management site and further the environmental sustainability agenda of the province. These concerns have been addressed in the Municipal and Strategic Economic plans.

With such strong ties to the culture of the community, and multiple industries dependent on its future, the environment is the base for sustainability of all other pillars.

Policies and regulations under the municipal and development regulations ensure insofar possible that environmentally sensitive areas are protected and the impact of storms and flooding is minimized through land use policies and regulations.

2.2 Economic Sustainability

The Town of Channel-Port aux Basques continuously strives to develop and diversify the economy to maintain the sustainability of the community. Various initiatives have been pursued by the Town and other stakeholders in recent years to reach the goals of the community. The Town will continue it's close and successful partnerships in economic development through partnering



with the Rural Secretariat, Zone 10 Regional Economic Development Board, the Port aux Basques and Area Chamber of Commerce, Service Canada, the provincial Department of Innovation, Trade and Rural Development and Human Resources, Labour and Employment.

The mandate of Council is to provide the community with an identification of the opportunities that exist within the community and a clear direction to achieve economic growth, development and stability. In addition to the identification of opportunities, goals for achieving the development of the initiatives, timeline for implementation and various aspects to be undertaken have recently been outlined in the Town's Strategic Economic Plan (SEP). Although variations in development will be experienced outside those identified within the plan, objectives for each initiative will remain the same in working toward a positive outcome.

With a Strategic Economic Plan, the community is provided with a vision and goals to prosperous development of the local economy. Each resident of the community will have a clear picture for the opportunities that have been identified and initiatives that may be undertaken to provide growth, diversification and sustainability for the community. The SEP provides a positive and encouraging account of the current economy and hope for the future of the community.





2.3 Social and Cultural Sustainability

As with much of rural Newfoundland and Labrador, Channel-Port aux Basques has an aging community. The graying of the community presents challenges surrounding the social and cultural sustainability. Many of the traditional ways of life and aspects of culture are dependent on the passing of generations. This is impacted by the aging of a community, as are the services and areas of development.

The globalization of the world through technological advancements has provided the largest challenges in sustaining the social and cultural heritage of the community. With increased television, internet and telephone access to cultures throughout the world, the local culture has been significantly impacted. These pressures have been predominant among the youth of the region whom have the greatest immediate interactions through global communication. Instant and continued interactions with additional cultures in other regions of the world have affected areas such as fashion, music and even language.

These cultural influences have seemingly led to the decline of traditional values and aspects of culture that makes the community unique. Pop and Rap music genre's have become more common among the current youth, clothing styles are being influenced by popular trends worn by movie and television celebrities and slang language from other cultures has been incorporated into daily use. The rampant use of technology to gather information from other regions has created a cultural melting pot among various cultural groups worldwide. These cultural influences have become the greatest challenge to social and cultural sustainability. The traditional aspects of the social and cultural heritage are becoming bombarded by foreign influences. This challenge is magnified by the aging of the community and decline in the population where aspects of culture and social heritage have fewer opportunities to remain.

Although the average population decline for Newfoundland and Labrador was at 1.5%, Channel-Port aux Basques witnessed a decrease of 6.9%. Specifically, the population of the community decreased by 318 residents to 4,319. Although this percentage is lower than experienced in previous years, the continual decline of the community's population over the past 20 years has affected many aspects, including the social and cultural environment.

Having 60% of the community's population over the age of 40 years, the challenge for the community continues to be the retention of its youth. To maintain the population, tax and service base for the community, youth need to be retained. The passing of traditions and heritage of the culture is also dependent on the strength of the next generation. With a decreasing birth rate



and retention of youth in the community, the social and cultural sustainability pillar is of grave importance to Channel-Port aux Basques.

Social and Cultural Sustainability is to be accomplished by all of the tools available to the Town and its partners. The Railway Heritage Centre will remain a beacon for cultural heritage. It provides reminders of generations past and traditional ways of life that have been passed down through history. This museum will continue to house significant artefacts used since settlement and stories of the community's history.

Another effort to preserve and sustain the community's heritage has been made through Come Home Year celebrations. The community held the inaugural event in 1985, with subsequent celebrations held in 1995 and 2005, with another Come Home Year being planned for the summer of 2010. These events provide a permanent connection between current and former residents and the community. It is also a grand stage for the preservation of the community's culture and social heritage. Many events, such as the Mummer's Dance, often feature local musicians. One such performer during the upcoming celebrations will be A. Frank Willis, who performs traditional Newfoundland music. This coupled with themes for the events which celebrate the community's history and way of life will contribute significantly to social and cultural sustainability for Channel-Port aux Basques.





2.4 Governance Sustainability

The Town will continue to build on its strengths of a very prudent approach to financial matters and community development and involvement through a transparent and welcoming governance style to ensure sustainability under this pillar.

2.5 Issues Summary

- Need to grow and diversify the local economy to provide employment and community economic sustainability.
- Provide available land for continued community growth, while ensuring no additional tax burden to the current and future residents of the community.
- Sewage treatment needs to be continued to negate effects on the local fresh and salt water ecosystems.
- Additional housing infrastructure options must be pursued to accommodate an aging population with changing needs.
- Continued upgrades to the community water system are needed to ensure a safe and reliable source for the future. This also includes the protection of the community watershed area from development.
- Need to attract new and former residents to the community to maintain an adequate tax base that does not place undue hardship on future generations. Focus on attracting youth should be a priority.
- Senior housing and health services to accommodate an aging population must be addressed. The demographic shift of the community, aided by an influx of aging residents from the outlying communities' places greater strain on health and housing services.
- Ensure a balance of residential, commercial and recreational spaces for all residents of the community.
- Need to ensure the cultural and social heritage of the community is maintained through the passing from one generation to the next. A record of the community's history and people must also be preserved in the local museum.
- Growth and development must occur with the preservation of cultural landscapes and heritage at the forefront.
- Cooperate with other municipalities in the region and the province to move forward the provincial waste management strategy.

Community sustainability principles will be adhered to through the achievement of community goals of various action plans addressing the economy, environment and social and cultural heritage of Channel-Port aux Basques.



3 MISSION STATEMENT, VISION AND GOALS

3.1 Mission Statement

The Town of Channel-Port aux Basques strives to provide an exceptional quality of living in an environment based on opportunity, prosperity and safety. The Town fosters positive support for a diversified economy through business investment and upholds the commitment to being the Gateway to the island of Newfoundland for Industry, Transportation and Tourism.

3.2 Vision Statement

The Town of Channel-Port aux Basques aims to be guided in the future by the following principles:

- Preserve the Town's heritage to learn from the past and plan for the future.
- Maintain and enhance our strong community spirit and exceptional quality of living, recognizing that people choose to live in Channel-Port aux Basques for a reason.
- Provide all citizens with a safe environment in which to access all services and amenities, including recreational and cultural activities.
- Encourage participation and involvement of all citizens in the growth, development and prosperity of the Town.
- Anticipate, recognize and support change within the community's people, culture and economy while utilizing new technologies.
- Develop and utilize partnerships of citizens, business and educational resources to form a stable and diverse economic base.
- Endorse, promote and assist in the advancement of economic prosperity and vitality that includes a diverse business mix and infrastructure to support business needs.
- Value and utilize the Town's strategic location as the Gateway to the Island of Newfoundland for economic growth.

3.3 Community Goals

The following are community developed targets of sustainability which are consistent with the Vision and Mission of Channel-Port aux Basques in proceeding into the future.

1. Economic Growth and Diversification
To seek and encourage new business development and expansion within the community that range over multiple sectors of the economy. This will



be explored through private and public partnerships in consultation with community partners, residents and the local business community.

2. Clean, Potable Water

To ensure an adequate and quality water supply for residents of the community. Protecting the watershed area from development and investing in upgrades to the water treatment system will assist in the maintenance of clean, potable water for the Town.

3. Preservation of the Local Cultural Heritage

To maintain elements of the local way of life that has been prevalent for the past 100 years. An account of the community's history will be maintained in the local museum as well as providing opportunities to foster cultural expression by residents.

4. Strong Government Leadership

To provide direction for the community in growth, development and provision of services that is expected by residents and within the fiscal parameters of the tax base.

5. Mitigation of Environmental Impact

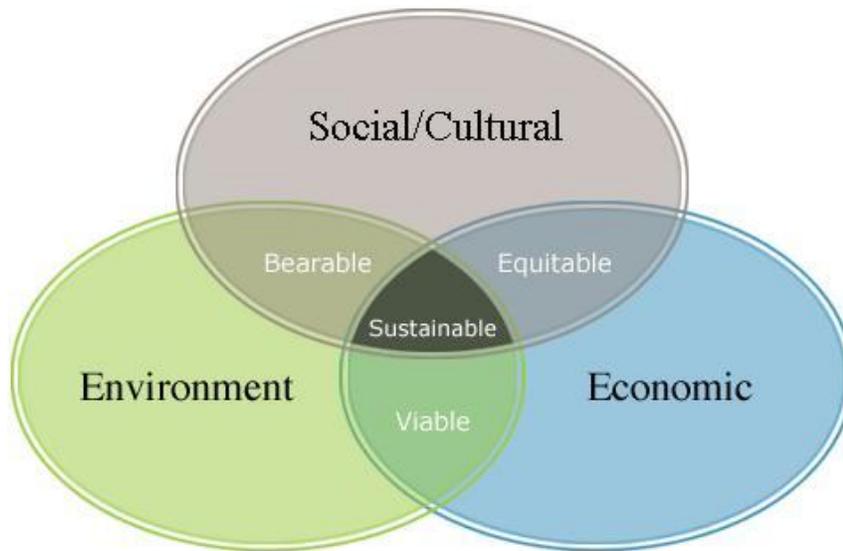
To reduce harm to the waterways and atmosphere through the treatment of sewage outfall, waste management, and road repair to reduce vehicle emissions. Mitigating the ecological footprint of today will allow for the sustainability of tomorrow's generation.

6. Sound Financial Management

To encourage community development, while operating within the financial parameters of the present tax base. The Town will not compromise the future of the community for present gains.

The community goals outlined from the vision of the community will be implemented through the Municipal and Strategic Economic Plans. By managing growth, development and infrastructure investment, Channel-Port aux Basques will ensure the sustainability of the community for many future generations.

4 ACTION PLAN



4.1 Action Plan

In large measure the Action Plan is a continuation of present practices and programs – protection of environmentally sensitive and hazard areas, continued support of heritage, social, cultural and recreational initiatives, which are managed under the current governance structures and the town’s municipal plan and development regulations.

4.2 Capital Works Action Plan

The Action Plan will help to carry out the Town’s mission, vision and goals under the sustainability and development agenda as set out in the Municipal Plan, the Strategic Economic Plan and the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan.

The Town will:

- Access cost-shared federal-provincial infrastructure programs to invest in capital works projects, specifically upgrading water and sewer systems and pave existing roads.
- Work in conjunction with residents, organizations and resource personnel to implement identified municipal and economic initiatives.
- Promote growth of the local business sector to provide stability within the local economy through diversification.



- Assist in the promotion of the best possible quality of life for the residents of the community through social, health and employment access.

As funding is secured, the Town will continue to implement various capital works projects identified in this document. A five-year projection of capital works projects will be identified by Council and the required capital requirements. This will enable the Town to seek funding from the provincial and federal governments in a timely manner.

The following tables are priorities identified by Council through the Municipal and Strategic Economic Plan processes. Included are various municipal works and economic development projects, along with identified leads and partnerships needed for inception. As funding is secured, various aspects of these initiatives will be pursued and developed.

Environment	Estimated Cost	Contribution to Sustainability
Sewage Outfall	\$3,000,000	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Environment Ecosystem: reduce the impact to waterways and supported life. 2. Reduce long-term maintenance: cost savings passed on to the community.
Water Treatment Facility Upgrades	\$1,000,000	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cleaner Water: upgrades to maintain reliable and safe water to residents. 2. Additional residential hook-ups: to accommodate expansions to Smallwood Drive.
Provincial Waste Management Strategy	NA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduce Landfills Sites: a regional initiative that will reduce landfill sites on the Southwest Coast by combining resources. 2. Increase recycling: this initiative will encourage recycling and provide outlets for more recycled materials.



Economic	Estimated Cost	Contribution to Sustainability
Harbour Development	\$76,327,650	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Growth and diversification of the main employer of the community for the last century. 2. Increased employment opportunities for residents.
Small-Medium Cruise Ship Industry	\$150,000	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a sustainable industry in tourism for economic growth. 2. Builds an industry on the strength of the community, the harbour.
Marina	\$222,392	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a sustainable industry in tourism for economic growth. 2. Builds an industry on the strength of the community, the harbour.
Fish Plant Development	\$1,174,932 \$500,000	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintain an economic tool for development purposes. 2. Ability to create substantial employment
Atlantic Small Scale Convention Market	\$100,000	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Utilize location for year-round economic infusion for community.
Adventure Tourism	\$750,000	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a sustainable industry in tourism for economic growth.
Downtown Restoration	\$500,000	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creates identifiable commercial centre for business investment. 2. Consistent with economic development goals and objectives. 3. Creates centralized business area, reducing out of town trips, access, and improved quality of life.
Service Distribution Centre	\$40,000 \$1,200,000	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enhances the economy of the community by working in conjunction with the main employer's services. 2. Infrastructure and land to support the initiative.



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Oil & Gas Manufacturing and Servicing	\$80,000 \$800,000	1. Current infrastructure and geography to service a growing industry. 2. Opportunity to provide great employment opportunities for the community.
Business Information and Attraction Package	\$6,000	1. Can play a major role in the attraction and establishment of businesses to the community. 2. A great tool to provide all information to current and potential business that can create employment for the residents.

Social/Cultural	Estimated Cost	Contribution to Sustainability
Community Professional Recruitment Committee	NA	1. Assist in providing reliable and adequate health, and service professionals demanded by residents.
Youth Centre	\$428,000	1. Provide youth with supports to allow them to grow into productive members of the community, enter the workforce and remain in the local Town.
Daycare	\$594,500	1. Serve as an attraction tool for professionals. 2. Allow single parents and low income residents to enter the workforce.
Bruce II Sports Centre Upgrades	\$706,000	1. Provide social interaction mediums to residents. 2. Promote a healthy lifestyle to the community. 3. Assist in the attraction of professionals to the community.
Expatriates Marketing	\$50,000	1. Attract former residents back to the community to increase the population and youth base. 2. Allow for greater support of the services being provided in the community through a larger tax bas.



Integrated Community Sustainability Plan 2010

Housing Development	\$750,000	1. Housing growth promotes growth of the local economy and additional living options for the seniors of the community, new residents and those relocating from the region.
Education	\$3,900,000	1. Promotes growth and development of the youth of the region. 2. Entices businesses to locate to the community due to an experienced workforce.
Railway Heritage Museum	\$250,000	1. Heritage Preservation: a location to preserve the artefacts and stories of settlement and traditional ways of life for future generation. 2. Outlet for Traditional Products: a selling medium for homemade products that are traditional to the local culture.
Come Home Year Events	\$50,000	1. Resident Connection: provide current residents with a sense of pride on the community and continue to provide former residents with a connection to the community. 2. Traditional Stage: allows an outlet for traditional social and cultural aspects of the community, including music, dance and dress.

Governance	Estimated Cost	Contribution to Sustainability
Maintaining existing debt levels	NA	1. Ensures that the Town remains viable and is able to fund essential programs and public works
Road Repairs	\$3,000,000	1. Reduced long-term maintenance: cost savings passed on to the community residents. 2. Improve driving and resident safety.
Town Garage Replacement	\$1,000,000	1. Reduce escalating repair costs to residents of community. 2. Location in industrial area to be consistent municipal plan.



4.3 Partnerships



The Action Plan outlined will be a community effort with multiple partnerships created to achieve desirable outcomes. Many of the initiatives within the action plan are partnerships between the Town and community organizations or governmental departments.

Under the environment sustainability pillar, sewage outfall, water treatment, and the waste management strategy will all be undertaken in partnership with the Department of Environment and Conservation, and the Department of Municipal Affairs. In addition, the residents of the community will also be encouraged to recycle any possible materials to reduce the impact on the local environment.

Economic sustainability initiatives will have a variety of partnerships formed depending on the project and applicable organizations. Most of the common economic partnerships the Town forms are with Service Canada, the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment, and the Department of Innovation, Trade and Rural Development. The local business community will also be a partner with the Town on restoration of the downtown, oil and gas manufacturing and servicing, and development of the adventure tourism market.

The Social and Cultural sustainability action items will require partnerships with various local organizations. The Community Professional Recruitment Committee should be lead by the local Dr. Charles L. LeGrow Health Foundation, a non-profit organization that assists in raising capital for equipment at the local hospital and the attraction of health professionals to the community. On unique developments, such as a regulated daycare for the community, the Town has partnered with Western Health, the Port aux Basques and Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Community Education Network. The Come Home Year festival is organized by a local committee



that is supported by the Town and the Railway Heritage Museum is spearheaded by the Historical Society in collaboration with Council.

The Council of Channel-Port aux Basques will provide leadership and guidance in creating sustainable municipal governance. Working with local organizations and residents of the community, Council will encourage participation in the democratic process of municipal governance. Strong leadership and effective guidance of the community is essential in maintaining a vibrant community that strives toward growth and development.

Partnerships are crucial in providing sustainability for Channel-Port aux Basques. Working with federal and municipal governments, in conjunction with community organizations and residents will enable the community to grow and prosper for future generations.

4.4 Implementation and Compliance Monitoring

The Channel-Port aux Basques Municipal and Strategic Economic Plans present the community's vision for sustainable development for the Town. The policies, regulations, services and investments will all be used to promote sustainable development through the goals of the community.

Successful implementation of both the Municipal and Economic Plans involves:

- Adoption and support of annual municipal and five year capital works budgets.
- Commitment to revision of Municipal and Strategic Economic Plans every five years and regular updating of the ICSP.
- Commissioning and implementing recommended studies
- Work with community citizens, groups, resources and organizations to achieve the goals outlined by the community

Compliance monitoring is achieved through annual reviews of each of the progress made on each of the action items, tied where pertinent to the annual budget review process.

The day to day responsibility for ensuring that the program is carried out rests with the Town's chief administrative officer – the town clerk/manager. This is accompanied by Council and committees of Council oversight.



5 CONSULTATIONS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

5.1 Strategic Economic Plan and ICSP

In attempting to identify and prioritize community development opportunities available to Channel-Port aux Basques, community consultation sessions were held to provide residents with access and input to the Strategic Economic Plan and Municipal Plan process. This initial session was held on September 29th, 2008. Advertising of these sessions were made through the local newspaper, The Gulf News, as well as on Rogers Cable community channel and the Bruce II Sports Centre informational sign. Personal emails were also sent to all business interviewees and additional community contacts to be forwarded to any member of the community. To allow unbiased and open participation, Baxter House of the Government of Newfoundland Department of Innovation, Trade and Rural Development was solicited as the facilitator for the sessions.

The initial Community Development Session drew 19 members of the community for participation. During the first consultation residents were asked to provide development opportunities they deem relevant to the community. These suggestions were not analyzed in length or in reference to limitations. Discussions among the attendees lead to a great deal of input and identification of multiple opportunities. The initiatives received included harbour development, a freight distribution centre, Grand Bay West Beach tourism, and car rental services. In addition, there were unique opportunities in the small scale Atlantic convention market, services for seniors, hospital services, adventure tourism, and a daycare among others.

Initiatives presented and discussed spanned over a vast array of sustainability. The list of opportunities identified during the first community development session totaled 40, with some overlap and relating initiatives. Please see Appendix A for a listing of all opportunities identified during this session.

Building on the initial community development session, the second follow-up session was held on October 6th, 2008, drawing 20 residents and built on the progress made previously. Facilitator Baxter House called for additional development opportunities that may come from new attendees or developments since the last session. Several new initiatives were put forward and lightly discussed.

The goal of a second community development session was to prioritize the indicated opportunities and apply weighted criteria to determine the most feasible initiatives to develop. All residents were given three selections toward



the 40 initiatives. These selections could all be used toward one initiative or spread over three. Upon all residents making their selections, a list of the top ten selected opportunities were determined.

With a listing of the top initiative priorities for the community, weighted criteria were then applied to each opportunity to determine their feasibility. The criteria determined by residents of the community were:

- Sustainability of initiative
- Labour skills available
- Barriers to development
- Community support
- Creates employment
- Community lead group
- Environmental impact
- Financing availability
- Available infrastructure

Having determined these criteria, any future opportunities or initiatives brought forward to the community can be easily evaluated to determine the feasibility. This process provided both insight and participation into the Municipal Plan and Strategic Economic processes for the residents. The result of the community development sessions allowed residents to identify opportunities, prioritize them and apply criteria to determine their feasibility. Upon completion of this process, the following initiatives were ranked:

- 1.) Housing
- 2.) Lay-Down Space
- 3.) Freight Distribution Centre
- 4.) Channel Lighthouse Development
- 5.) Youth Centre - Daycare
- 6.) Harbour Development
- 7.) Expansion of Hospital Services
- 8.) Access to Marine Atlantic Docks
- 9.) Local Investments
- 10.) Moratorium on Business Tax

Various external factors and future developments will ultimately impact the development and progress on any of the above initiatives. Further investigation of all initiatives presented during the community consultations has been completed during the development of this report to specifically determine the feasibility of each. All avenues of development has been explored specifically regarding the funding necessary for development, environmental regulations, needs of the community, legal implications and other various aspects to each initiative.



5.2 *Consultations and Community Engagement*

Essential components of the consultation process during the preparation of the ICSP included the consultations that were carried out during the preparation of the Strategic Economic Plan, and, the preparation of the Municipal Plan. The SEP consultation process is documented elsewhere in this document. A public consultation for the Municipal Plan was carried out on March 10th, 2010. The planning consultant, council members and senior staff were present for these afternoon and evening sessions. This was advertised in the Gulf News and the community channel, as well as posted around Town. Little public interest was evinced for the March 10th session.



Appendix A

Town of Channel-Port aux Basques
Strategic Economic Plan 2009