

Smart Planning for Communities

Reversing the Tide Conference

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Isabel Budke & Joan Chess
Sustainability Facilitators, *Smart Planning for Communities*
Fraser Basin Council



Outline

- Who is the Fraser Basin Council?
- What is *Smart Planning for Communities*?
 - Evolution
 - Key elements
 - Reasons to engage
 - Principles
- Frameworks & Approaches
- Contact Information
- Qs & As



Who is the Fraser Basin Council?

Social well-being supported by a vibrant economy and sustained by a healthy environment

- Not-for-profit, non-governmental organization
- est. 1997
- Board of Directors (36) includes four orders of government, private sector and civil society
- Staff of over 30--growing
- Mandate:
...to advance sustainability in the province of British Columbia with a geographic focus on the Fraser River Basin.
- multitude of programs and initiatives, including *Smart Planning for Communities*

What is *Smart Planning for Communities?* (ctd')

- Prime Minister's External Advisory Committee on Cities and Communities (EACC)
 - 4 pillars of sustainability need attention



- New Deal for Cities and Communities



- Federal Gas Tax Agreement



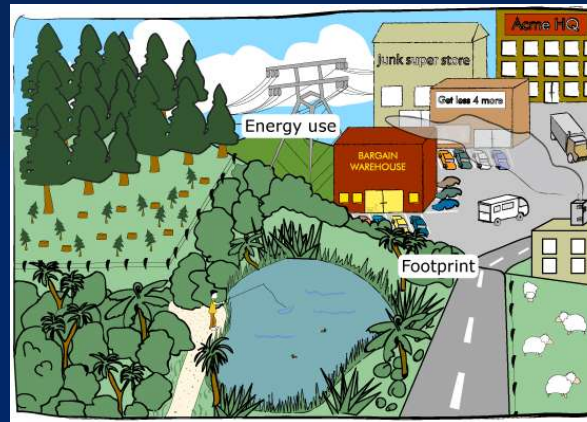
- Agreements for provinces and territories reference
"Integrated Community Sustainability Planning ("ICSP")



- *Smart Planning (SPC)* in British Columbia
(administered by Fraser Basin Council)

What is *Smart Planning for Communities*?

... “a collaborative BC-wide initiative providing resources and tools to local and First Nations governments for planning socially, culturally, economically and environmentally sustainable communities”



What is *Smart Planning for Communities?* (ctd')

...creating stronger, more sustainable communities in British Columbia by:

- Increasing capacity to plan and implement actions for sustainability at the local level across social, cultural, economic, and environmental dimensions
- Providing consistent, targeted advice from expert facilitators
- Improving access to best practices, tools and approaches to sustainable/ comprehensive community planning
- Improving linkages between funding agencies and communities across BC



Key Elements of SPC

1. A **Funders Group** to provide financial support and approve the SPC Business Plan;
2. A **Partners Group** to provide strategic direction;
3. A BC-wide **network of Sustainability Facilitators** supported by leading-edge sustainability practitioners and experts;
4. A **Resource Network** that will develop and expand linkages among and between sustainability experts, resources, and communities; and
5. A **website** linking to an array of sustainability planning resources.

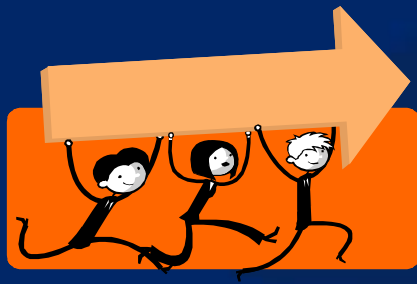
www.fraserbasin.bc.ca/programs/smart_planning.html

SPC Funders Group

- BC Hydro
- First Nations Mountain Pine Beetle Initiative
- Indian & Northern Affairs Canada
- Ministry of Agriculture & Lands
- Ministry of Community Development
- Ministry of Environment
- Real Estate Foundation of BC

SPC Network of Sustainability Facilitators

- Process Advice
- Strategic Support
- Education and Training
- Technical Expertise



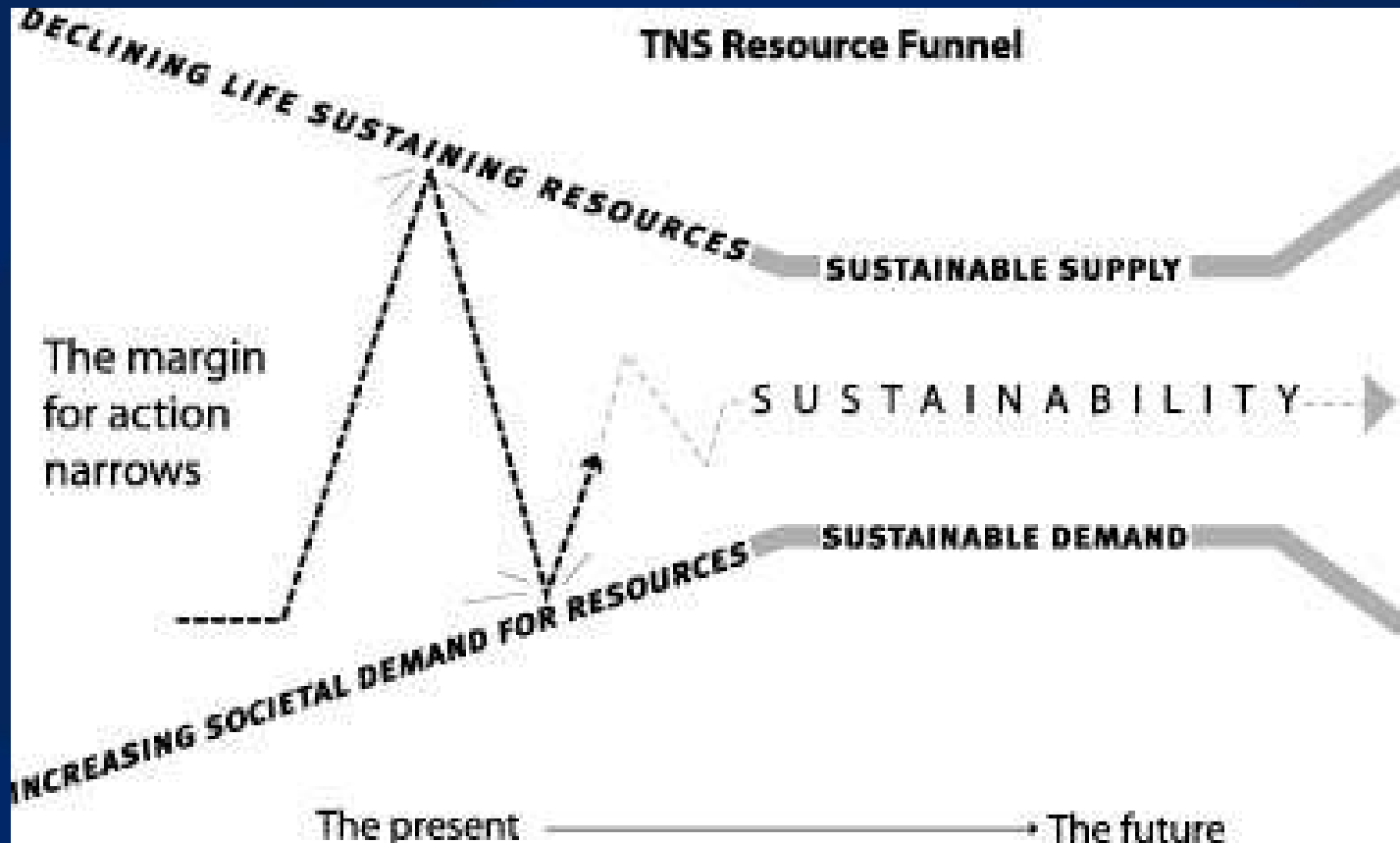
Why engage in *SPC*?

We are facing challenges we have never faced before...



“Our global civilization will only be sustainable if the cities in which its populations and resources are concentrated are sustainable.” (Hon. M. F. Strong)

Why engage in *SPC*?



What is a Sustainable Community?

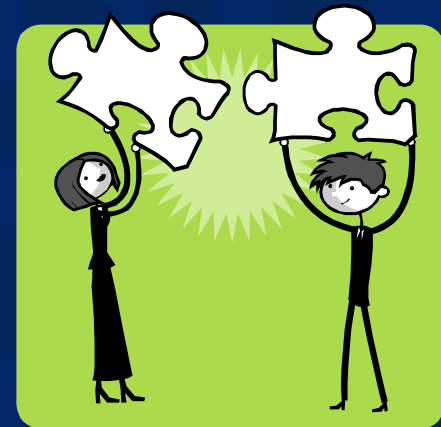
A prosperous, healthy, resilient community that...

- meets our current needs and those of our children and grand-children
- provides a **high quality of life** by enhancing and balancing our economic, social, cultural and environmental well-being **now and in the future**



Principles of *SPC*

- long-term thinking
- **broad in scope**
- integration
- **collaboration**
- public engagement and education
- **implementation**
- monitoring and evaluation



Principles of *SPC*

long-term thinking

- time-frames for planning processes and plans are broadened to take into account implications for future generations



Principles of *SPC*

broad in scope

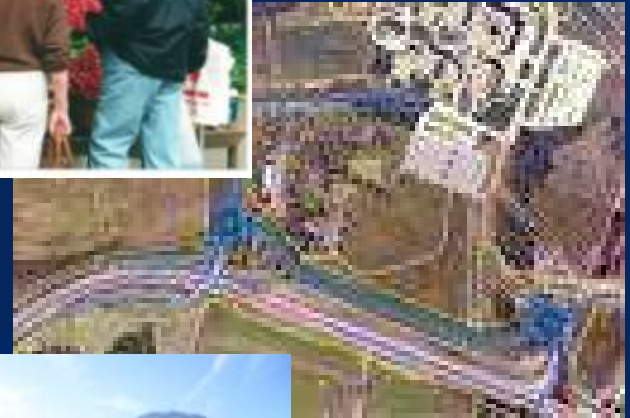
- planning processes consider communities' environmental, economic, social and cultural sustainability....



Principles of *SPC*

integration

- planning processes reflect a co-ordinated approach to enhancing community sustainability through linkages between different types of plans or planning activities



Principles of *SPC*

collaboration

- planning processes engage community members and other partners to support community sustainability (e.g. First Nations, neighboring communities, NGOs, private sector, other levels of government)



Principles of *SPC*

public engagement and education

- planning processes enhance public understanding, participation and direction



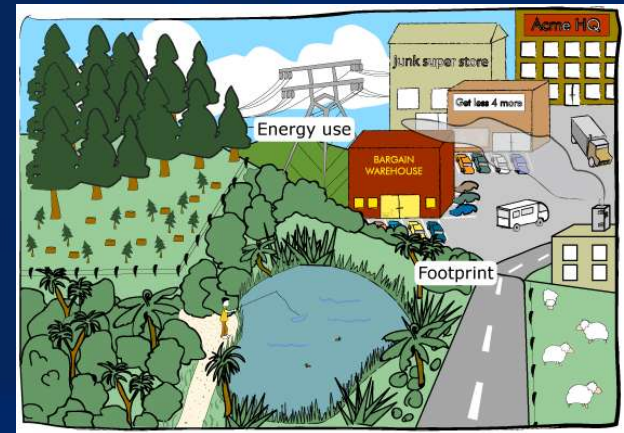
Principles of SPC

Implementation

- communities ensure that plans are living documents that are kept off the shelf and put into action

Monitoring and Evaluation

- plans outline targets and track results in order to monitor and celebrate progress and focus efforts on areas that need the most improvement



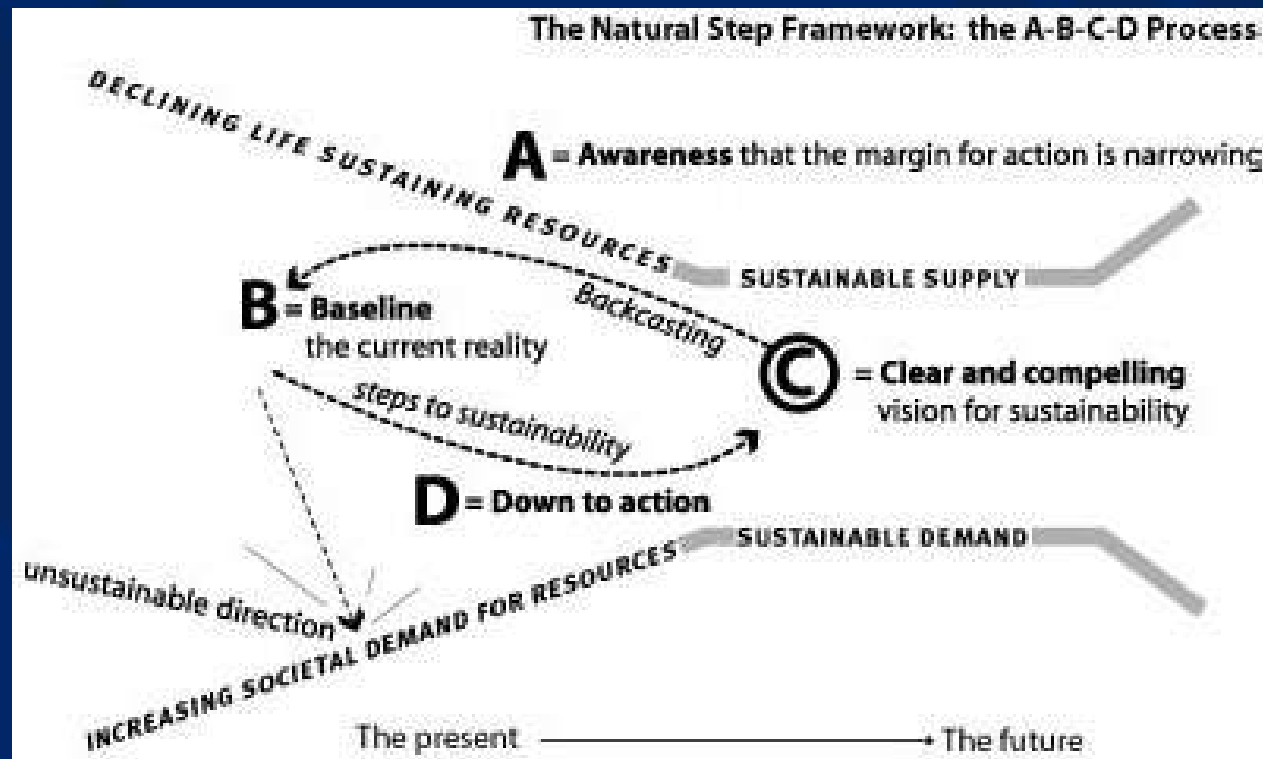
Frameworks and Approaches

- The Natural Step (TNS)
- AUMA Guides
- Comprehensive Community Planning (CCP) for First Nations
- Smart Growth/ SGOG
- PLUS Network and Planning Cycle (ICSC)



The Natural Step (TNS)

- 4 “Systems Conditions”
- Implementation Methodology



AUMA Guides

Municipal Sustainability Planning Guide

- comprehensive
- 5 phases and detailed steps explained
- good tools section

Fast-Track Guide

- overview/ summary of 5 steps

<http://msp.auma.ca/>

Comprehensive Community Planning (CCP)

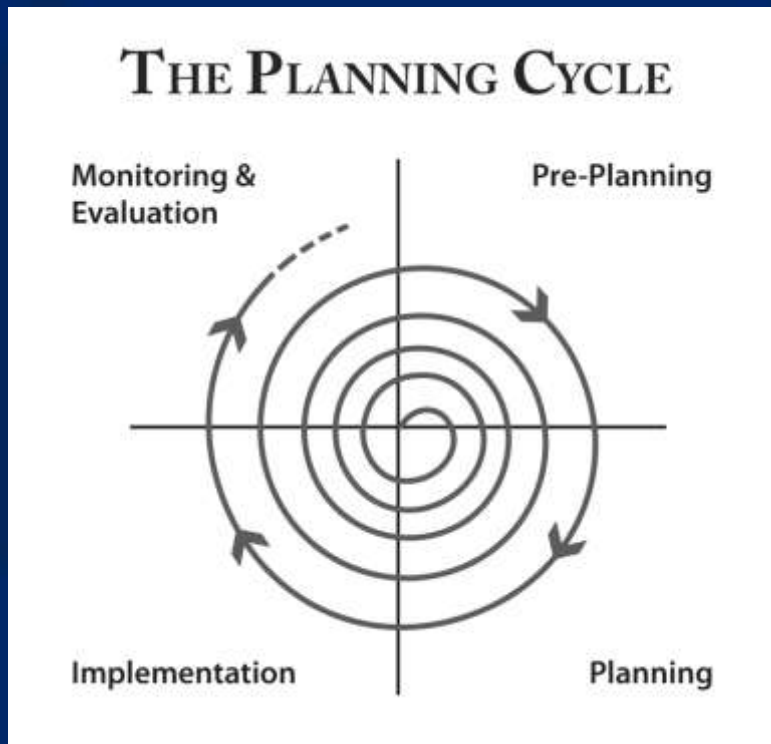
- comprehensive



- community-based, community driven
- flexible

Comprehensive Community Planning (CCP)

4 Planning Phases



Action steps and tools
in CCP Handbook

ICSC's "PLUS" Planning Cycle



In Conclusion...



SPC Facilitators can help your community navigate through the rich maze of resources and expertise in support of sustainability planning and action...

...contact us!

SPC Sustainability Facilitators

Angela Evans

Victoria

Isabel Budke

Vancouver

Joan Chess

Prince George

Laurie Cordell

Cranbrook

Peter Ostergaard

Province wide (energy
specialist)

Susanne Theurer

Penticton

www.fraserbasin.bc.ca/programs/smart_planning.html



Contact Us

Joan Chess
SPC Facilitator
Prince George

jchess@fraserbasin.bc.ca

250-612-0252

Isabel Budke
SPC Facilitator & Resource
Coordinator
Vancouver

ibudke@fraserbasin.bc.ca

604-488-5369

Maureen LeBourdais
SPC Manager

mlebourdais@fraserbasin.bc.ca

250-392-1400

Questions?



Workshop Activities

1. Discuss the SPC principle assigned to your table:
 - What are the **opportunities and challenges** of applying this principle in your community to better address economic, environmental, social and cultural issues?
 - Do you have any **examples of successful implementation** of this principle in a rural community?

Workshop Activities

2. Create an **illustration/ representation** of what your community could look like in 10-20 years if SPC principles were incorporated in its community planning process(es).

3. Reporting out

- 1-2 speakers from each table, 2 min. max per table
- Make case (max. 1 sentence) why your model is the **most sustainable**.