



City of Grand Forks



Sustainable Community Plan

*Council Update - April 8, 2008
Dan Huang, Urban Systems Ltd.*



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Outline

- **Project Overview and Goals**
- **Project Team Members**
- **Community Process to Date**
- **Report on Successes**
 - **SCP Discussion Paper**
 - **Early Success Project**
- **Next Steps**
- **Questions / Discussion**



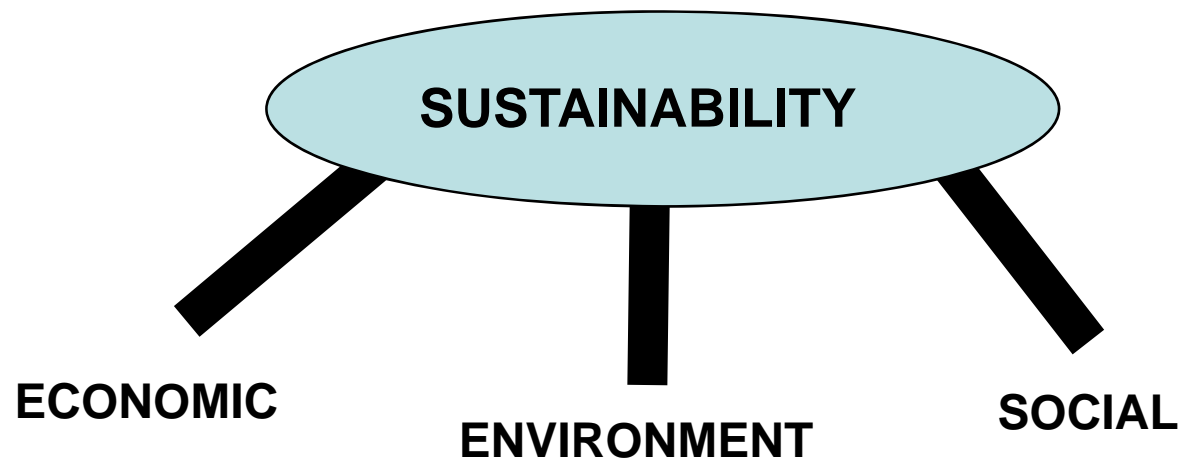
Project Overview

- **What is Integrated Community Sustainable Planning (ICSP)?**
 - **Provincial initiative that was developed from a Federal/Provincial/Municipal Gas Tax Agreement**
 - **Encourages communities to take a fresh look at their future and find ways to become more sustainable – economically, environmentally, socially and culturally.**



What is Sustainability?

- **Planning for the needs of today without compromising the needs of future generations.**
- **The “three-legged stool”**



Project Overview

- **Components of the ICSP**
 - **Long-term thinking**
 - **Broad in scope**
 - **Integration**
 - **Collaboration**
 - **Public engagement & education**
 - **Implementation**
 - **Monitoring & Evaluation**



Project Overview

- **Under the ICSP initiative, Grand Forks received funding to review its long range planning framework.**
- **The 1998 Official Community Plan (OCP) will be refined to become more economically, environmentally, socially and culturally sustainable.**



Project Overview

- **Why are we doing this?**
 - **Grand Forks has many challenges and opportunities facing it over the next generation.**
 - **By developing a new Sustainable Community Plan, Grand Forks will be in a better position to address the challenges that it will be faced with, and to capitalize on the opportunities that present themselves.**



Project Overview

The creation of a Sustainable Community Plan is a community-led initiative designed to address the following issues:

- **Air Quality**
- **Transportation / Transit**
- **Smart Growth Concepts**
- **Water Quality**
- **Recreation**
- **Heritage Preservation**
- **Culture**
- **Social**
- **Health Care**
- **Environmental Protection**

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Project Team Members

- **Consulting Team**
 - **Urban Systems Ltd - Dan Huang and Katrin Saxty**
 - **Pomegranate Center – Milenko Matanovic**
- **Steering Committee Members**
 - **Cara-Lee Malange**
 - **Peter Matheson**
 - **Ayo Adediran**
 - **Joy Davies**
 - **Lucinda Dupee**
 - **Ray Lafleur**
 - **Dan Zabinsky**
 - **Councillor Gene Robert**
- **Members of the Community – Thanks for your Input!**

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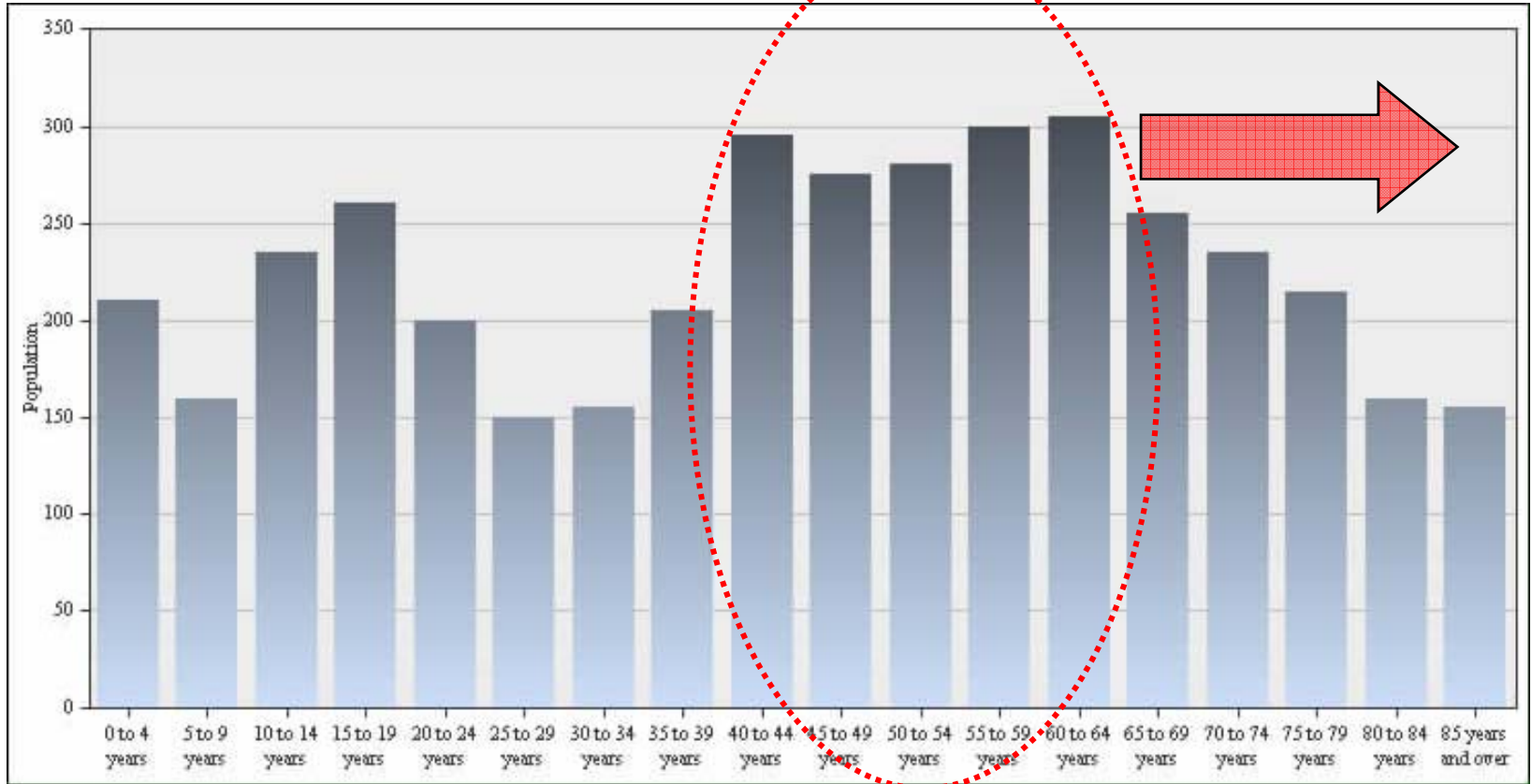
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Grand Forks Profile



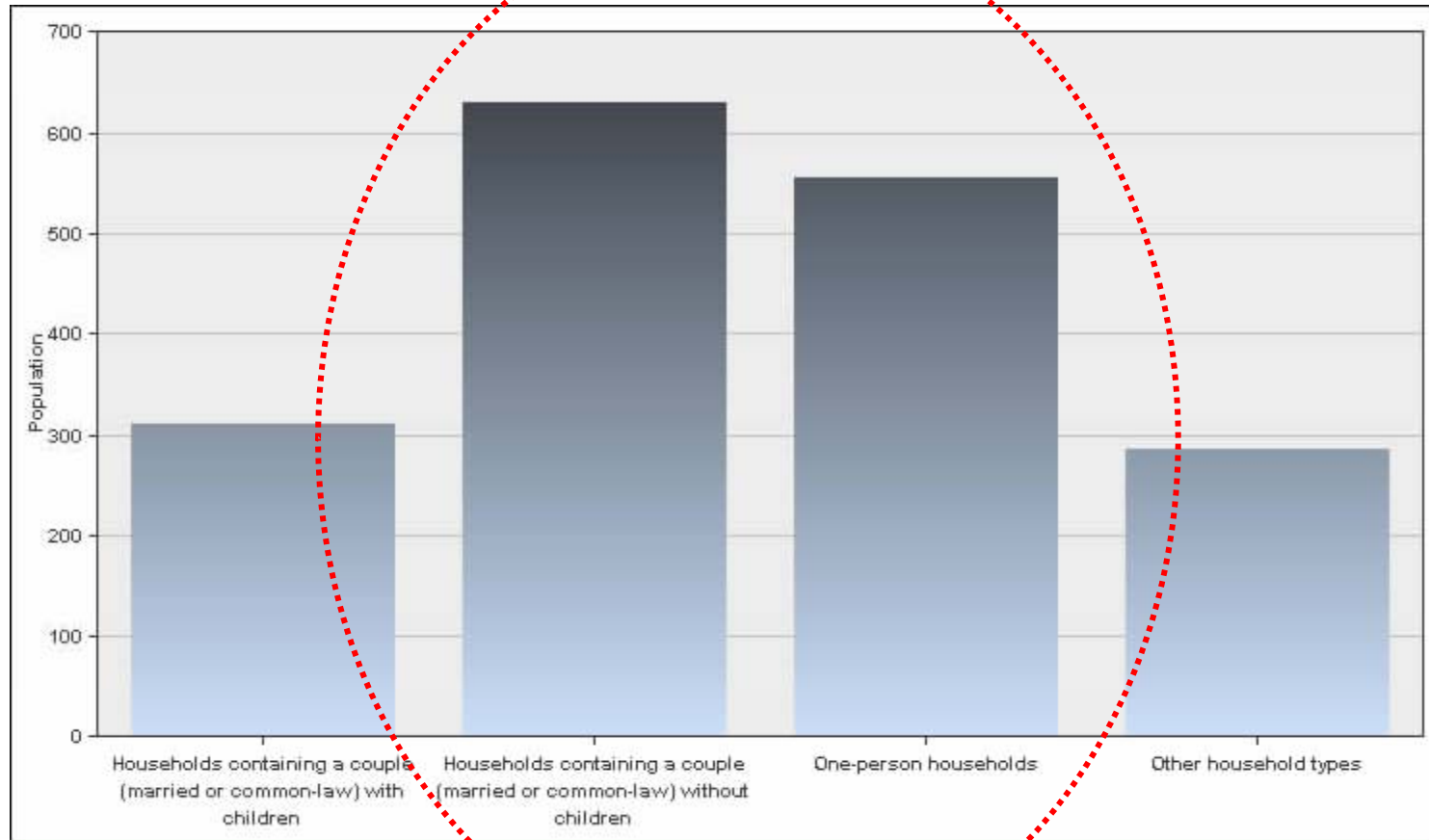
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Grand Forks Profile



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Goals

- **What goals are we trying to achieve?**
 - 1. A new Community Plan that is built by the community for the community, which addresses the issues identified and prepares Grand Forks for the future.**
 - 2. A tangible project that captures the essence of the Sustainable Community Plan and exemplifies the success of a community working together.**



The Community Process

- **How are we going to do this?**
 - **The Sustainable Community Plan will be developed through an extensive public process to engage in a dialogue with the community to determine its long-term vision for Grand Forks.**
 - **Input will be obtained from a Public Steering Committee, from Key Stakeholders, a Community Visioning Workshop and Open Houses.**





The Community Process

- **December, 2007 – Steering Group/Community Meeting and Sustainability Visioning Workshop**
- **March, 2008 – Steering Group/Community Meeting (SCP Discussion Paper and Early Success Project) and Senior’s Dialogue**



- **May, 2008 – Steering Group/Community Meeting (Introduction to Sustainable Land Use Plan)**
- **June, 2008 – Final Steering Group/Community Meeting, Open House on Draft Sustainable Land Use Plan**
- **Summer, 2008 – Bylaw Readings, Public Hearing, Adoption of the Sustainable Land Use Plan Bylaw**
- **Summer/Fall 2008 – Community Early Success Project**

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December Community Meeting

- **December 7/8, 2008**
- **Introduction of ICSP project / process**
- **Facilitated Community Discussion – *“What is your idea for making Grand Forks a great, sustainable community?”***
- **Common Themes emerged – small-group session to develop ideas further**
- **How do we get there? What are the Action Steps? What are the obstacles? When? Priority?**



December Community Meeting

- **December 7/8, 2007**
- **Introduction of ICSP project / process**
- **Development of Vision and Guiding Principles**
- **Facilitated Community Discussion – *“What is your idea for making Grand Forks a great, sustainable community?”***
- **Common Themes emerged – small-group session to develop ideas further**
- **How do we get there? What are the Action Steps? What are the obstacles? When? Priority?**

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Guiding Principles

- To ensure a *sense of community*;
- To ensure *safety for all*;
- To have a *respect for nature*;
- To ever improve our knowledge on how to *reduce waste*;
- To have cooperation and *participatory decision-making*;
- To ensure community resourcefulness fostering *creativity and cooperation*;
- To *learn from others' successes*; and
- To further develop *inter-generational and inter-cultural cooperation*.



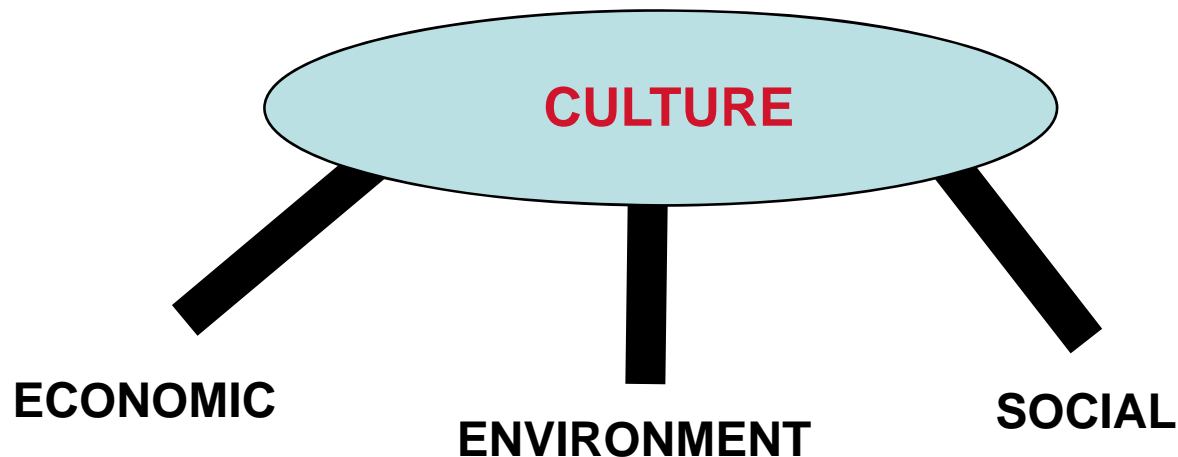
8 Goals for a Sustainable Grand Forks

- **Strengthen *Arts and Culture*,**
- **Fortify *Sustainable Economic Development*,**
- **Ensure a Healthy *Natural Environment*,**
- **Promote constructive *government – community relations*,**
- **Advance the community's capacity for *Self-Sufficiency*,**
- **Develop a *Sustainable Land Use Plan*;**
- **Improve the *Social Fabric* of the Community; and**
- **Integrate *Health Principles* into all decisions.**



Enhanced 3-Legged Stool

- **Culture is a very important element of sustainability in Grand Forks – represented as the “seat” of the stool**
- **It is the “Fourth Dimension” of a community, which adds vibrancy and humanity to our society**
- **Grand Forks has a bright future moving forward with a *culture of sustainability***





March Community Meeting

- **March 7/8, 2008**
- **Presented Draft SCP Discussion Paper and reviewed overall findings**
- **Facilitated Community Discussion – *“What is your idea for making Grand Forks a community with strong culture and art?”***
- **Facilitated Seniors Dialogue (USL) – *“What is your idea for making Grand Forks the most senior-friendly community in British Columbia?”***
- **Facilitated Discussion on an Early Success Project (PC)**
 - **What could start translating these ideas into reality?**
 - **What would the criteria be for the selection?**
 - **Are there any projects that achieve a number of these things at the same time?**

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Early Success Ideas

1. **Farmers Market *Plus* (local music, technology, arts and ideas) – community built gathering place**
2. **Band Shell – community built**
3. **Development/re-building of Black Train Bridge as a focal point – involve youth**
4. **Co-op Radio – school course in radio journalism, promote local artists**



Project Next Steps

- **Council to review Discussion Paper and discuss / endorse “8 sustainability goals” and discuss Early Success Projects**
- **Consultants / Steering Committee to research potential for the 4 Early Success Projects**
- **Begin Preparation of Sustainable Land Use Plan**
- **May 2008 – present final discussion paper and introduce topics of Sustainable Land Use, and frame up components of Early Success Project**
- **June 2008 – review Draft Sustainable Land Use Plan with Steering Committee and Community**
- **July / August 2008 – Bylaw Readings / Public Hearing for Sustainable Land Use Plan**
- **Summer 2008 – Launch Early Success Project**

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Discussion / Questions?

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