



*Municipality of the District of Shelburne
Integrated Community Sustainability Plan*

Community Engagement Summary Report

The ICSP community engagement process commenced in December 2008 and the initial stage of the process finished at the end of March 2009. This report summarizes the methodology used to gather input from the public and the results of the community engagement process.

The outputs from this initial stage include a Vision Statement for the Municipality of the District of Shelburne ICSP, a list of sustainability challenges and issues identified by the community and a list of ideas and opportunities that the public would like the municipality to consider in the ICSP planning process.

Contents

Community Engagement Process.....	2
The District of Shelburne: A Sustainable Community in 2030	3
Sustainability Principles	3
Vision Statement	3
Community Assets	3
Sustainability Issues.....	4
Sustainability Solution Areas.....	6
Community Engagement Results	8
Community Sustainability Survey.....	8
Structure	8
Responses	8
Priority Area Choices.....	10
Public Community Workshops	12
Locations	12
Structure	12
Results.....	12
Community Group Workshops and Information Sessions.....	16
Community Groups.....	16
Structure	16
Results.....	16
Other Community Contact.....	19
Open Office Hours & Scheduled Meetings	19
Results.....	19

Community Engagement Process

The community engagement process was designed to maximize the opportunities for the public to participate by providing a variety of venues through which the public could learn more about sustainability and the ICSP process. The public were invited to participate in the following ways:

- **Press Release:** A press release was written and published in the Coast Guard to inform the public about the ICSP process in December 2008.
- **ICSP Brochure:** A brochure was designed that provided some background information on sustainability and the ICSP and advertised the opportunities for public participation listed below. This brochure was distributed to all the mailboxes in the District of Shelburne, Town of Shelburne and Town of Lockeport in late January 2009 .
- **Community Sustainability Survey:** A survey was made available to the public online, by pickup at the municipal offices, at all public information sessions and was also mailed out to 10% of residential addresses in the municipality (562 residences in total).
- **Municipality of Shelburne website:** The ICSP page on the website offers information about the ICSP process as well as the opportunity to fill in the Community Sustainability Survey online.
- **Open Office Hours:** Open office hours were advertised in the ICSP Brochure for the public to meet with the ICSP Planner / Project Coordinator on Thursdays from 12 – 2 pm in the Council Chambers.
- **Sustainability Line / Email:** An email address and direct telephone line were installed and advertised in the press release and ICSP brochure for the public to contact the ICSP Planner / Project Coordinator.
- **Asset Mapping Workshop:** In December 2008, councillors were asked to invite members of the public to attend an Asset Mapping Workshop to initiate the Community Engagement process for the ICSP. This workshop has been described in a separate report, which can be found in Appendix 2.
- **The Future of Our Assets: Visioning Workshop:** Community members who attended the Asset Mapping Workshop in December 2008 were invited to attend a follow-up workshop that examined the future of our assets and the opportunities they present in the context of sustainable development. This workshop has been described in a separate report, which can be found in Appendix 3 of this document.
- **Public Community Workshops:** A series of seven public community workshops were held (one in each district of the municipality). These workshops were advertised in the ICSP brochure, on the website, in the Coast Guard and with Eastlink.
- **Community Group Information Sessions and Workshops:** Over 150 letters and brochures were sent to community groups and businesses in the municipality in January 2009 inviting them to participate in the process by holding an ICSP information session or a group workshop for members or employees.

The District of Shelburne: A Sustainable Community in 2030

The following sections summarize the results of the community engagement process so far. These results will be validated through further public consultation in June 2009.

Sustainability Principles

The Municipality of the District of Shelburne has defined sustainability as a having a healthy economy, a healthy environment and a healthy community in terms of social and cultural needs, now and in 2030.

In order to achieve sustainability, we have defined the following four principles (adapted from the Natural Step framework¹) which will form the basis of the ICSP and the decision framework for future development in the municipality.

1. We will take action to enhance and support our local economy and future economic development, and ensure that economic development is balanced with social, environmental and cultural concerns.
2. We will minimize our consumption of non-renewable resources and creation of pollution and waste, to preserve resources and the environment for future generations.
3. We will work to prevent damage to the natural assets within our community including our coastal areas, beaches, Shelburne Harbour, protected forest environments, lakes and rivers.
4. We will take action to maintain and improve the quality of life of all our residents and ensure that our residents can meet their basic needs.

Vision Statement

The ICSP Advisory Committee reviewed all the results of the community engagement looking for common themes. The Committee had two working sessions, one 4 hours in length and one 1.5 hours in length to amalgamate all the feedback received. This statement reflects all of the feedback received from the community about how they envision the District of Shelburne as a sustainable community in 2030.

Our Vision for 2030...

The creative and resourceful people of the Municipality of the District of Shelburne deeply value their diverse communities, healthy living and quality of life.

We enjoy our clean natural environment and sustainable resource economy from ocean to forest.

Our tradition of self reliance partnered with new technologies creates a robust economic climate that welcomes renewable energy and new, sustainable industries.

Through cooperation and strong, progressive leadership we build on our rich history to create a vibrant future.

¹ www.thenaturalstep.ca

Asset	Category
People/Skills/Volunteers	Social
Schools	Built
Coastline	Natural
Clean & Safe Environment	Natural
Existing commerce / Industry / Employment	Economic
Heritage / Historical Buildings	Built
Community Centres	Social
Natural Resources	Economic
Schools/NSCC	Service
Recreation/Healthy Living	Social
Affordable Land	Economic
Shelburne Harbour	Economic
Wilderness	Natural
Weather	Natural
Volunteer Fire Departments	Service
Potential for Wind Power	Natural
Undeveloped land	Natural
Heritage & Culture	Social

Sustainability Issues

The following list of sustainability issues was generated based on community feedback from all sources and are listed alphabetically.

Issue	Examples
Coastal Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Unrestricted development; no land use planning in place for preservation ▪ Restricted access to beaches due to private land ownership ▪ Rising sea level and erosion
Community Spirit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Negative attitudes and mindsets ▪ Scepticism ▪ Lack of knowledge about change, sustainability
Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lack of industry and jobs ▪ Lack of sustainable, green local economy ▪ Limited access to high speed internet ▪ Challenges for small businesses ▪ Dependent on outside communities for financial survival
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Limited opportunities for adult and post-secondary education ▪ Youth need education about finances
Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Long term trends for rising fuel costs ▪ Dependency on non-renewable resources - oil and imported fuels ▪ Cost, availability and reliability of electricity ▪ High cost of adoption for alternative energy solutions ▪ Inefficiency

Issue	Examples
Fishery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Decline in the fishery ▪ Reduced local processing of fish ▪ Ineffective government intervention ▪ Destructive fishing practices, big business
Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lack of availability of local food ▪ People are not self reliant enough ▪ Lack of food security – dependent on Sobeys
Global Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Climate Change ▪ Carbon footprint ▪ World population increase ▪ Reversing damage done to our environment
Health care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduced Hospital services (ER closures, travel to Yarmouth/Bridgewater for services) ▪ Shortage of doctors, nurses (and other medical professionals)
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lack of Seniors housing options
Municipal Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Affordability of taxes (increased assessments) ▪ Lack of recognition provincially and federally ▪ Leadership and political will ▪ Inefficiency due to five municipal units in Shelburne county
Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Out-migration of youth ▪ Aging population ▪ Seasonal population and/or retirees with conflicting priorities to young families
Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Limited recreation options for children and youth (i.e. gym, pool)
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Poor road conditions, aging infrastructure ▪ Lack of public transportation
Waste management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increasing litter ▪ Not all residents comply with recycling, composting requirements ▪ No local recycling and composting facility
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Drinking water quality ▪ Sewage disposal

Sustainability Solution Areas

The following list of solution areas (ordered alphabetically) has been developed based on all the community input gathered including the sustainability issues identified above, the assets identified in the Asset Mapping Workshop and all of the input to the Vision for Shelburne in 2030.

Solution Area	Examples of possible strategies & actions
Enhance Education Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local education for alternative energy ▪ Enhanced programming at NSCC with emphasis on sustainable fisheries
Foster Sustainable, Cooperative Community Spirit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve local leadership capacity in the community ▪ Educate the community about sustainability ▪ Support and develop a culture of self reliance
Improve Access to Health Care, Recreation and Social Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assist with physician recruitment efforts ▪ Ensure services that fit with our residents' needs ▪ Facilitate service delivery where possible ▪ Improved housing options, greener, more efficient ▪ Promote recreation and healthy living through programming and infrastructure development
Increase Municipal Efficiency & Effectiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase efficiency through cooperation where appropriate ▪ Act together to ensure Shelburne County is supported by higher levels of government ▪ Greener operation ▪ Strong leadership, responsible government
Promote sustainable economic growth and development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support the development of a renewable energy industry ▪ Develop the Shelburne industrial park and pursue the establishment of sustainable industries there ▪ Repopulation strategy (immigration, in-migration, youth retention, re-migration)
Protect our Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protect heritage buildings and support museums ▪ Enhance pride in our history, make it real for our residents
Protect the Natural Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Be active in wetland and coastal area regulation to ensure community goals are met through controlled development ▪ Increase accessibility and promote passive recreational use of protected areas such as the Tobetic to increase ecological awareness within the community ▪ Protect drinking water quality
Reduce Waste and Improve Waste Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase education about waste management ▪ Improve efficiency of waste collection and transportation ▪ Implement local waste handling and disposal where appropriate
Support a sustainable local economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Initiate and support actions to transition to sustainable fishing practices and local seafood processing ▪ Support local trade ▪ Develop a partnership program with local business to support transition to sustainable practices

Solution Area	Examples of possible strategies & actions
Support Affordable, Healthy Local Food Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local agriculture ▪ Farmer's markets ▪ Community gardens ▪ Local fish
Transition to Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wind, solar, geothermal, biomass, etc. ▪ Increased energy efficiency ▪ Promote uptake of new technology in the community
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Advocate for transportation infrastructure improvements ▪ Investigate and support transportation alternatives (public transit, active transportation, carpooling)

Community Engagement Results

Community Sustainability Survey

Structure

The survey was comprised of open text questions about residents' opinions on the most important issue in the community today and their vision for the future. Residents were then asked to select three priority areas under each of the four pillars of sustainability (Social, Economic, Cultural and Environmental) that they thought were most important for developing the community now and also in 2030. Finally, the survey also asked residents to select between pairs of priority areas to determine which they felt were most important to address first.

Responses

A total of 145 responses were received to the survey. The majority of these responses (> 70%) were received by mail as a result of the direct mail solicitation.

Priority Rankings

Tables 1 through 4 below show the results of the rankings of priorities under each of the four pillars of sustainability. The residents were asked to rank the priorities based on their current needs (indicated by "NOW") and then based on the needs of future generations (indicated by "2030"). The total score was calculated by assigning 3 points for each time an item was ranked "1", 2 points each time an item was ranked "2" and 1 point each time an item was ranked "3". The top five priorities for each pillar are listed in the tables. Full results can be found in Appendix 4.

Table 1A. Top ranked Economic priorities - NOW

Answer Options	Total Score
Create new employment opportunities through job creation programs	165
Increase industrial use of Shelburne Harbour	108
Initiate projects to revitalize the fishing industry	107
Develop a renewable energy industry (wind farms, tidal energy, etc.)	97
Invest in transportation infrastructure (roads, highways, bridges, etc.)	94

Table 1B. Top ranked Economic Priorities – 2030

Answer Options	Total Score
Develop a renewable energy industry (wind farms, tidal energy, etc.)	81
Create new employment opportunities through job creation programs	78
Increase industrial use of Shelburne Harbour	66
Initiate projects to revitalize the fishing industry	63
Invest in transportation infrastructure (roads, highways, bridges, etc.)	53

Table 2A. Top ranked Social priorities - NOW

Answer Options	Total Score
Improve health care facilities and services	264
Ensure adequate numbers of health care staff are available	168
Improve our schools and education services	69
Increase support services for youth	54
Increase availability of services and programs for seniors	54

Table 2B. Top ranked Social priorities - 2030

Answer Options	Total Score
Improve health care facilities and services	128
Ensure adequate numbers of health care staff are available	89
Improve our schools and education services	56
Invest in recreation infrastructure (parks, arena, trails, pools, etc.)	53
Protect our beaches and invest in parks, playgrounds and open spaces	44

Table 3A. Top ranked Cultural priorities - NOW

Answer Options	Total Score
Support festivals and community events	199
Preserve museums and other important cultural sites	143
Protect historical properties	134
Increase the number of festivals and community events	116
Support community groups through grants and financial means	73

Table 3B. Top ranked Cultural priorities - 2030

Answer Options	Total Score
Support festivals and community events	114
Protect historical properties	108
Preserve museums and other important cultural sites	106
Support community groups through grants and financial means	67
Increase the number of festivals and community events	66

Table 4A. Top ranked Environmental Priorities - NOW

Answer Options	Total Score
Promote and provide grants for alternative energy use	141
Maintain and improve waste management services	115
Ensure the municipality “buys local” whenever possible	108
Develop a land use planning strategy for coastal area protection	97
Help residents to protect their drinking water quality	73

Table 4B. Top ranked Environmental Priorities – 2030

Answer Options	Total Score
Maintain and improve waste management services	74
Promote and provide grants for alternative energy use	72
Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	62
Help residents to protect their drinking water quality	60
Ensure the municipality “buys local” whenever possible	56

Priority Area Choices

Table 5 below presents the normalized results to the series of choices presented to residents in the survey. Residents were asked which priority area we should focus on first, and were presented with pairs of priority areas and asked to select one over the other as the area we should focus immediate attention on. The normalized results were calculated based on the number of times a priority area was selected less the number of times a priority area was not selected (i.e. negative points were given for each time an area was not selected in a pair of options). The total points were then divided by the number of times a priority area was presented as an option, to normalize results (because it was not possible to present each area equal number of times).

Note that some of these results are negative, this means that overall these areas were not selected more than they were selected as priority areas. However, it is recognized that all of these areas are important and will be covered by the ICSP. This question was meant to illustrate the decisions that may need to be taken in this planning process about which areas to focus on first. All of these areas are interconnected, but focusing on certain areas first may have positive side effects in other areas.

Table 5. Normalized Responses to Priority Area Choices

Answer Options	Normalized Response Count
Assuring Quality of Life (e.g. Seniors' Services, Health Services, Family & Youth Services, Public Transit, Volunteer support, Schools & Education Services, Fire Protection Services)	20.3

Answer Options	Normalized Response Count
Economic Growth & Development (e.g. Shelburne harbour development, Expansion of Shelburne industrial park, Land use planning, Tax incentives, Road & power upgrades)	16.5
Supporting the local economy (e.g. Ensuring access to high speed internet, Community Business Development, Immigration and In-migration policy, New NSCC programs, Increasing tourism, Buy Local initiatives)	13.5
Protecting the Environment (e.g. Waste management, reducing greenhouse gases, Land use planning & Coastal area preservation, Climate change adaption & mitigation, Sewage treatment)	-17.3
Improving Quality of life (e.g. Supporting Community Groups, Festivals & Community events, Museums & Historic sites, Recreation infrastructure, Beaches, parks, playgrounds & open spaces)	-44.5

Public Community Workshops

Locations

Public Community workshops were held in each of the seven districts as follows:

Location	Date & Time	Number of attendees
Lower Ohio	04 Feb 09 (6:30 pm)	8
Gunning Cove	05 Feb 09 (6:30 pm)	16
West Green Harbour	11 Feb 09 (6:30 pm)	16
Little Harbour	14 Feb 09 (9:00 am)	29
Sandy Point	18 Feb 09 (6:30 pm)	27
Port Saxon	26 Feb 09 (6:30 pm)	9
Jordan Falls	05 Mar 09 (6:30 pm) – snow date	15
TOTAL		120

Structure

The workshops started with an information session on sustainability and the ICSP. Following that, participants were asked to work individually first to answer a series of questions (below) about their vision for the Future of Shelburne in 2030.

1. What has been created? How has the community become sustainable? Describe the community, people, economy etc...
2. What has changed?
3. What has stayed the same?
4. How are people affected by the changes (include you, others in the community etc.)?
5. How has the community worked through the good times and the hard times?
6. What has been the biggest challenge the community has faced since 2008?

After individually answering the questions, people were asked to each “tell their story” about the future based on their answers with a small group (4 – 6 people).

The groups were then asked to identify opportunities for the ICSP by exploring the most compelling parts of the stories.

The workshop structure was designed to use an appreciative approach by asking participants to envisage the future and identify opportunities. Challenges were also identified but were not the focus of the meeting.

Results

Detailed results from the workshops have been included in Appendix 5. Participants identified the following common key features of their desired future for Shelburne in 2030 (in alphabetical order):

Clean, protected natural environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Clean air, water ▪ Clean, fully utilized harbour ▪ Lovely beaches and wetlands preserved – boardwalks and increased awareness and preservation of wildlife and vegetation
Healthy People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ People live longer and are healthier ▪ Better health care facilities and service delivery
Improved governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strong leadership, responsible government ▪ Greener, more efficient municipality ▪ Amalgamation of municipal governments or increased cooperation
Improved Waste Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased recycling and reduced packaging ▪ Significantly less waste production ▪ Local composting ▪ Waste as fuel
Increased Awareness of Sustainability Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ People are aware of the challenges and the need to preserve resources and reduce waste ▪ People consciously balance their own needs with available resources ▪ Children are taught gardening, cooking, sustainability
Increased Education Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ More retraining and adult education programs available ▪ Top quality education for young people ▪ Business opportunities in education pursued – e.g. medical school ▪ Local education for alternative energy technology
Increased self reliance for food and energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ More local food production (vegetables, poultry, other farm animals) ▪ Less need to travel for necessities – local markets ▪ Community gardens ▪ Reduced dependence on foreign and non-local products
More Housing options available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seniors housing complexes ▪ More options for housing for young people ▪ New or renovated housing is environmentally friendly
Natural Resources Preserved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sustainable fishery supported by all levels of government ▪ Sustainable woodlot management ▪ Forest more productive per hectare ▪ Full use of goods with negligible waste
Quality of Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Safe community ▪ Access to outdoor and indoor recreation facilities ▪ Community centres fully utilized ▪ More time with family ▪ Access to natural areas and beaches
Renewable Energy Sources and Power Independence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wind, water, solar, tidal and geothermal power and heating systems common for residences and businesses ▪ Local power generation (co-operatives, individuals) ▪ Improved power security ▪ Reduced power costs

Strong, proud and cooperative community spirit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improved attitude, community is more confident ▪ Sense of community and caring ▪ People take a greater interest in the community ▪ People working together and supporting one another ▪ Collaboration and partnerships ▪ People will be happy and love where they live ▪ Heritage, museums and historical buildings preserved and valued
Strong, resilient local economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Existing resource-based industries enhanced, branded and expanded ▪ Increased local trade, exchange of goods and services locally ▪ New sustainable industries (renewable energy, agriculture, ecotourism, etc.) ▪ More diverse small businesses to meet local needs ▪ Innovative ideas, use of technology for new businesses ▪ Harbour developed ▪ Net in-migration of people, more young families
Transportation infrastructure and alternatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carpooling the norm (structure for facilitation) ▪ Public transit (high speed trains, buses) ▪ Active transport used (particularly bicycles) ▪ Improved roads and highways; more bridges and causeways as sea level rises ▪ Fewer vehicles (all vehicles smaller and more efficient)

The table below summarizes the short term opportunities participants identified to move us closer to their desired future (in alphabetical order):

Alternative energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote alternative energy technology ▪ Community wind farms ▪ Solar panel manufacturing plant ▪ Local tax credit for installation of solar panels ▪ Finance installation of alternative energy technology on local homes ▪ Planning department to encourage alternative energy and energy efficient technology ▪ Biomass to heat municipal and town buildings
Ecotourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote beaches, natural areas and develop the area as as an ecotourism destination
Educate about sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Learn from our elders ▪ Promote sustainability education at all levels of schooling
Improve health care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Locally supported medical training in return for service
Improve waste management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Expand services of waste management site – recycling and composting ▪ Use waste as fuel source
Invest in education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Distance education ▪ New NSCC course offerings
Leadership and political will	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure the community is recognized by province and federal government ▪ Municipal bonds

Local Agriculture and Food production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote local agriculture opportunities: grapes, cranberries etc. ▪ Local cooperative food production ▪ Community gardens
Protect the environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Land use planning
Re-population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage in-migration or return of entrepreneurs and professionals who will set up new business or who can work from home
Strengthen community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work to keep our schools ▪ Support local cultural activities ▪ Improve local leadership capacity
Support economic growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tax-free zone for business, free setup, cut red tape ▪ One village, one product
Support local business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage local trade, ensure local industry stays ▪ Invest in local business and encourage them to invest in themselves ▪ Support traditional fishing and forestry industries
Support the fishery and local seafood production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote the establishment of local seafood processing plants ▪ Local cooperative for fishing

Community Group Workshops and Information Sessions

Community Groups

The following community groups were visited during January – March 2009:

- Community Business Development Corporation Board
- Shelburne Association Supporting Inclusion (Shelburne Group Home staff)
- Shelburne Association Supporting Inclusion (Heritage Hall)
- Shelburne Harbour Yacht Club
- Roseway Hospital
- Shelburne Regional High School, School Advisory Council
- Shelburne Regional High School Environment Club
- Black Loyalist Heritage Society
- Sandy Point Community Association
- Port Clyde Fire Department
- Shelburne Historical Society
- Municipality of the District of Shelburne Staff
- Municipality of the District of Shelburne ICSP Advisory Committee

Structure

Most community groups participated through allowing the District of Shelburne to conduct an ICSP information session as part of a regular meeting. No direct community input was solicited at these sessions, but surveys were distributed and people were encouraged to get involved in other ways with the ICSP process.

Workshops were held with SRHS Environment Club, Shelburne Historical Society, MDS ICSP Advisory Committee and MDS Staff. These workshops had a similar format to the public workshops described in the previous section.

Results

The information sessions stimulated some active discussion about the future of our community and encouraged people to complete surveys and attend workshops. Short surveys relevant to specific community groups were distributed to most groups. Responses to this survey were collected from the CBDC board, Roseway Hospital management and Shelburne Association Supporting Inclusion (SASI). The table below shows the top five ranked priority areas from this survey.

Table 6. Top five ranked priorities from Community Group Survey

From the list below, TICK 5 ITEMS you feel most strongly should be addressed in a long term plan.		
Answer Options	Tick if Priority	Response Count
Improve health care facilities and services	8	8
Develop a renewable energy industry (wind farms, tidal energy, etc.)	7	7
Ensure adequate numbers of health care staff are available	6	6
Increase availability of services and programs for seniors	5	5
Develop a "Buy Local" program for food and other products	4	4

The information generated from the workshops and surveys is summarized in Appendix 6. The table below summarizes the key features of participants' Desired Future for the District of Shelburne in 2030.

Improved governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ More changes in legislation ▪ Government as leaders (all levels) ▪ Policies are fair for all classes and cultures
Increased Self reliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rely on history, not technology ▪ People able to live off the land – hunting, fishing, farming
Community Spirit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sense of community locally and globally – connectedness ▪ Work/life balance ▪ Family values, volunteering ▪ Sharing to improve quality of life, people live within their means ▪ People come together to share in recreation – less individual focus ▪ Cooperative spirit, hopefulness, positive attitudes
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Public transit (free) ▪ Bike paths, more use of bicycles and more walking ▪ More services available locally for health and education through new technology – less need to travel ▪ Increased active transportation ▪ Less use of cars
Protection of the Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community Tree planting ▪ Natural environment pristine ▪ Forests strong and healthy ▪ Coastlines, beaches protected ▪ Controlled property and business development so it has grown without jeopardizing nature or quality of life ▪ Less use of oil and plastic
Economic Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New medical clinic ▪ Fisheries school of excellence ▪ New municipal building ▪ Port development ▪ New industry for use of recycled materials

Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Electricity is solar or wind generated ▪ Tidal power, geothermal power ▪ Cars running on solar or biogas or hydrogen ▪ Houses heated with renewable resources
Strong, resilient local economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ More home grown vegetables ▪ Cottage industries, diversified and expanded small businesses ▪ Fishing industry rejuvenated ▪ More employment, more working from home ▪ In-migration of professionals and entrepreneurs ▪ Locally owned businesses, fewer big chain stores, more local buying

The table below summarizes opportunities identified by these groups in the workshops and surveys

Culture and Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Make history real for the community ▪ Leverage historical assets, incorporate renewable energy but keep historical feel
Economic diversification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Small business expansion and retention program ▪ Lower barriers to entry for new small businesses ▪ Barter system for local goods and services ▪ Develop renewable energy industry ▪ Attract larger industry
Increase community pride	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community gardens – one in each district with hodge podge at the end, horse and plough to start ▪ Increase use of community halls
Sustainability Initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Engage small groups with different goals to progress sustainability plan, build on existing community groups

Other Community Contact

Open Office Hours & Scheduled Meetings

Six members of the public visited the municipal offices to meet with the ICSP Planner/Project Coordinator to discuss ideas for the ICSP.

Results

The following ideas were presented:

- Wood pellet manufacturing – sustainable industry
- Pursuing tidal/solar/wind energy projects
- Building inspection department – should provide information to the public on locally available sustainable and energy efficient building materials
- Alternative Technology Centre – similar to centre in Wales where people live and work in a sustainable community and act as a test site for new technologies – companies are able to test technology in a real life scenario – potential for tourist attraction, supply of local food, technology and economic development
- Lobster hatchery – females with eggs caught in traps are donated and baby lobsters are grown in captivity and released to increase stocks
- Sandy Point sewage treatment system – turn existing sewage treatment system into pumping station and situate a new plant in the industrial park. Provide industrial park, hospital, Bowood, NSCC and residential service on Sandy Point road – turn Sandy Point into a major residential growth area for the municipality
- Strategic planning for individual local communities (e.g. Sable River)
- Build a wind farm on the industrial park to power sewage treatment plant and other municipal operations
- Conservation easement on selected municipal land to protect plant species at risk through Nova Scotia Nature Trust