



*A SHARED COMMUNITY VISION
ELECTORAL AREA 'A' OCP REVIEW
COMMUNITY WORKSHOP # 4
ECONOMIC HEALTH RESULTS*



Community Workshop # 4 - Economic Health Results

A workshop was held on February 21, 2009 from 1:00pm - 4:00pm. The purpose of workshop 4 was to develop goals and objectives related to **economic health** which help us achieve the Community Vision. Participants were asked respond to 4 questions provided in a workbook both individually and then in small groups. Then their ideas were shared with the larger group. The results are presented in this document.

Participants worked with Regional District of Nanaimo staff to organize their goals into four main categories including local employment, regulations for development, the emerging economy, and infrastructure. The first part of this document presents the goals and objectives developed by participants for each category while all other comments received at the workshop are provided at the end of this document. Please note, a summary of all the completed workbooks will be provided in a separate document.

<i>Category</i>	<i>Goals</i>	<i>Objectives</i>
Local Employment	Create local employment.	Zone properties to attract local business within the UCB.
	Support local sustainable agriculture (provide marketing, local abattoir, encourage local food purchase, community gardens)	
	Support local economic development without negative environmental costs or social degradation. (Compensate Area 'A' where industrial/commercial development has negative impacts locally for the benefit of the region i.e. Airport, Landfill, Car Wreckers, Harmac.	Buy local and support local business.
	Accept limits to economic growth.	
	Create employment that does not generate more pollution and relies on imported supplies and goods.	
	Support local jobs.	
	Broaden the local tax base.	
	Establish and support service within the UCB.	
	Support sustainable resource extraction (i.e Wildwood model) Trees cut down on private property should be heavily taxed. There should be penalties for land flipping. Salmon enhancement—closed containment fish farms.)	



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<i>Category</i>	<i>Goals</i>	<i>Objectives</i>
Regulations for development	Create clear rules and criteria for development.	Penalties enforced for non-compliance by business.
	Enhance the commercial and industrial areas of Electoral Area 'A'. This should be slow, organized, and planned. It should be focused on value-added services. It should provide	Develop clear language in Development Permit Area, Official Community Plan, RGS so there is not misinterpretation.
	Develop clear targets and implementation strategies.	For accountability strengthen the language in the Development Permit Area.
	Give Area 'A' an opportunity to control appropriate future development at airport/rail/and highway areas.	Strengthen the language in the Development Permit Area.

<i>Category</i>	<i>Goals</i>	<i>Objectives</i>
The Emerging Economy	Support the emerging economy.	Educate the community (newsletters, build community connections).
	Recognize the value of our remaining wilderness to tourism and enhance and protect wetland, forested areas, and native habitat.	Approach local coop and credit union to provide credit encouraging emerging local new business.
	Develop a green model think tank to identify and benefit from opportunities and the unique attributes of the area. Evolve modern economic philosophy and education that neglects simpler life styles and less things.	Support sustainable agriculture by: providing education on using local produce/seasonal i.e root vegetables. Provide a market area, subsidize advertising for local markets, community kitchens to showcase local produce, involve the school curriculum, look for role models, coop philosophy, subsidize with tax incentive, local credit union, penalties for non-compliance.
	Develop business districts that comply to environmental objectives.	Support wilderness tourism by: protecting and enhancing wilderness, tax incentives for responsible business practices., improve transportation alternatives so tourists can get around, market supernatural BC again, recognize the intrinsic value of wilderness and tourism is value added.
	Partnering with Vancouver Island University connect programs with economic opportunity.	Local business needs to cross market and support.
		Education - make consumers aware of choices and the benefits of supporting local business that support local initiatives.
		Start a community newspaper/letter and build community connections.

<i>Category</i>	<i>Goals</i>	<i>Objectives</i>
Infrastructure	Support efficient infrastructure	
	Strengthen transportation links without compromising rural community values.	

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The following pages include a list of all ideas and input provided at the workshop (not including the work-books).

Develop a green model think tank to identify and benefit from opportunities and unique attributes of the area - local resources and skills.

Create employment that is not dependent on bringing in a lot of supplies, equipment, and causing increased transportation problems and pollution (visual, air, noise),

Compensate Area A where industrial/commercial use is having negative impacts locally for the benefit of the larger region (i.e. airport, Harmac, car wreckers).

Support with incentives eco and agri-tourism opportunities and related infrastructure (eg. Cycling paths).

Support salmon enhancement activities and closed containment fish farming and not open fish farms on the coast.

Use coop arrangement for small farmers to grow and market products.

Need to buy local and support ourselves "small is beautiful".

Most sustainable footprint.

Will be driven by consumers.

Educational component through Vancouver Island University.

Encourage agro-forestry and farm gate sales and protect land owners tight to manage their land.

Need to legitimize and tabulate what we need.

Growing locally reduces transportation costs and emissions.

We can control how food is produced locally.

There is an opportunity to have agricultural courses and apprenticeship/mentoring.

Encourage seed saving and exchange.

Small farms can provide income sources for people entering the workforce.
We need to focus on permanent jobs, not transient.
Not industrial or commercial development.
From an agricultural perspective, we need good market access and eliminate restrictions on what is produced.
Local employment reduces travel distance, but must look at high salary jobs.
We need local business to ensure that profits stay within the community.
Historical roots in agriculture and mining could be economic generators.
Living histories by keeping activities alive.
Trails, special events, festivals.
Ensure market access by allowing growers to sell locally or internationally.
Eliminate trespass.
We need to make decisions for sound economic reasons as opposed to saying that would be "nice to do".
Enhance the commercial and industrial areas of South Wellington and across from the Airport - slow, organized, value added planned operations.
Give area 'A' an opportunity to control appropriate future development in the Airport Area.
Partnering with universities (U.Vic and U.VI) to provide opportunities for studies and research.
Create clear rules and criteria for development.
Develop clear language in Official Community Plan, Development Permit Areas, Regional Growth Strategy so there is not misinterpretation.
Strengthen the language in the Development Permit Area.
For accountability strengthen the language in the Development Permit Area.
Penalties are encouraged for non-compliance by business.
Create local jobs.
Broaden the local tax base.
Develop clear targets and implementation strategies.
Develop business districts that comply to environmental objectives.

Establish/support service industries within the UCBs.

Strengthen transportation links without comprising rural community values.

Develop a 'green-model' 'think tank' to identify and benefit from opportunities and unique attributes of the area - local resources and skills.

Establish a modern economy based on sustainability (i.e. green technologies).

Accept the limits to economic growth.

Save it and they will come - recognize the value of our remaining wilderness to tourism. Enhance and protect wetlands and forests. What we have is what many have lost and are willing to pay to see.

Local abattoir services should be encouraged by the province.

Support organic sustainable agriculture.

Local farms beside rivers and lakes should be inspected annually.

All trees cut down on private property should be heavily taxed to cut down on exporting raw logs.

Support for sustainable forestry (i.e. wildwood model). Encourage tourism business with low environmental impact. Support environmentally friendly home based business.

Support local economic development with a rural community focus, without negatively impacting on our community.

Evolve a new economic philosophy to be reflected into educating children to pursue their passions that will satisfy a non-material life and lessen the waste of material resources.

Move and contain industrial growth to appropriate area.