

## *Appendix A*

### *The Town of Eastport's Integrated Community Sustainability Plan*

#### **Introduction**

The Town of Eastport has chosen **Option 1A** as the format for its Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP). Eastport town council has now finalized its Town Plan and Regulations. Public hearings were held and the final public hearing with a Commissioner has been completed. Some of the recommendations in the Commissioner's report have been integrated into the Plan and Regulations. The amended Plan and Regulations were adopted and passed by the Eastport town council at its March 2010 meeting. The Plan and Regulations will now be filed with the provincial government for enactment into law.

While the municipal planning process has been taking place, the Town of Eastport has entered into amalgamation discussions with three other communities—Sandy Cove, Salvage and Happy Adventure. A consultant has met with on several occasions with each of the towns concerned and his report on the feasibility of amalgamation among the towns is now in hand. Further discussions among the towns, *vis a vis* the consultant's report are expected to follow until an agreement between the four parties is arrived at.

Notwithstanding the above, the Town of Salvage has asked the Town of Eastport to absorb that community and its administration. So, regardless of the success or failure of the four communities amalgamating, Salvage and Eastport will likely become one municipal entity in the very near future.

The basic documents to be used for Eastport's Integrated Community Sustainability Plan are its Town Plan and its Regulations (copies attached). The following Community Profiles, Vision Statement and Values Statements, while not stated explicitly in our Town Plan, shape and guide our approach to municipal planning and its subsequent implementation. We also recognize that should amalgamation occur, in whatever form, a new Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (as well as a new Municipal Plan and Regulations encompassing the new larger municipality) will have to be developed and that a new process of planning will have to be undertaken to include the values, needs and expectations of the new entity.

#### ***Community Profiles***

##### **I Eastport's Geographic Area**

The Town of Eastport shares borders with the towns of Sandy Cove and Happy Adventure on the south and Sandringham on the west while extending northward around Eastport Bay (originally and sometimes called, Salvage Bay) to Eastport North, Watch Point and a border with the Local

Service District of St. Chad's. Much of the planning area is bordered by the Atlantic Ocean on the eastern and northern sections.

## **II Eastport's Population Profile**

Over the period from 1996 to 2006, the population of Eastport declined by 8.6 percent from 557 residents to 509. Over the same five-year period, the population of Newfoundland and Labrador also declined by 7.0 percent. While the drop in the population of the town and the province has been relatively the same, there are some important differences between the two.

First, the average age of the provincial population was 38.4 years while the average for the town's residents was 48.8 years. The result is a population profile for the Town of Eastport of fewer children and more residents above 55 years of age and more senior citizens than the provincial average. Hence, the Town of Eastport has become what is popularly called a naturally aging community or a retirement community.

Second, from 1996 to 2001, over 75 percent of the town's population was not mobile. Only four percent of the population moved to the town from another province or territory, usually to retire in Eastport. This mobility profile, minus the retirement factor, is similar to provincial averages.

The factor of retirement in-migration to the community during the recent past, has helped maintain the town's population at a fairly stable level in comparison with the regional population. The town's population declined by only 10.2 percent from 1996 to 2006 compared to the regional population decline for the same time period of 14.2 percent.

The town assumes that the permanent population of the community will decline over the next ten years, but at a slower rate than the larger, surrounding planning region. At a medium range, the town's year-round population can be expected to decline to about 475 people by 2016 and to about 460 by 2021.

This gradual decline in permanent population, however, is likely to be negated by the continuing trend to smaller households, which for Eastport is expected to change from an average of 2.3 persons per household to 2.1 by 2016. As a result, new household formation is expected to create new housing demands by 2016.

Eastport has become not only a retirement community but a popular seasonal recreation area. As such, there has been an increase in the construction of homes by retired and seasonal residents. The exact number of seasonal residents remains in flux, however, but these new residents to the area bode well for the viability of the community in the long run.

## **III Eastport's Commercial/Industrial Profile**

Eastport is not at present and is not expected to be a hub of commercial or industrial development. The community, with only several exceptions, is a provider of commercial services to its residents and the surrounding six communities. Industrial development is limited within the town's boundaries to the outskirts of the town where it borders on Sandringham.

The town has a long history of agricultural development and small farming operations producing both vegetables and livestock. These operations are, for the most part, well integrated within the town proper and serve as part of the attraction the community has for seasonal residents and tourists.

#### **IV Eastport's Tourism Profile**

The Town of Eastport has gradually emerged, over the past ten years, as a cultural centre for the region and the province. Residents have a strong sense of pride in their origins and as such have developed many activities and festivals based on those attributes which draw tourists from throughout the province, the country and, indeed, the world. As well, Eastport's beaches, being among the best in Atlantic Canada, have had a tremendous tourism pull.

#### **Our Vision**

*To value and protect the pastoral qualities of our community, our heritage and our natural environment while supporting for the social, cultural and economic needs and health of our residents and our community as a whole for a long-term high quality of life.*

#### **Our Values**

The town of Eastport's Integrated Community Sustainability Plan and its Municipal Plan and Regulations for its residents are guided by the following commonly held community values and principles.

***Respect for our neighbours, our community and ourselves***

Unless we respect others, including the communities surrounding ours, and ourselves we cannot remain a viable community and we cannot succeed as individuals. We share a collective responsibility to one another to encourage and support our fellow citizens in realizing their goals and aspirations and we expect them to do likewise

***The health of our residents is the most important building block of our community***

Without its residents' health no community can survive. Our residents' health, be it physical or emotional, is, in fact, the backbone of our sustainability as a community.

***Knowledge, learning and education are key components to a viable, productive and informed community***

Education, both formal and informal, is key to our survival as individuals and as a community. Without knowledge of our past, our current place in the world and the acquisition of new knowledge for our future development, we cannot survive.

***Preservation of our heritage and culture are imperative for sustainable future development and the survival of our community***

Without knowledge of the past, the future cannot be charted. The past is the warp and woof of who we are, who we are likely to become and sets the values we hold as members of our community. Without this very basic and defining knowledge, our community will slowly decline and die.

***Respect for the natural environment is key to sustaining our community and the survival of our planet***

Similar to the health of our residents, a healthy environment is vital to our survival. Without clean air and clean water nothing can survive. Respect for the environmental health of our community, while providing sustainable economic development opportunities and recreational activities, is crucial to our continued existence as individuals and the survival of life on our planet Earth.

***Support the development of a seniors- and youth-friendly community through programs and activities that engage both age groups.***

Youth are the future of our community. Seniors are its history. Both are critical to our community's continued development and survival. Unless programs are developed which are inclusive of both age groups, the opportunity to continue to be or learn how to be life-long productive citizens is lost.

***Maintenance and enhancement of responsible fiscal management of our community is critical for the delivery of equitable, efficient and accountable municipal services to our residents and those neighbouring communities where services are jointly shared***

Fiscal responsibility in the day-to-day operation of our town is a vital component to its viability and our ability to provide residents with the municipal infrastructure they require and deserve. Where there are shared services between and among neighbouring communities, it is our goal to work jointly and cooperatively with those towns to ensure the seamless and fiscally responsible operation of those commonly held services.