

VISION KEEPERS GROUP



Meeting Notes *Tuesday 22nd. January 2008*

Attendees

Members of the Committee: Amy Krause, Hugh Simson, Ron Deans, Hans Holthuis, Jim Ridley

Town Administration: Gary Buxton

Regrets: Peter Schied, Doran Hanert, Don Sears, Simon Hudson

Members of the Public: Bart Robinson, Canmore Sustainability Hub

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Amy Krause at 7:20 P.M.

Gary Buxton recorded the minutes of the meeting.

1. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

2. Adoption of Meeting Notes

The approval of the meeting notes was postponed and can be dealt with at the next meeting.

3. The Natural Step

Bart Robinson from the Community Sustainability Hub gave an overview of the The Natural Step program, its evolution at the Town of Canmore and how the programs principles were planned to be integrated into the Mining the Future 2 process.

The Natural Step (TNS) outlines 4 science based sustainability conditions and four steps to address the system conditions, through education, advice and tools. The "funnel" is used as a metaphor - population, affluence, technology and global trade are increasing demands for natural resources, while there are decreasing natural resources available for humans to utilize. Eventually a crisis point is reached. The aim is to redress this balance, and then "widen" the funnel to increase natural resources while decreasing our use of them, with a "restorative" economy. TNS attempts to use systems thinking to consider comprehensive views of issues, and also uses scientific thinking.

TNS also uses "backcasting" using the four principles (beginning with the end in mind), and working back from a desirable end state. The four action steps are: i) **Awareness**; ii) **Baseline Analysis**; iii) **Compelling Vision**; and iv) **Down to Action** {A, B, C, D}.

TNS was introduced to Canmore to deal with growth impacts. Thirteen "early adopters" were part of the process, including the Town. Two areas of action were determined - Town operations and community engagement through the Sustainability Hub.

TNS is intended to be incorporated into the Mining the Future 2 process. The four system conditions are intended to frame the discussions and decisions made in the process, and to screen the ideas to ensure that they address the system conditions.

4. Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday January 31st. 2008.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 P.M.