

Appendix B Public Process

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY BLANK

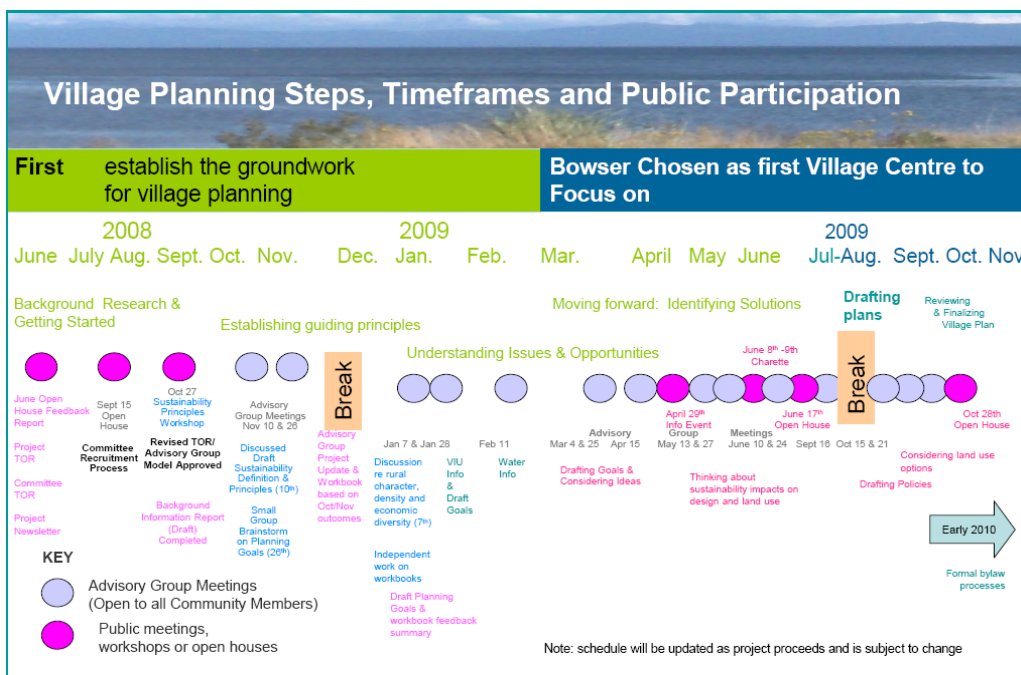
Public Participation Process

The development of the Bowser Village Plan involved an extensive public consultation process involving residents, landowners and business owners. The public consultation process was initiated by an Open House on June 9th 2008 followed by 23 further public events / community Advisory Group meetings. This public consultation reflects the direction of the RDN Board and Area 'H' OCP and greatly augments the level of public consultation required by the *Local Government Act*.

The creation of a Village Planning Advisory Group was instrumental to community participation in the planning process. The Advisory Group provided guidance and feedback through a series of 15 meetings with meeting attendance ranging from approximately 30-80 people depending upon the meeting. Members of the Advisory Group were also actively involved in a range of events, giving presentations and collecting feedback from other community members. The Advisory Group also provided feedback in between meetings (via e-mail or in person) with approximately 100 people reviewing information and sharing their thoughts.

During the course of the project, the RDN provided a project office in Bowser with a staff member typically available on Fridays for discussion with community members. During some of these Fridays RDN staff took tours of the Village Centres and facilitated small group discussions on topics of interest to Advisory Group Members. Throughout the process, meeting agendas, notes and other documents were made available online, via-e-mail and through hard copies.

The table and project timeline chart below provides a summary of Advisory Group meetings and events associated with the project. It should be noted that all events and meetings were open to anyone to attend throughout the process.



Appendix B Public Process

List of Meetings and Events

	Date	Event
1	June 9th 2008	OPEN HOUSE
2	Sept. 15th 2008	OPEN HOUSE
3	Oct. 27th 2008	SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES WORKSHOP
4	Nov. 10th 2008	Advisory Group Mtg. #1
5	Nov. 26th 2008	Advisory Group Mtg. #2
6	Jan. 7th 2009	Advisory Group Mtg. #3
7	Jan. 28th 2009	Advisory Group Mtg. #4
8	Feb.11th 2009	Advisory Group Mtg. #5
9	March 4th 2009	Advisory Group Mtg. #6
10	March 25th 2009	Advisory Group Mtg. #7
11	April 15th 2009	Advisory Group Mtg. #8
12	April 25th 2009	HARBOUR FESTIVAL INFORMATION BOOTH
13	April 29th 2009	INFORMATION EVENT
14	May 13th 2009	Advisory Group Mtg. #9
15	May 27th 2009	Advisory Group Mtg. #10
16	June 8-9th 2009	BOWSER VILLAGE CHARETTE
17	June 10th 2009	Advisory Group Mtg. #11
18	June 17th 2009	OPEN HOUSE
19	June 24th 2009	Advisory Group Mtg. #12
20	Sept. 5th 2009	FALL FAIR INFORMATION BOOTH
21	Sept. 16th 2009	Advisory Group Mtg. #13
22	Oct. 15th 2009	Advisory Group Mtg. #14
23	Oct. 21st 2009	Advisory Group Mtg. #15
24	Oct. 28th 2009	OPEN HOUSE

June 9th 2008 Open House

Prior to developing a Terms of Reference for the Area 'H' Village Planning project, the RDN invited input from the community regarding village centres and village planning in Area 'H'. A key purpose of the June 9th Open House was to provide community members with the opportunity to comment on village centres, village planning opportunities and issues, and community priorities.

The results from this Open House and the survey were used to help staff prepare a Terms of Reference for the project.



September 15th 2008 Open House

An Open House was hosted by the RDN on September 15th to provide an overview of the project (including a draft terms of reference) and to encourage the community to participate in the process. During this Open House many community members conveyed a strong desire to be involved in the process.



October 27th 2008 Sustainability Principles Workshop

The purpose of this workshop was to establish a set of sustainability principles to guide the project. It was the first opportunity in the project for residents to share ideas and perspectives on what a more sustainable community might involve in the future. The event was led by two special guest facilitators, Ms. Angela Evans from the Fraser Basin Council (Smart Planning for Communities) and Ms Su Hallatt, CitizenPlan (planning consultancy).

The results of the workshop were used as a foundation to create a set of sustainability principles to guide the project.



Appendix B Public Process

November 2008 – Community Advisory Group Established

Following the September 15th Open House and October 27th 2008 Sustainability Principles Workshop, a community Advisory Group was established. Fifteen Advisory Group meetings were held between November 2008 and October 2009. Advisory Group meetings were open to anyone to attend with new members joining throughout the process.



November 2008 - February 2009

Between November 2008 and February 2009, the focus of Advisory Group meetings involved developing and refining a set of Sustainability Principles & Goals for the project. Several meetings included hearing presentations from different agencies involved in key issues affecting planning for Village Centres in Area 'H' including the availability of drinking water and discussions on groundwater quality.

March 2009 - Focus on Bowser

In early March 2009, the Village Planning Advisory Group decided to focus planning efforts on Bowser Village Centre. Choosing Bowser as the first village area to be addressed was regarded as an effective way of making use of remaining time and resources between March and October 2009. It was anticipated that the lessons learned from planning for Bowser Village Centre could then be applied when planning for other village areas within Electoral Area 'H' and the RDN as a whole.



March - May 2009 - Bowser Village Boundary Review

Following the decision to focus on Bowser Village Centre, the Advisory Group reviewed the existing Bowser Village Centre Boundary and developed a variety of alternatives to be considered. These alternatives were displayed at an Information Event on April 29th 2009.

During meetings on May 13th and 27th the Advisory Group debated the pros and cons of expanding Bowser Village Centre in a variety of directions based on concerns about having sufficient land allocated for future commercial, public and residential uses. This resulted in a decision to put forward a revised boundary for consideration for Bowser Village Centre showing an area for future extension to the West along Crosley Road.



April 5th 2009 - Deep Bay Harbour Festival Information Booth

RDN staff and members of the Advisory Group ran an information booth at the Deep Bay Harbour Festival on April 5th 2009. The purpose of the booth was to provide information on the Bowser Village Planning process, encourage participation in upcoming events, collect feedback and answer questions.



Appendix B Public Process

April 29th 2009 - Information Event

From January 2009 onwards, the Advisory Group started to gather information from presentations during meetings on a variety of issues and opportunities impacting Bowser. The need to quickly find out more about a range of issues and opportunities that affect planning for a sustainable Bowser Village Centre resulted in planning the April 29th Information Event.



The Information Event was also an opportunity for the Advisory Group to receive feedback on their different concepts for a boundary for Bowser Village Centre. Eleven different options for Bowser Village Centre were displayed including an option for keeping the existing Village Centre Boundary.

Approximately 67 community members attended the event (including Advisory Group Members). Information booths staffed by 26 staff from the RDN and other agencies

provided members of the Advisory Group and the wider community with an opportunity to have in depth, individual discussions about a range of topics including:

- Village Planning Project - Process, Sustainability Principles and Goals
- Potential Bowser Village Boundary Scenarios
- Land Use patterns under existing Zoning
- Regional Growth Strategy Review
- Children's Ideas for Bowser Village
- Sensitive Ecosystems
- Green House Gas Reduction Strategies (Presentation at 4:00 pm)
- Recreation, Parks & Trails (Presentation at 5:00 pm)
- Transportation Networks & Mobility
- Crime and Safety Strategies for Rural Villages (Presentation at 5:30 pm)
- Meeting Housing Needs - Affordable & Adaptive (Presentation at 6:00 pm)
- Wastewater options for Rural Villages (Presentation at 7:00 pm)
- Solid Waste options for Rural Villages
- Water - Quality, Quantity & Aquifer protection
- Rain & Storm Water Management
- Planning Strategies for Disaster Resilience
- Sustainable Rural Economic Development

Bowser Village Charette - June 8-9th 2009

During the course of two days on the 8th and 9th of June 2009, members of the Advisory Group and other Bowser residents worked alongside designers /landscape architects and planners who volunteered their time to help capture the community's vision of a sustainable Bowser Village Centre. Using the project's Sustainability Principles and Goals, the Charette participants produced a range of ideas of their vision for Bowser that was captured visually on maps and sketches. Amongst the many special guests invited to participate were Sebastian Moffatt, founder of the Sheltair Group and president of the CONSENSUS Institute (CONSTRUCTed ENVIRONMENTs and Sustainable Urban Systems), Randall Arendt, a conservation planner and site designer, and Peter Levar, Head of the Architectural Science program at the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) and three students from this program.

Ideas from the Charette included:

- Options for traffic calming together with improved pedestrian safety and access.
- Creating attractive 'gateways' or entrances to Bowser.
- Arranging land uses for housing, recreation/public space, transportation, retail and service land uses to create a more 'complete community'.
- Working with natural systems to develop eco-friendly infrastructure with ideas for 'green streets', rain gardens/catchment areas for enhanced rainwater management and pollution control.
- Ideas for alternative waste treatment, water conservation, recycling and energy generation and conservation. This included exploring septic treatment options for multiple dwellings that produce water for irrigation, use of wood waste to generate energy, and positioning buildings and streets for solar gain.



Appendix B Public Process

Open House - June 17th 2009

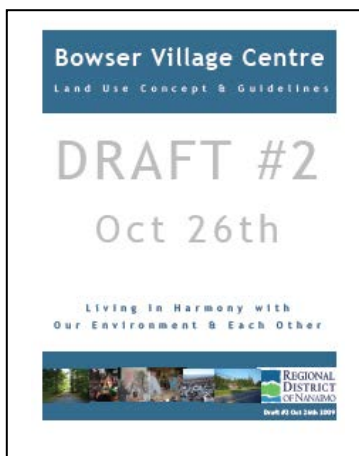
Several members of the Advisory Group and RDN staff presented the outcome of the June 8-9th Charette at an Open House on June 17th 2009. Also presented were three land use options 'bubble diagrams' that RDN staff put together based on the work done during the Charette.



Fall Fair Information Booth - September 5th 2009

RDN staff and members of the Advisory Group ran a Booth at the annual Fall Fair in Qualicum Bay. The purpose of the booth was to provide information on the Bowser Village Planning process, encourage participation in the process, collect feedback and answer questions.

September-October 2009



During September and October 2009 the Advisory Group provided feedback and guidance on the first draft of the Bowser Village Plan. This included reviewing and refining draft policies, agreeing upon the proposed land uses and recommending a land use map to be put forward in a second draft of the plan for the wider community to review.

Open House - October 28th 2009



On October 28th 2009, RDN staff and members of the Advisory Group presented the second draft of the Bowser Village Plan at an Open House. Members of the Advisory Group answered individual questions and collected feedback from the wider community.

The feedback from this meeting was used to make revisions resulting in the 'final draft' of the Bowser Village Plan to be carried forward to a 'formal' public process to include the Bowser Village Centre Plan as an amendment to the Area 'H' OCP.

