

Imagine Halton Hills



Appendix: Our Journey to Sustainability – Summary of Community Collaboration

March 2013

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This document was prepared by Lura Consulting, in association with Grant Consulting, under the direction of the Steering Committee of the Town Sustainability Advisory Committee, for the Town of Halton Hills



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1. Introduction

This summary report outlines the various outreach tools and engagement activities that were used to support the development of Imagine Halton Hills – an Integrated Community Sustainability Strategy (ICSS) for the Halton Hills community.

Development of Imagine Halton Hills was guided by the Town of Halton Hills – Office of Sustainability, a community Steering Committee and the Town Sustainability Advisory Committee (TSAC). Assistance was provided by Lura Consulting and Grant Consulting.

Imagine Halton Hills was prepared using a collaborative, community-based approach involving a range of outreach tools to engage stakeholders throughout the planning process. Accordingly, engagement activities provided community members meaningful opportunities to contribute to the Strategy’s development. These activities also provided a forum to recognize and celebrate the adoption of sustainable actions by the community, initiated by the Town’s Green Plan. The Vision, Pillars, Focus Areas, and Goals in the ICSS reflect the ideas and aspirations of Halton Hills’ residents, businesses, organizations, and institutions captured through the public and stakeholder engagement process.

1.1 Background

The journey toward a more sustainable Halton Hills began in 2007, with the introduction of the Green Plan, a framework to guide the implementation of “green” strategies and actions. Tangible results achieved by acting on recommendations made in the Green Plan include reduced operating costs, more efficient resource use, water conservation, cleaner air, strong community partnerships, and community awareness and support of sustainability.

Imagine Halton Hills builds upon the momentum of the Green Plan, broadening its focus. It establishes a long-term vision and serves as a framework to guide sustainable decision-making to the year 2060, and is organized according to the four pillars of sustainability – Cultural Vibrancy, Economic Prosperity, Environmental Health, and Social Wellbeing.

1.2 Objectives of the Community Engagement Program

The collaborative approach that guided the engagement and consultation activities outlined in this report recognizes that a successful strategy must draw on the knowledge and ideas of the community.

The following objectives provided guidance to the community engagement program:

- To introduce Halton Hills’ sustainability initiatives to the community;
- To facilitate a public discussion about the future of Halton Hills and sustainability;
- To seek input and solicit ideas from the broader community; and
- To create awareness and enthusiasm around the development of Halton Hills’ ICSS and get the community genuinely excited about its future.

2. Community Engagement and Consultation

The following section provides an overview of the activities that took place as part of the community engagement and consultation process. Input from all the activities and conversations outlined below formed the basis of the ICSS, making Imagine Halton Hills a true collaborative endeavour.

2.1 Community Engagement Activities and Strategies

Committees and Sub-Committees

2.1.1. Town Sustainability Advisory Committee

The Town's Sustainability Advisory Committee serves as an umbrella committee, bringing a number of stakeholders together to ensure that Halton Hills becomes a model sustainable community. TSAC provides advice on sustainability initiatives that should be pursued by the Town of Halton Hills. The broader TSAC was engaged throughout the process of developing the ICSS through ongoing meetings and discussions, and kept up-to-date and informed.

2.1.2. Steering Committee and Sub-Committees

A special Steering Committee was formed as a sub-group of the Towns Sustainability Advisory Committee (TSAC), specifically tasked with leading the development of the ICSS. The Steering Committee was responsible for guiding the process of the ICSS' development and monitoring its progress from inception to completion. The Steering Committee members met regularly throughout the project to: explore and discuss key areas of the Strategy, provide expert knowledge and advice, conduct outreach and engagement activities, give presentations, consult with other community stakeholders, work with their respective sub-committees to gather insights and bring them back to the Steering Committee, and help write the ICSS. The Consulting Team met with the Steering Committee on numerous occasions.

Steering Committee

Robert A. Knox	Chair, Steering Committee
David Clayton	Co-Chair, Social Sub-Committee
Denise Dilbey	Co-Chair, Economic Sub-Committee
Nancy Heinmiller	Co-Chair, Social Sub-Committee
John Linhardt	Director of Planning, Development & Sustainability, Town of Halton Hills
Chris Macewan	Co-Chair, Cultural Sub-Committee
Carolyn Martin	Co-Chair, Environmental Sub-Committee
Councillor Joan Robson	Ward 2, Councillor, Town of Halton Hills
Beatrice Sharkey	Co-Chair, Cultural Sub-Committee
Damian Szybalski	Sustainability Coordinator, Town of Halton Hills
Laurent Thibault	Co-Chair, Economic Sub-Committee
Eleanor Young	Co-Chair, Environmental Sub-Committee

Four additional Sub-Committees were also established to support the Steering Committee, one representing each of the four sustainability pillars. The Sub-Committees consisted of community stakeholders with interest and expertise in each pillar, and were responsible for further detailed conversation and input into each of the pillars.

Cultural Sub-Committee

Chris Macewan (Co-Chair)	Canadian Federation of University Women/Halton Hills Cultural Roundtable
Beatrice Sharkey (Co-Chair)	Halton Hills Cultural Roundtable
Bruce Andrews	Halton Hills Sports Museum
Tom Bentley	Rotary Club/Architect
Doug Brock	Heritage Halton Hills
Mark Rowe	Halton District Catholic School Board/Heritage Halton Hills Committee
Susan Wakefield	Artist

Economic Sub-Committee

Denise Dilbey (Co-Chair)	Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce
Laurent Thibault (Co-Chair)	Town Tourism Committee/Halton Hills Cultural Roundtable
Councillor Jane Fogal	Town of Halton Hills
Brian Herner	Resident
Councillor Ann Lawlor	Town of Halton Hills
John Linhardt	Town of Halton Hills
Doug Penrice	Town of Halton Hills
Denise Perlin	Town of Halton Hills
Gordon Smith	Resident

Environmental Sub-Committee

Carolyn Martin (Co-Chair)	Town Environmental Advisory Committee
Eleanor Young (Co-Chair)	Town Environmental Advisory Committee
Leslie Adams	P.O.W.E.R.
David Beaton	Credit Valley Conservation
Bryan Boyce	Town Environmental Advisory Committee
Suzanne Burwell	Halton District School Board
Harnoor Gill	Youth Representative
Erin Wilson	Halton Catholic District School Board
Councillor Joan Robson	Town of Halton Hills
Art Skidmore	Halton Hills Community Energy Corporation

Social Sub-Committee

David Clayton (Co-Chair)	Citizen
Nancy Heinmiller (Co-Chair)	Citizen
Brian Clark	United Way of Halton Hills
Lisa Crawford	Citizen Representative
Cathy Gerrow	Links2Care
Amanda Kostjuk	Links2Care
Alistair Macewan	Rotary Club

Broader Community

2.1.3. *Imagine Halton Hills Survey*

Efforts to engage the public were first initiated by the Town of Halton Hills using a community survey to gather the community's hopes and dreams for the future. About 1,200 residents completed the Imagine Halton Hills survey, expressing their hopes and dreams for a more sustainable Halton Hills. The survey was by far the most successful resident survey ever undertaken by the Town. A wealth of information was provided by residents from all corners of Halton Hills – residents of Acton, Georgetown, Stewarttown, Norval, Glen Williams, the rural area and others joined the conversation. Many visitors have also shared their views. Residents described their ideal community and what attracted them to move or stay in Town. Imagining the future, residents identified the ingredients required for a more sustainable Halton Hills.

The resounding success of Imagine Halton Hills can be attributed to the community itself. The survey was widely distributed by many community partners, including Council members during Earth Day celebrations, the Town Sustainability Advisory Committee at the Earth Day Fair, Community Open House and presentations to numerous community groups, and by the Office of Sustainability through presentations to about 200 elementary and high school students. Local media, The Independent and Free Press, and The New Tanner, provided significant exposure for Imagine Halton Hills.

Generally speaking, in describing an ideal community and its five most desirable features, residents focused on:

- ***Access to local employment, services and shopping:*** Residents expressed an interest in fostering diversified economic development that translates into abundant local employment. A strong and healthy industrial base complemented by the availability of affordable grocery stores, a larger shopping mall, quality restaurants and entertainment establishments, diverse shopping opportunities and green businesses were key themes.
- ***Recreation opportunities:*** Residents noted the need for additional facilities that are easily accessible and affordable, including arenas, pools and indoor sports facilities for volleyball and other sports. They noted the need for a broader range of facilities, including those that cater to the needs of all ages and families.
- ***Abundant greenspace:*** In identifying greenspace as their priority, residents cited the need for abundant amounts of greenspace, accessible greenspace, year-round maintained parks and trails, connected wildlife corridors, an interconnected active transportation network, agricultural lands and multi-use pathways.
- ***Access to local health care services:*** Local health care emphasized the need for a full-service, modern and eco-friendly hospital, facilities and programs to support healthy lifestyles, nursing homes, dental health assistance for families in need and assistance with mental health.
- ***Availability of quality local education:*** The desire for local education centered on ensuring local access to modern schools offering quality education, a satellite college or university facility to offer lifelong learning opportunities, adult education programs and eco-friendly schools.

Additional priority areas included affordable housing, a clean environment, vibrant cultural scene, responsive government, enhanced transportation options, modern library services, community safety, small-town feel, a vibrant downtown area, and additional youth and senior services.

When asked: “Why did you choose to move to (or stay in) Halton Hills?” residents overwhelmingly identified Halton Hills’ ‘small-town feel’ and sense of close-knit community as its main positive attribute.

Second to its small-town charm, many existing residents have been drawn to Halton Hills by family ties.

The third key draw of Halton Hills has been its open space and rural character. Residents value the mix of urban and rural landscapes. Some have described Halton Hills as being a “beautiful smaller community that is full of pride with substantial natural resources that are desired and appreciated” and as being “physically detached” from the rest of the Greater Toronto Area and as having the potential to be a “very sustainable and healthy community despite the troubles that the present and future are bringing”. Residents also value their proximity to parkland, conservation areas, agriculture, and walking, hiking and cycling facilities – all in an esthetically beautiful community.

What residents value...

- Family-oriented communities
- Strong spirit of volunteerism
- Balance of small-town charm and attitudes with local amenities that meet everyday needs
- Community pride
- Limited and well-managed pace of growth
- Rural landscape with proximity to larger urban centres
- Vibrant traditional downtown areas
- Sense of open space

In choosing to move to or stay in Halton Hills, residents also value their proximity to and convenience of GO Transit, proximity to work, availability of local services, housing affordability, community safety, traditional vibrant downtowns, and youth and senior services.

When imagining Halton Hills in the future, 25 to 50 years from today, residents described their hopes and dreams for a more sustainable community with a high quality of life. Retaining Halton Hills’ small-town charm and feel, and managing growth are of most importance to residents. Access to a greater variety of local employment opportunities and services as well as maintaining Halton Hills open space and natural space are the two other key hopes and dreams for the future.

Being of highest importance, residents described that retaining Halton Hills’ small-town charm and ambiance will require maintaining a strong sense of tightly knit community, well-planned growth where community infrastructure keeps pace with development, retention of the Town’s bountiful open space and natural environment, retaining the community’s rural and urban values, encouraging tasteful intensification in order to preserve prime agricultural lands that support a thriving farming community, maintaining a distinct character from surrounding municipalities, and being a model sustainable community.

Hopes and dreams for increased access to local employment and services entail providing amenities for all residents of all ages and abilities, fostering a diversified economy that includes a viable agricultural industry, expanding opportunities to work, shop and play locally, and strengthening Acton’s and Georgetown’s historic downtown areas.

By 2060, residents hope that the ample greenspace currently buffering Halton Hills from its more urban neighbours will remain, valleys, wetlands and other natural areas will be protected, Halton Hills' unique blend of urban-rural character will be maintained, neighbourhoods will be walkable and connected with trails and bike paths, new development will occur in a sustainable fashion, and existing parks will be used to their full potential.



Artwork by a local Town of Halton Hills student showing what they love about their community.

Affordable and more diverse housing, modern local health care, neighbourhoods that are complete and inclusive, diversified parks and recreation facilities, vibrant and thriving cultural, heritage and arts activities, quality education, safety, interconnected active transportation networks and growth according to sustainability principles are also the hopes and dreams of Halton Hills' residents.

Similar to residents, visitors to Halton Hills value the Town's small-town charm, abundant open and natural space, and heritage and cultural assets.

The community's hopes and dreams, as expressed through the Imagine Halton Hills survey, formed the basis for the ICSS.

2.1.4. Places and Spaces Conversations

As part of the community engagement process, the Imagine Halton Hills Steering Committee and the Town's Office of Sustainability engaged in over 500 one-on-one conversations with the Halton Hills community in the summer and fall of 2012 (see participation table), by attending local 'places and spaces', such as community events and high-traffic gathering areas. This allowed the team to engage members of the public that may not generally participate in these types of initiatives in a conversation about sustainability and the future of Halton Hills. Places and spaces conversations included:

- Speaking about the project and the concept of sustainability;
- Collecting peoples' perspectives about their vision and goals for the future of Halton Hills.

2.1.5. Youth Engagement

The Office of Sustainability conducted presentations to about 200 elementary and high school students on sustainability in 2011/12. The students learned about sustainability and provided input on their hopes and dreams for the future of Halton Hills. Artwork created by some of the students can be found in Attachment A.

2.1.6. Sustainability Forum

A very successful Sustainability Forum was hosted in May 2012. The objective of the Forum was to familiarize the community with the Sustainability Strategy, as well as to gather valuable feedback on the emerging draft sustainability visions, focus areas and goals. Approximately 130 participants were in attendance, including residents, businesses, community and regional organizations, Town Councillors and staff, and Halton Region staff. Participants provided valuable input and direction that validated the work to date.



Sharing ideas at the Sustainability Forum.

The Sustainability Forum was an interactive half-day session where participants were able to work in small groups to discuss and shape each one of the ICSS' focus areas. Stations were set up – each representing a focus area of the ICSS – where participants rotated to different stations. At each station

participants were able to work directly with the Sub-Committees and Steering Committee, as well as other community members, to ask questions and provide input. For a summary of the input received at the Sustainability Forum, see Attachment B.



Graphic depiction of the day’s conversations at the Sustainability Forum created by local artist Rasa Morrison.

2.1.7. Community Sustainability Celebration

The draft Imagine Halton Hills strategy was presented to the community at a very successful Community Sustainability Celebration in November 2012. Approximately 130 residents, businesses, community and regional organizations, Town Councillors and staff, and residents were in attendance. The event provided the Halton Hills community with the opportunity to comment on the draft Strategy and help identify priorities amongst the Strategy’s themes and goals presented in each pillar of sustainability. It was also used to celebrate the Town’s achievements and journey toward sustainability. For a summary of the input received at the Sustainability Forum, refer to Attachment C.

Stakeholders

In addition to conversations with the general public, presentations and meetings were held with numerous stakeholder groups and organizations in Halton Hills. Members of the Steering Committee and Sub-Committees conducted these presentations and discussions and brought the input back to the rest of the Steering Committee.

2.2 Town of Halton Hills Engagement Activities and Strategies

2.2.1. Town Council

Town Council has been very supportive of the development of the ICSS from its inception and has been actively involved in its development. Town Council was represented on the Town TSAC and the Imagine Halton Hills Steering Committee. The Mayor, as Chair of TSAC, was also thoroughly engaged in the process of developing the ICSS and actively involved in promoting participation in its development. Town Council received regular updates on progress and shared input and ideas at all stages of the ICSS’ development.

2.2.2. Town of Halton Hills Senior Management

An ongoing dialogue with senior managers within the Town was maintained throughout development of the ICSS. The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) and Director of Planning, Development and

Sustainability were actively involved through all milestones of developing Imagine Halton Hills, providing their knowledge and expertise.

2.2.3. Town of Halton Hills Staff

Town of Halton Hills staff actively participated in the development of the ICSS through a number of methods. The Staff Sustainability Team provided input and shared ideas throughout the process. Staff were invited to provide input through all phases of developing the ICSS, and individual discussions were also carried out on an as-needed basis.

3. Communication and Outreach Strategies

The following communication and outreach tools were used to raise awareness of the ICSS planning process and to encourage community participation in its development:

3.0.1. Local Media

Local newspapers and television coverage were used as outreach tools to promote the development of the Imagine Halton Hills Community Sustainability Strategy, and to invite public participation and feedback as the development of the Strategy progressed.

Media releases were distributed to the local news papers, which provided coverage. The Independent and Free Press, and The New Tanner, provided significant exposure for Imagine Halton Hills.

3.0.2. Website

The Town of Halton Hills website was used as a platform to promote the ICSS project, engage residents and keep them informed of events throughout the planning process. The Community Sustainability Strategy webpage is available at: <http://www.haltonhills.ca/initiatives/Sustainability-Strategy.php>

3.0.3. e-Newsletter

The *Our Sustainability E-Newsletter* was circulated electronically and made available through the Town's website to:

- Outline the consultation process and provide community members with regular updates;
- Invite stakeholder participation and feedback;
- Promote upcoming consultation events;
- Reflect how feedback from the community and stakeholders is being used; and
- Celebrate milestones and achievements throughout the process.

The E-Newsletter has about 600 subscribers that receive the E-Newsletter on a regular basis.

3.0.4. New Media + Social Networks

Internet-based social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter were also used to increase awareness and promote the development of the ICSS. Use of social media was pilot tested as part of developing Imagine Halton Hills and it has been successful at engaging the community. Building a following on social media has been successful in the short period of time since the initiation of the project. The Imagine Halton Hills Facebook page has 42 "likes", while @ImagineHH has close to 600 followers (as of March 2013).



Imagine Halton Hills Twitter account.

3.0.5. Imagine Halton Hills Poster

A poster was used to report findings collected through community engagement and consultation activities, and to sustain community participation into the next phase of the Strategy's development. This poster was used at community events and set up in Town facilities over the length of the project to draw attention to the project and raise awareness. The Imagine Halton Hills Poster can be seen in Attachment D.

3.0.6. Announcements

Throughout the project, several announcements were made by the Mayor to encourage community participation and awareness. These were complemented by articles in the Mayor's newspaper column.

4. Participation

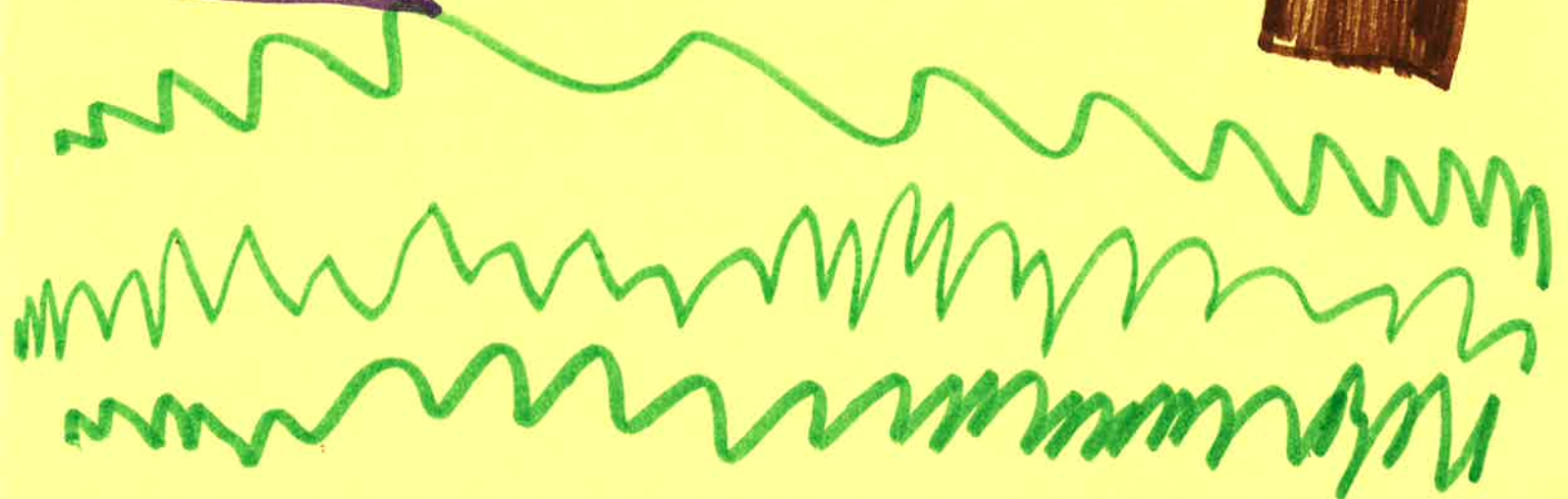
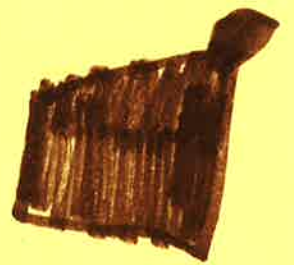
The following table indicates the approximate number of stakeholders and residents that participated in each engagement or consultation event.

Consultation/Engagement Event	Date	Participants
Committees		
Town Sustainability Advisory Committee		31
Imagine Halton Hills Steering Committee		12
Cultural Sub-Committee		7
Economic Sub-Committee		7
Environmental Sub-Committee		10
Social Sub-Committee		7
Stakeholder Engagement		
Cultural Sub-Committee presentations/meetings		430
Economic Sub-Committee presentations/meetings (Economic Think Tank)		55
Environmental Sub-Committee presentations/meetings		10
Social Sub-Committee presentations/meetings		44
Broader Community Engagement		
Imagine Halton Hills Survey		1,200
School Class Presentations		200
Town Summer Camp Presentations	2012 (90 people)	90
Ministerial Presentations	February 2013	20
Places and Spaces Conversations		
<i>Georgetown Market Place – Earth Day Fair</i>	<i>2011 (60 people)</i>	<i>115</i>
	<i>2012 (55 people)</i>	
<i>Bid Daddy Festival at the Gellert Centre</i>	<i>June 15, 2012</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Acton Farmers’ Market</i>	<i>July 12, 2012 (50 people)</i>	<i>88</i>
	<i>Sept 27, 2012 (38 people)</i>	
<i>Georgetown Farmers’ Market</i>	<i>July 21, 2012 (50 people)</i>	<i>95</i>
	<i>Aug 11, 2012 (55 people)</i>	
<i>Leathertown Festival in Action</i>	<i>August 12, 2012</i>	<i>45</i>
Sustainability Forum	May 30, 2012	130
Community Sustainability Celebration	November 22, 2012	130
Online		
<i>Unique Visits to Strategy webpage</i>	<i>Dec 2011 – Dec 2012</i>	<i>11,089</i>
<i>Sustainability e-Newsletter</i>		<i>579</i>
<i>Imagine Halton Hills Facebook Page</i>		<i>42</i>
<i>Imagine Halton Hills Twitter Profile</i>		<i>589</i>

Attachment A Youth Sustainability Artwork



I don't want people
just leaving there
lip stick bottles or my
glass at home.

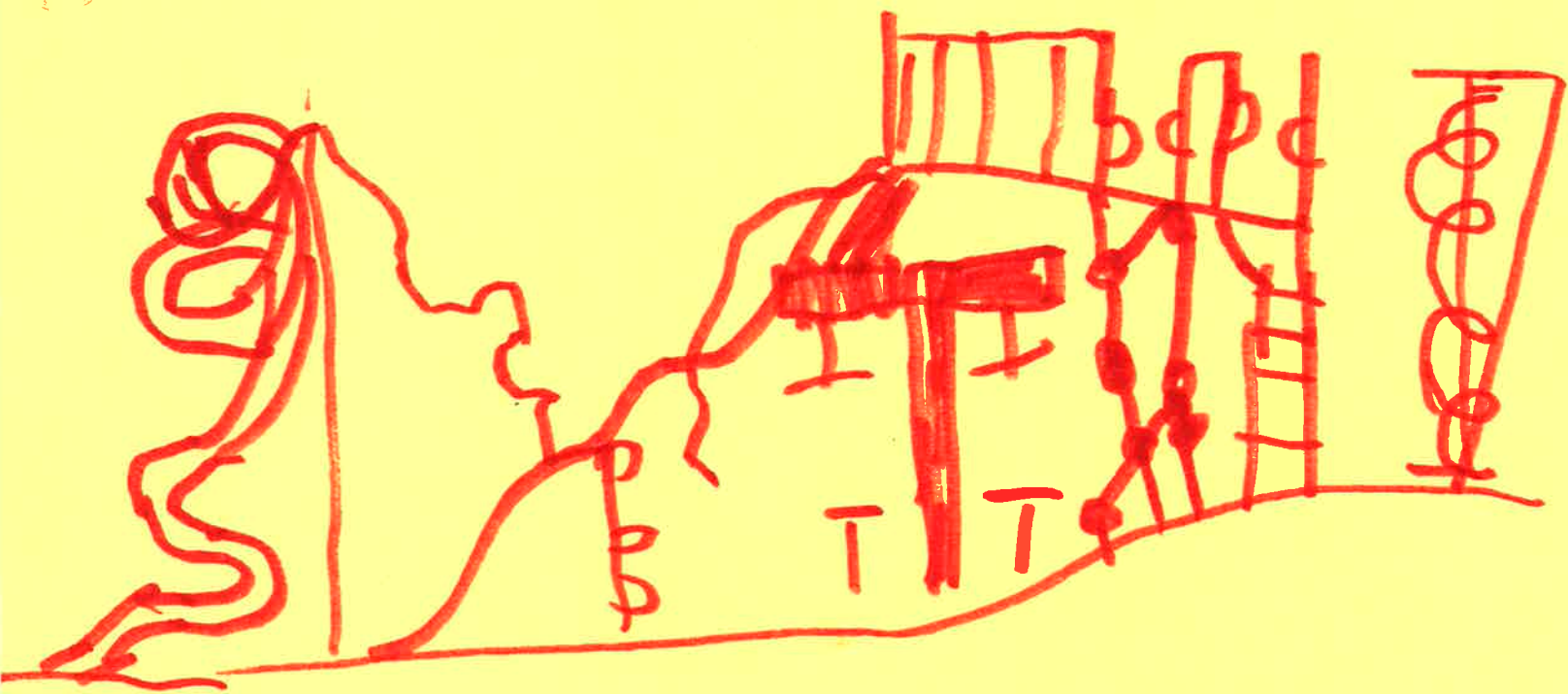


a
of

whole
trees

Bunch





MORE UPDATED PARKS



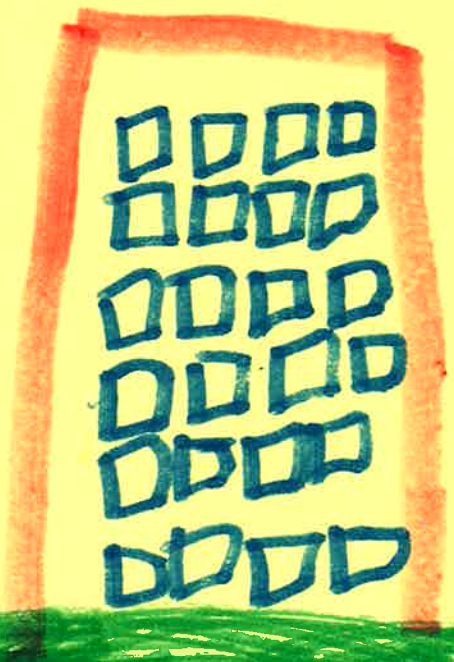
By Vanessa

green bin ↓



Banana











I would like to see people working
to school or riding to work!



USE   



NO MORE
Pollution

The world loves
to help the better
environment



No Grass because it's dead
5 years later



Attachment B Sustainability Forum Summary

Overview

A highly successful Sustainability Forum was hosted in May 2012. The objective of the Forum was to familiarize the community with the Sustainability Strategy, as well as to gather valuable feedback on the emerging draft sustainability visions, focus areas and goals. Approximately 130 participants were in attendance, including residents, businesses, community and regional organizations, Town Councillors and staff, and Halton Region staff. Participants provided valuable input and direction that validated and supported the work to date.

The Sustainability Forum was an interactive half-day session where participants were able to work in small groups to discuss and shape each one of the ICSS' focus areas. Stations were set up – each representing a focus area of the ICSS –with participants rotating to different stations. At each station participants were able to work directly with the Sub-Committees and Steering Committee, as well as other community members, to ask questions and provide input.



Some of the many ideas generated by the community at the Forum



Imagine Halton Hills Sustainability Forum Agenda

Wednesday, May 30, 2012
 3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Mold-Masters SportsPlex
The Gordon Alcott Heritage Hall (2nd Floor)
221 Guelph Street, Halton Hills ON

2:45 – 3:00 pm	Registration
3:00 – 3:30 pm	Welcome and Introduction <i>Mayor Rick Bonnette, John Linhardt, Director of Planning, Development & Sustainability, and Damian Szybalski, Sustainability Coordinator</i>
3:30 – 4:15 pm	Getting Up to Speed <i>Peer review of work completed to date</i>
4:15 – 5:00 pm	Theme Round Table Discussions <i>Small table discussions on sustainability themes</i>
5:00 – 5:45 pm	Break <i>Light supper and refreshments</i>
5:45 – 6:30 pm	Theme Round Table Discussions <i>Small table discussions on sustainability themes</i>
6:30 – 7:15 pm	Theme Round Table Discussions <i>Small table discussions on sustainability themes</i>
7:15 – 7:40 pm	Moving Forward <i>Discussion about next steps for implementation, partnerships, and measuring success</i>
7:40 – 8:00 pm	Reflections and Next Steps

Summary of Input Received

Cultural Vibrancy

They liked:

- ✓ Culture plays major role in fostering a sense of community
- ✓ Comprehensive parks and trail systems
- ✓ Emphasis on arts (music, drama, theatre)
- ✓ Every day is culture day
- ✓ Important to engage all cultures
- ✓ Amazing role in promoting the Town's steadily growing diversity
- ✓ Love the goals within each of the pillars
- ✓ Excellent work on the libraries

Suggestions:

- Are accessible cultural activities and events included?
- Focus on education of citizens/students regarding economic and social value of vibrant cultural activity to further engage them (x8)
- Recognize all forms of art, not just visual (music, performing, publishing)
- Access to recreation/fitness opportunities for everyone (x6)
- Address wants of multiple ethnicities
- A one line explanation of the themes would make ideas/intent more explicit
- Expand intergenerational learning opportunities

Economic Prosperity

They liked:

- ✓ Very comprehensive
- ✓ Live-work opportunities which are great for a sustainable community(x4)
- ✓ Vision is great (x3)
- ✓ The green economy and balanced tax base (x2)
- ✓ Love that indicators have been used, but there are many and maybe some are not measurable
- ✓ The focus on intensification of urban areas

Suggestions:

- Where are aggregates (natural resources) in economic prosperity?
- Infrastructure planning needs to focus on agriculture
- Add horticulture to agriculture
- Promotion and recognition of all heritage (not just downtown)
- Year-round activities
- Merge EP6 (culture) into EP3 (tourism)

Environmental Health

They liked:

- ✓ Preserving, managing, and celebrating our green spaces (x4)
- ✓ Ambitious goals, but worry about how realistic they are (x2)
- ✓ Natural heritage and resources are valued here (2)
- ✓ Lots of very distinctive themes and easy to understand
- ✓ Commitment to study land use, protect good farmland, priority given to brownfields

Suggestions:

- Add Species at Risk as priority covers most of the Environmental Health pillar
- Add native species
- Add adaptation concepts
- Natural resources need to include all resources not just aggregates
- Migration routes for all species need protection from development
- Add diversity of trees
- Factor in ecological services into financial and business cases
- Add the impact that future growth will have on available resources

Social Wellbeing

They liked:

- ✓ Public transportation should be the most important goal of all! (x5)
- ✓ Glad to see seniors issues being addressed (x4)
- ✓ Emphasis on active transportation and health benefits (x4)
- ✓ Accessibility and acceptance
- ✓ Love “comfort, safety, and inclusion” theme (x2)
- ✓ The pillars are 4 keys to the further topics: very comprehensive

Suggestions:

- More affordable/accessible housing (x8)
- Encourage actions to eliminating poverty by supporting local agencies (x3)
- Is there a special consideration for younger children (0-12), and youth often refers to older kids (13-18)?
- Include mental health component: especially for youth and young adults
- Is diversity/multiculturalism addressed?
- Environmental theme should be linked as direct link to our health
- Expand the goals to be more inclusive of other social services, not just physical health
- Where we are now: include aspect of our diversity/attitudes towards race, sexuality, identity, etc.

Attachment C
Community Sustainability
Celebration Summary

Community Sustainability Celebration

The draft Imagine Halton Hills Strategy was presented to the community at a very successful Community Sustainability Celebration in November 2012. Approximately 130 residents, businesses, community and regional organizations, Town Councillors and staff, and residents were in attendance. The event provided the Halton Hills community with the opportunity to comment on the draft strategy and help identify priorities amongst the Strategy's themes and goals presented in each pillar of sustainability. It was also used to celebrate the Town's achievements and journey toward sustainability. The following table on the next page summarizes the number of votes participants placed in each sustainability pillar's theme area, and comments, if any were made.



The more than 130 community stakeholders in attendance at the Community Sustainability Celebration Event.



Imagine Halton Hills: Sustainability Celebration Event

Thursday, November 22, 2012
 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
 Mold-Masters SportsPlex
 The Gordon Alcott Heritage Hall
 221 Guelph Street, Halton Hills ON

Agenda

6:30 – 6:45 pm	Registration
6:45 – 7:00 pm	Open House
7:00 – 7:15 pm	Welcome! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor Rick Bonnette • Robert Knox, Chair of the TSAC Steering Committee
7:15 – 7:20 pm	Recognition of Contributions <i>Recognition of the Steering Committee and TSAC members who have contributed to the Strategy</i>
7:20 – 7:50 pm	Overview of Imagine Halton Hills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damian Szybalski, Sustainability Coordinator • Steering Committee Co-Chairs
7:50 – 8:00 pm	Question and Answer
8:00 – 8:25 pm	Celebration and Sharing Ideas <i>Review and prioritization of Strategy components</i>
8:25 – 8:30 pm	Closing Remarks <i>Mayor Rick Bonnette</i>

Summary of Input Received

Focus Area	Number of Votes
Cultural Vibrancy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inviting Parks and Trails • Inclusive to Youth • Vital Arts and Culture • Strong Sense of Community • Highly Engaged Citizens • Valued Heritage Legacy • Diverse Recreation & Sports • Leading Edge Libraries 	25 17 16 14 14 14 6 2
Economic Prosperity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vibrant Food & Agricultural Sector • Infrastructure • Green Economy • Balanced Tax Base • Diversified & Resilient Economy • Tourism • Knowledge-Based Industry & Research and Innovation • Live-Work Opportunities • Active & Vibrant Creative Sectors 	23 17 15 13 10 9 9 7 5
Environmental Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural Heritage • Water • Consumption & Waste Management • Energy • Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions • Land Use • Natural Resources • Biodiversity 	24 23 21 9 8 8 8 6
Social Wellbeing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seniors • Transportation • Housing • Poverty • Social Health & Services • Learning • Comfort, Safety & Inclusion 	22 21 18 12 12 11 9

Attachment D
Imagine Halton Hills Poster

1200 people 'Imagined Halton Hills' and told us their hopes and dreams for the next 50 years



An ideal future for Halton Hills also includes:

- Clean air and water
- Beautiful natural environment
- Cultural, arts and tourism experiences
- Thriving local economy
- Leadership for sustainability
- Spirit of volunteerism
- Alternate transportation options
- Interconnected active transportation options
- Complete, green and close-knit communities
- Vibrant historic downtowns
- Plentiful social, senior and youth services
- Thriving agricultural industry
- Affordable and diverse housing options
- Unique blend of urban and rural landscape

AND THE JOURNEY TO SUSTAINABILITY CONTINUES...

To learn more about our journey to sustainability and how you can help shape it:



- Talk to us in the community this May and June
- Check us out online at: www.haltonhills.ca/sustainability
- Call us at 905.873.2601 ext. 2289
- Find Imagine Halton Hills on Facebook
- Follow us on Twitter @ImagineHH



IMAGINE HALTON HILLS

Thinking of the future, about 1,200 residents expressed their hopes and dreams for a sustainable Halton Hills becoming a reality over the next 50 years.

Through Imagine Halton Hills, the most successful resident survey ever undertaken by the Town, a wealth of information was provided by residents from all corners of the community. Residents of Acton, Georgetown, Stewarttown, Norval, Glen Williams, the rural area and others joined the conversation. The resounding success of Imagine Halton Hills can be attributed to the community itself. The survey was widely distributed by many community partners, including Council members, the Town Sustainability Advisory Committee, the Office of Sustainability, and local media.

Our Vision

In 2060, the urban and rural communities of Halton Hills balance economic prosperity with a deep commitment to the natural environment, while retaining viable local agriculture and small-town feel, and being socially equitable, culturally vibrant and strongly connected.

An Ideal Community

In describing an ideal community and its five most desirable features, the majority of residents focused on:

- **Access to local employment, services and shopping** – diversified economic development that translates into abundant local employment.
- **Recreation opportunities** – additional facilities that are easily accessible and affordable, including arenas, pools and indoor sports facilities for volleyball and other sports.
- **Greenspace** - plentiful and accessible greenspace throughout the community.
- **Access to local health care services** – full-service, modern and eco-friendly hospital, facilities and programs to support healthy lifestyles, nursing homes, dental health assistance for families in need, and assistance with mental health.
- **Availability of quality local education** – access to modern schools offering quality education, a satellite college or university facility to offer lifelong learning opportunities, adult education programs and eco-friendly schools.

Additional priority areas included affordable housing, a clean environment, vibrant cultural scene, responsive government, enhanced transportation options, modern library services, community safety, small-town feel, a vibrant downtown area, and additional youth and senior services.

Why Did You Choose to Move to or Stay in Halton Hills?

Residents overwhelmingly identified the following as their top three reasons for choosing to move or stay in Halton Hills:

1. Halton Hills' 'small-town feel' and sense of close-knit community;
2. Family ties; and
3. Open space and rural character

Residents also value their proximity to and convenience of GO Transit, proximity to work, availability of local services, housing affordability, community safety, traditional vibrant downtowns, and youth and senior services.