Cree Nation of Waskaganish Comprehensive Community Plan

Contents:

- How the CCP project started
- What the CCP can do for Waskaganish
- Planning process
- Creating the Plan
- Overview of the Community Plan book
- Next steps
- Q&A

How the CCP project started

- June 2012: two-day workshop for Waskaganish staff
  - ➢ "CCP 101" - introduction to Comprehensive Community Planning (CCP)
- Request for Proposals from consultants to assist with development of Community Plan for Waskaganish
- Cities & Environment Unit at Dalhousie University in Halifax selected to guide Waskaganish through the CCP process
- First CCP workshop hosted in Waskaganish June 10-15, 2013

What the CCP can do for Waskaganish

Ideas from the first workshop:

- Improve communication: between departments, with Cree entities
- Bring the community together & encourage joint efforts (collaboration, coordination)
- Connect projects, initiatives and people
- Provide direction; Vision for the future.
- Improve accountability (community-wide) – everyone is responsible for helping each other
- Empower and inspire people
- Establish priorities - a strategy for using resources effectively
- Valuable tool for HR department - align training with future job opportunities

The planning process

- Workshop 1: June 2013
- Workshop 2: September 2013
- Workshop 3: January 2014
- Each workshop included:
  - Focus groups
  - Community Sessions & Open Houses
  - Meetings with staff
  - Updates to Chief & Council
- Display panels to share back information and draft parts of the Plan
- Survey at AGA
- Vision + project ideas gathered through CCP Facebook group

Our approach to creating the Plan

The Plan is *Community-based*

- Multiple opportunities for community members to be involved in developing the Plan at every stage
- The Plan belongs to the whole community
- The Plan is a tool for Chief & Council, Band staff and community members
- Everyone has some responsibility for implementing the Plan over the long term

Community Plan book

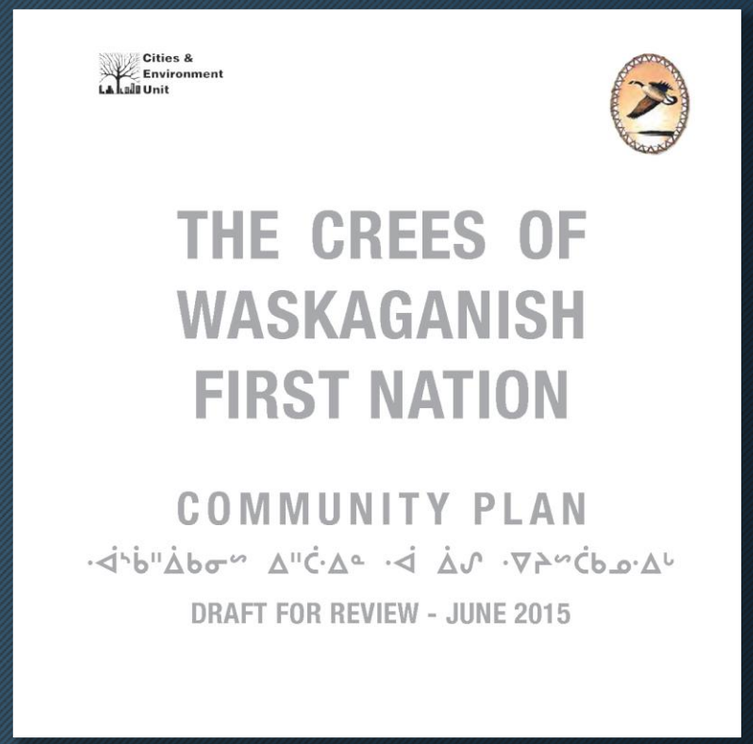
The CCP book has four chapters:

Chapter 1: CONTEXT

Chapter 2: VISION

Chapter 3: ACTION

Chapter 4: Approach to Change (implementation)



Community Plan book

Chapter 1. CONTEXT

- Current state of Waskaganish
- Information about the community organized under 5 categories:
  - LAND
  - PEOPLE
  - SETTLEMENT
  - ECONOMICS
  - STRENGTHS, ISSUES & ROOT CAUSES

- The Context chapter provides an understanding of the present as the foundation for thinking about the future

Community Plan book

Chapter 2. VISION

- Shared ***Vision*** for the future of Waskaganish
- Developed by community members at the workshops
- ***Value Statements*** describe shared values identified by community members
- Shared values are important to the quality of life in Waskaganish and should guide all decision making

Vision Statement | ᒣ·ᑲᓄ ·ᐊ ᐃᔨ ᓄᓇᑲᓄᓂᐊᐸᑦᑕᑲᓄᓂᐃᑌ

Traditional harvesting on our Cree territory will continue to provide the foundation for a healthy and self-reliant people as we work together to create new opportunities toward a thriving Waskaganish Eeyou.

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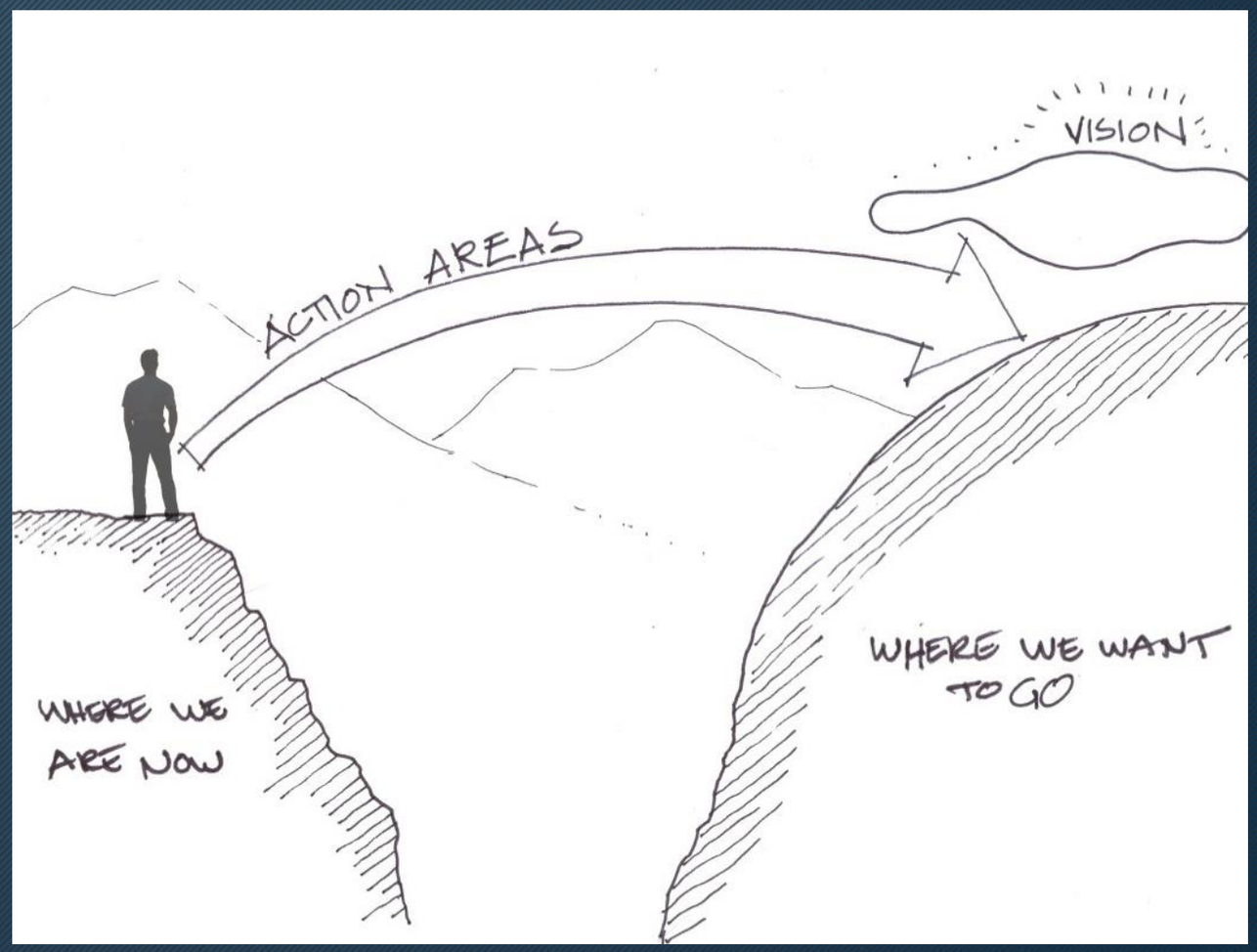
Community Plan book

Chapter 3. ACTION

- The Action Chapter translates the Vision into clear, conceivable and manageable policies, projects and initiatives
- The Chapter has two parts:
  - Form and Structure
  - Action Areas

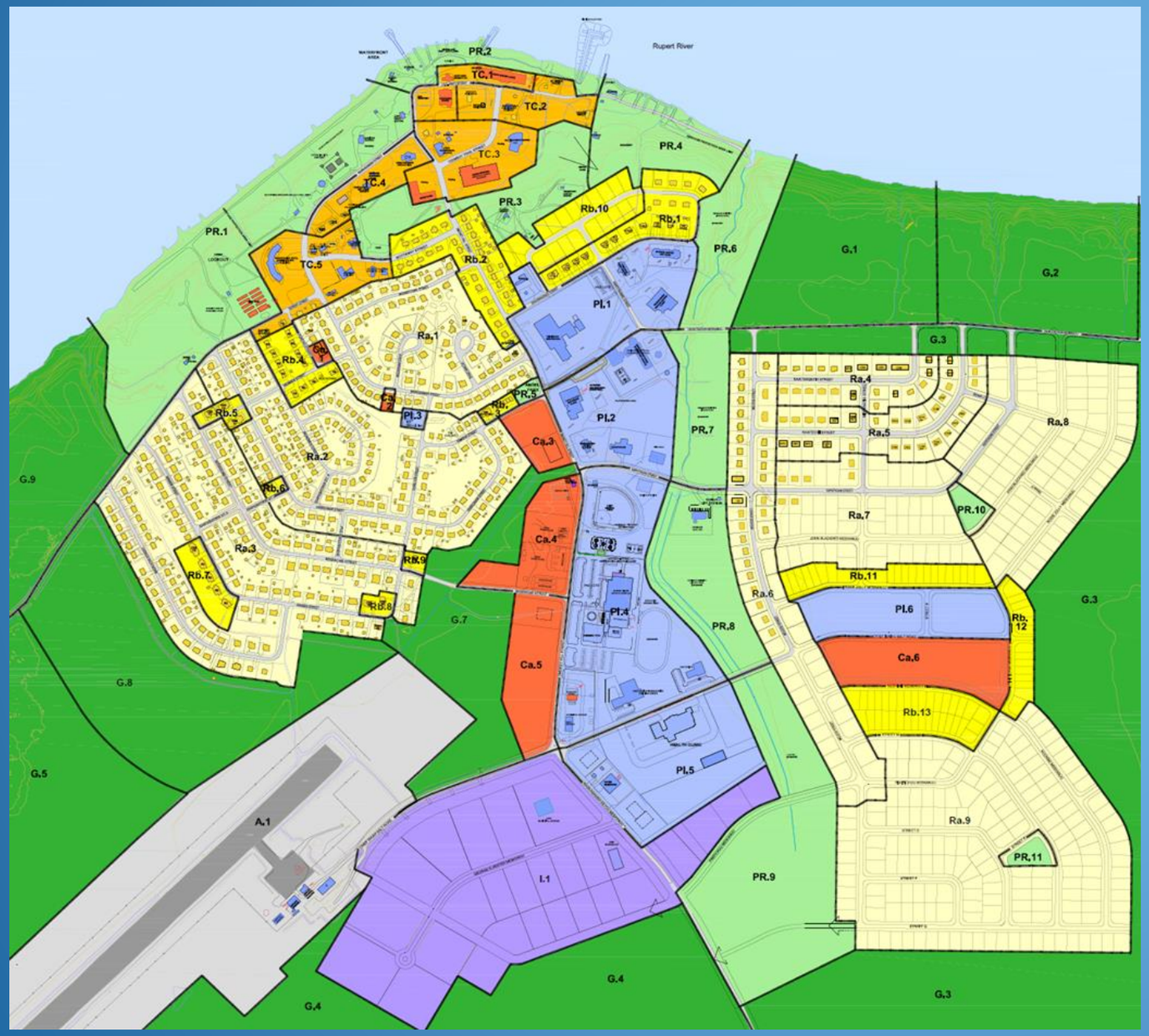


Community Plan book

Chapter 3. ACTION: ***Community Form & Structure***

- Structure Map
  - Tool to inform major land-use decisions – based on the community's shared values and priorities
  - Establishes how the community will grow physically to reinforce existing neighbourhoods and core areas while making the best use of existing infrastructure
  - Protects sensitive environments
  - Provides a long-term structure around which new housing can be built, new commercial, cultural and social spaces established and new neighborhoods formed

ACTION: ***Structure Map***



LEGEND

- Existing Housing
- Future Housing
- Town Centre (mixed use)
- Future Commercial
- Institutional, Recreation and Public Use
- Mixed-use Main Street
- Industrial
- Airport
- Existing Utilities
- Waterfront Tourism and Cultural Area
- Parks, Green Space and Community Gardens
- Forested/Vegetated Green Buffer
- Rupert River
- Prominent Gateway

- Heritage Protection Area
- Existing Roads
- Proposed Roads
- Smokey Hill Multi-use Trail
- Walking Trail
- Watercourse

Community Plan book

Chapter 3. ACTION: ***Future Development Map***

- Illustrates how over time the physical structure of the community will grow and change
- New streets, housing, public spaces, and institutions are all part of a coordinated strategy
- Future Development Map is conceptual – more detailed design will be required

Community Plan book

Chapter 3. ACTION: ***Action Areas***

- 5 Action Areas
- Action Areas focus on the First Nation's priorities in order to achieve the Vision
- Action Areas provide high-level direction to all of the community's decisions
- Project ideas gathered from the community
- Kick-start projects

Community Plan book

Chapter 3. ACTION: ***Kick-start Projects***

- Kick-start projects illustrate specific actions the community can undertake to advance the Action Areas and work toward the community's Vision
- Kick-start Projects highlight opportunities to achieve the goals identified by community members and captured in the Plan
- Kick-start projects are just a few of the project ideas shared by community members during the planning process. Many others are included in each Action Area

Community Plan book

Chapter 3. ACTION: ***Kick-start Projects***

- Kick-start projects described in more detail in the Plan include:
  - Smokey Hill Street Multi-Use Trail
  - Waskaganish Community Greenhouse
  - Waterfront Landscaping Master Plan
  - Community Store

ACTION CHAPTER: ***Kick-start Projects***

Smokey Hill Street Multi-use Trail

- Safer, more comfortable north-south connection for people who walk or bicycle
- Sheltered from prevailing winds by trees
- More attractive and welcoming entrance to the community and waterfront

ACTION CHAPTER: ***Kick-start Projects***

Community Greenhouse

- Case study of successful example in Inuvik
- Improve access to fresh, healthy and affordable food
- Opportunities for small businesses and social enterprises

Community Plan book

Chapter 4. APPROACH TO CHANGE: *Implementing the Plan*

The Approach to Change is:

- Community-Based
- Project Driven
- Locally-Focused

Following these ***three principles*** of the Approach to Change will help to ensure that the community works together, that projects reinforce each other and that ***every action*** moves the community toward its ***Vision***.

Community Plan book

Next Steps – Implementation

- Meetings with Chief & Council, staff and community members to discuss implementation
- Plan book distributed within the community

Thank You.