

# Town Hall Sharing Session

## Application of Bill 27 to achieve ***Water OUT = Water IN***

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*"How we will implement a regional team approach in the Comox Valley,  
and how this can inform communities beyond the Comox Valley"*

# **The goal today is share and learn!**

- The organizing team will report out
- We will share our stories
- We will learn from each other

*Tell us what you want to take away from the 2009 Series!*

**Water for Life & Livelihoods:** *This deceptively simple equation embodies principles and concepts for dealing with uncertainty and managing risk*

Over time,  
the safety factor has been shrinking:

### The Water Balance

$$\text{OUT} = \text{IN}$$

**IN** =  $f$  (hydrology, weather, time,  
infrastructure,...)

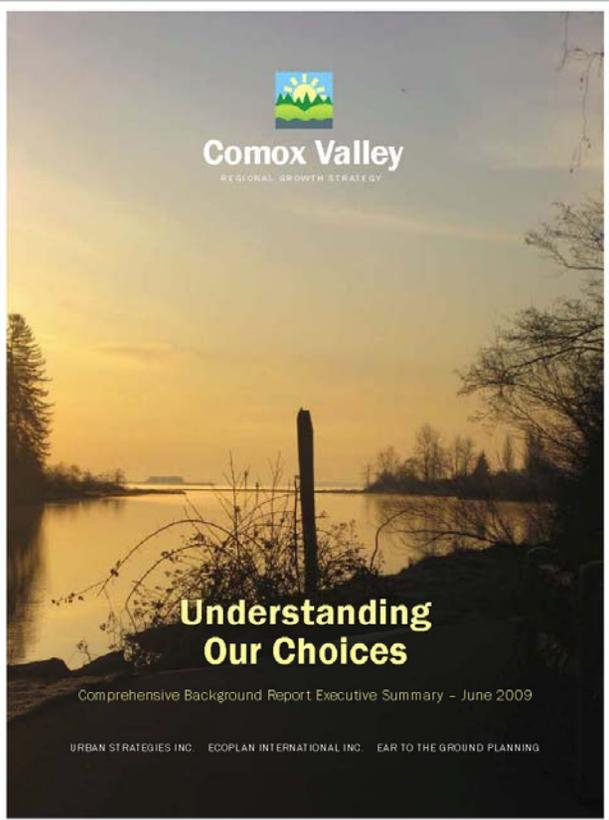
**OUT** = Uses +  $F_{\text{safety}}$   
= ( $U_{\text{essential}} + U_{\text{excess}}$ ) +  $F_{\text{safety}}$

where....

$U_{\text{essential}}$  =  $f$  (population, ecology, industry, time, ...)

$U_{\text{excess}}$  =  $f$  (wealth, society, technology...)

**Desired Outcome:** *Effective integration of planning tools and engineering criteria at front-end of implementation process*

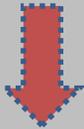


**Regional Growth Strategy**



*This is the interim arrangement:*

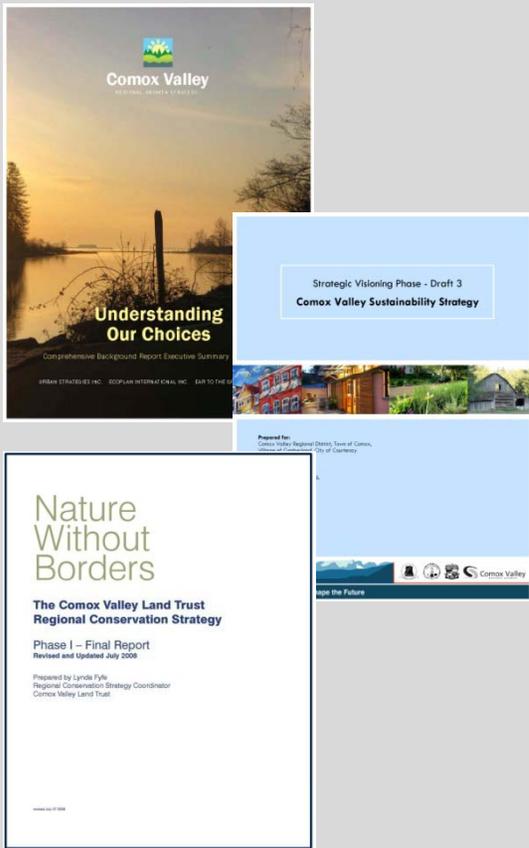
**MOU & Planning TAC**



*Where we wish to get to:*

**Planning & Engineering Collaboration Protocol**

*Steps to get from here to there:*



**MOU on Interim Management of Planning & Development Initiatives**  
*implemented through Planning TAC*

to

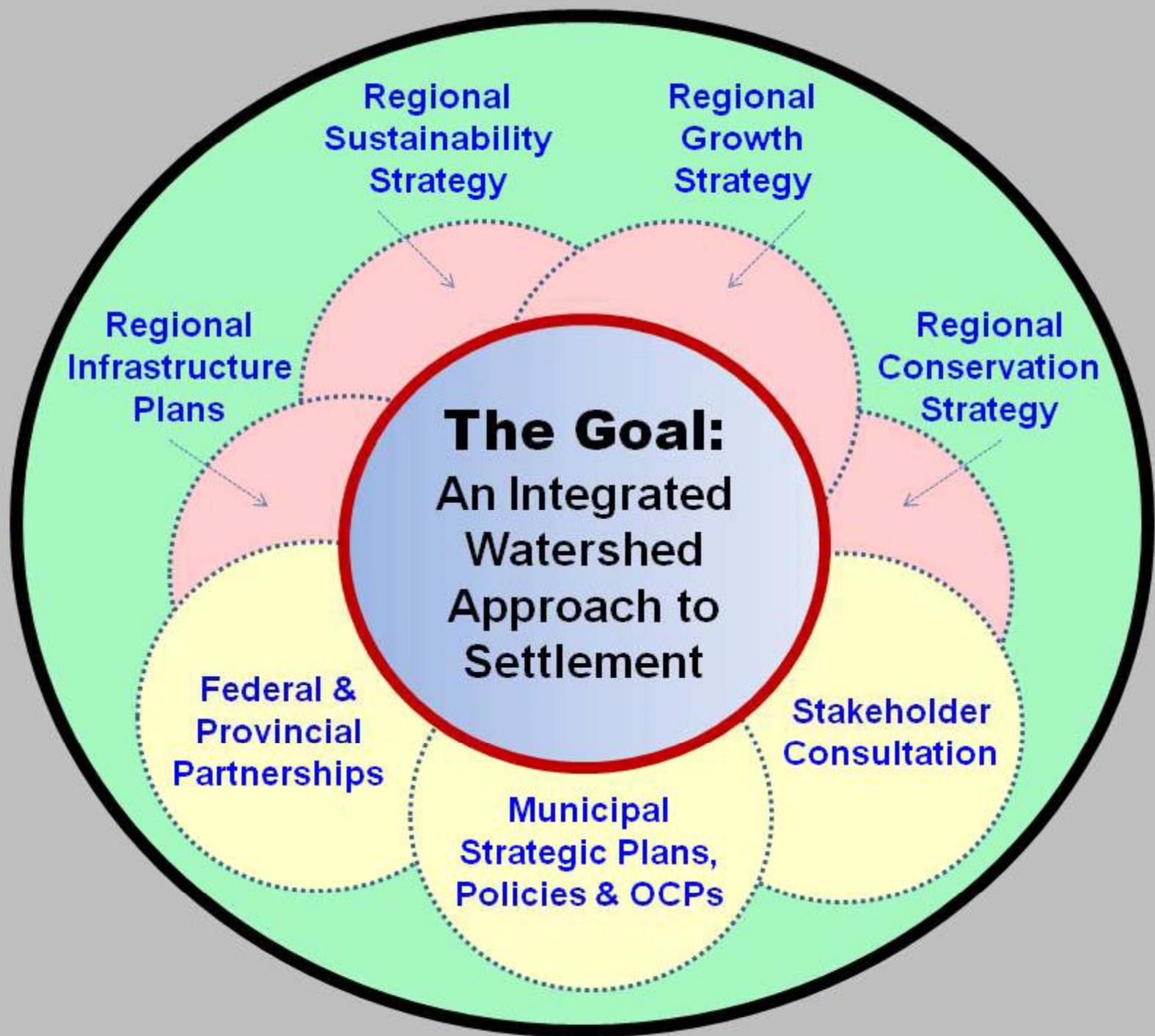
**Final Regional Growth Strategy**  
*implemented through OCPs & other regulatory tools by local governments*

to

**Planning & Engineering Collaboration Protocol for land use and infrastructure integration**  
*implemented through a Planning & Engineering TAC*

to

**THE GOAL:**  
**An Integrated Watershed Approach to Settlement**  
*that designs with nature & results in Water OUT = Water IN*



**The Goal:**  
An Integrated  
Watershed  
Approach to  
Settlement

Regional  
Sustainability  
Strategy

Regional  
Growth  
Strategy

Regional  
Conservation  
Strategy

Regional  
Infrastructure  
Plans

Stakeholder  
Consultation

Federal &  
Provincial  
Partnerships

Municipal  
Strategic Plans,  
Policies & OCPs

# Integration that Leads to Action!

“Looking ahead to 2010 and beyond, the ultimate goal of the regional team approach is to maximize the intersection of the elements. This means creating linkages among the different areas of action, thereby helping to create a stronger implementation plan – that is, *what all the plans will achieve.*”

“Desired outcomes include inter-departmental collaboration, inter-municipal sharing, and regional alignment. Achieving these outcomes means we need to think of ourselves as members of an integrated team, not as individuals within silos.”

Kevin Lorette  
Water Bucket Story #4

# Cliffe Avenue Project...Imagine!

“Through teamwork, a seemingly routine engineering project became the springboard for transforming the look-and-feel of an entire neighbourhood.”

Derek Richmond  
Water Bucket Story #6

“If we can do this internally, imagine what we could do regionally. Integrated planning is all about teamwork. There is no limit to what we can do once we open our minds to the opportunities that can result from partnerships and collaboration.”

Kevin Lagan  
Water Bucket Story #6

# Watershed-Based Land Use Planning

“The regional team approach is exciting because it will enable us to set a direction. We have the tools. We have the knowledge. Now we all need is the formal mandate to get on with watershed-based land use planning.”

Marvin Kamenz  
Water Bucket Story #6

“Watershed-based land use planning has real meaning on the ground for the Town of Comox.

Because we are downstream of future developments located within the regional district, we require a unified and consistent regional approach to rainwater / stormwater management and green infrastructure.”

Glenn Westendorp  
Water Bucket Story #6

## **Bill 27 = New Opportunity for Water Sustainability:** Water Conservation Development Permit Area

“The paper examines the new statutory authority for development permits in light of water conservation objectives and asks...what sort of water conservation actions might be sought using development permit guidelines?”

“A compatible policy initiative would be to promote adoption by the region of an ecosystem-based approach to watershed planning and establishment of watershed targets, with guidance that would be linked.”

Susan Rutherford  
West Coast Environmental Law  
Water Bucket Story #7

# **Nanaimo's Green Design Guidelines:** Establishing expectations as to what is an acceptable development application

“We are developing an incentive-driven checklist because we want all applicants to have the same information and knowledge, especially the small-scale developers.”

“Our goal is to be clear regarding the City's expectations. This starts with how one looks at the landscape before even thinking about what the building might be like.”

Rob Lawrance  
Environmental Planner  
City of Nanaimo

# Understanding How Local Government Works in BC:

## You are enabled - just choose to do it!

“Historically, the Province has enabled local government by providing policy and legal tools in response to requests from local government. Local governments can choose to act, or not.”

“In general, the enabling approach means the onus is on local government to take the initiative because the Province recognizes that communities are in the best position to develop solutions which meet their own unique needs and local conditions.”

Dr. Laura Tate  
Ministry of Community & Rural Development  
Water Bucket Story #8

## 2008 Cowichan Valley Learning Lunch Series:

Regional team approach - consistency at the front counter

“The holistic view is a key to doing business differently. We have started a dialogue with regional technical staff...planning, engineering, building inspection and others....so that we can reach consensus on how this region will move forward with implementation of the **New Business As Usual.**”

Kate Miller  
Cowichan Valley Regional District  
July 2008

# Roundtable Recap and Look Ahead

- What was your 'Ah-Ha' moment today?
- How should Seminar #3 build on today?
- What is your vision for a 2010 Series?