

Okanagan-Similkameen Growth Strategy

Mid Strategy Overview prepared for the
Growth Strategy Steering Committee

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Growth Strategies

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Ministry of Community,
Services



Introduction

- ◆ Why a growth strategy
- ◆ What is it
- ◆ The Provincial Goals
- ◆ Developing the strategy
- ◆ Other RGSS
- ◆ RDOS status
- ◆ Adoption
- ◆ Regional Context Statements
- ◆ Implementation Agreements
- ◆ Reporting
- ◆ How we can help



Why do we need a Regional Growth Strategy?

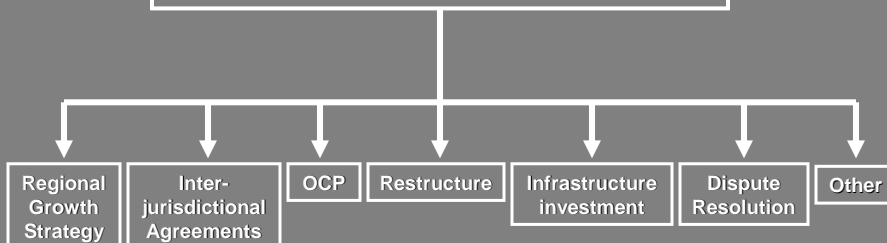
- ◆ Because things change and change can be managed well...
 - Manage population growth to avoid sprawl and make efficient use of infrastructure
 - Create regions with high quality of life as foundation for economic development
 - Provide a way to better coordinate efforts



Matching Issues and Tools

Regional Issues Assessment

- RD/municipal process
- Identify issues/linkages/priorities
- Consider full “tool kit”



What is a Regional Growth Strategy?

◆ Purpose

- to guide decisions on growth, change and development

◆ Substance

- regional vision statements
- population and employment projections
- regional policies for key regional interests
 - housing
 - transportation
 - regional district services
 - parks and natural areas
 - economic development



The 14 goals

- ◆ Avoid urban sprawl to ensure development occurs where infrastructure exists or can be provided efficiently
- ◆ Settlement that minimizes automobile use and encourages walking, cycling and transit
- ◆ Efficient movement of goods and people
- ◆ Protecting environmentally sensitive areas
- ◆ Maintaining the integrity of the resource base, including the ALR
- ◆ Economic development that supports the unique character of communities
- ◆ Reducing and preventing air, land and water pollution

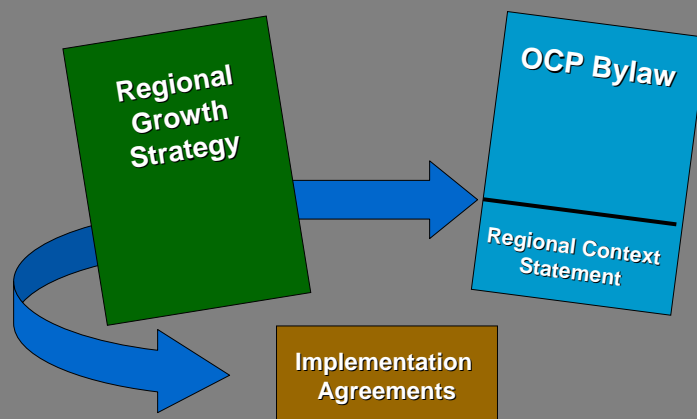


The 14 goals

- ◆ Adequate, affordable and appropriate housing
- ◆ Adequate inventories of suitable land resources for future settlement
- ◆ Protecting the quality and quantity of ground water and surface water
- ◆ Settlement patterns that minimize the risk associated with natural hazards
- ◆ Preserving, creating and linking urban and rural open space
- ◆ Planning for energy supply, and energy conservation
- ◆ Stewardship of land, sites and structures with cultural heritage value



3 Key Elements of the Growth Strategy System



Developing a Strategy

- ◆ Different approaches
- ◆ Two to four years
- ◆ Builds relationships
- ◆ Agreement on strategic interests
- ◆ Draft RGS
 - vision for the region
 - process to achieve vision



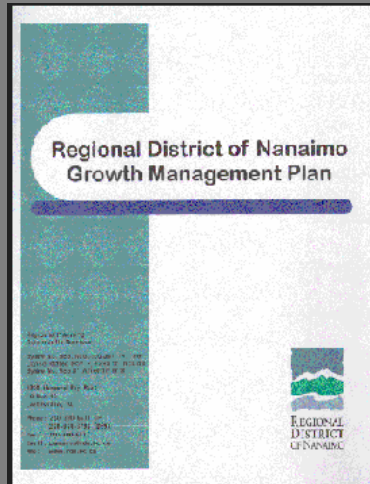
A growth strategy is a flexible tool



GVRD

- Fifteen Pages
- High Level
- Four key strategies
- Allocates growth
- “Framework document”

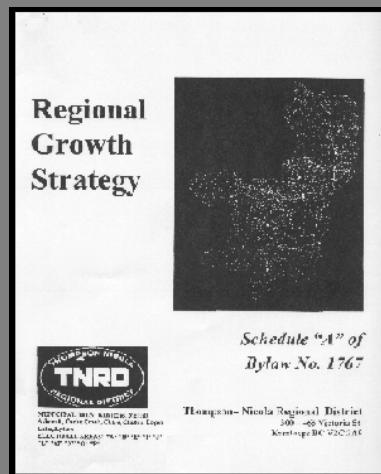
Each region determines what its strategy needs to do



RD Nanaimo

- 95 Pages
- 5 Appendices
- 12 Maps
- Detailed policies and designations
- Guides all planning and servicing decisions

“Growth” isn’t necessarily the main focus



Thompson-Nicola RD

- 16 Pages
- High level document
- Framework for future co-operative work
- Urban/resource land initiative
- Resource extraction focus
- Addresses economic development

Status Report

- ◆ **Adopted growth strategies**
 - GVRD
 - RDCO
 - RDN
 - TNRD
 - CRD
 - FVRD

- ◆ **Growth Strategies in progress**
 - RDOS
 - SLRD



RDOS Growth Strategy Progress

- ◆ **Board Resolution and Advised Minister**
- ◆ **Advised member municipalities and adjacent regional districts**
- ◆ **Established staff, steering committee and advisory structures**
- ◆ **Consultation plan, terms of reference and funding**
- ◆ **Workshops and studies**
- ◆ **Issues verification and visioning**
- ◆ **Scenarios and options**



RDOS GS Tasks remaining

- ◆ Policy development and approval
- ◆ Implementation framework
- ◆ Bylaws drafted and approved



Adopting a Regional Growth Strategy

- ◆ Public hearing
- ◆ Referral to member municipalities and adjacent regional districts
- ◆ No MCS approval
- ◆ Bylaw adoption
- ◆ Dispute resolution if needed



Regional Context Statement

- ◆ Link between RGS and municipal OCP
- ◆ How local plans are made consistent
- ◆ Two years to develop
- ◆ Adoption process similar to RGS
- ◆ Dispute resolution procedures



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Implementation Agreements

- ◆ Local governments can enter into agreements to implement a Regional Growth Strategy with:
 - other local governments
 - other levels of government
 - boards or authorities



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Monitor/Review

- ◆ Program to monitor
- ◆ Annual report on implementation progress
- ◆ Five year review

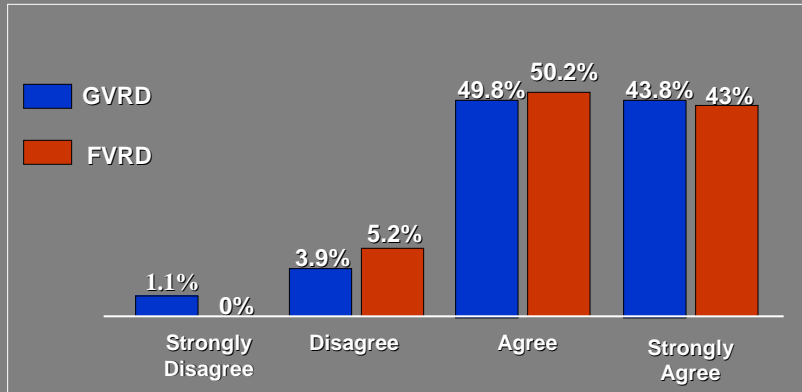


How the Province can help

- ◆ Funding assistance
- ◆ Advice and input through IAC
- ◆ Clarify provincial interests and initiatives in region
- ◆ Facilitate resolution of local disputes
- ◆ Advise on legislation and process



“...the only way we can effectively manage growth is for all governments to work together on a plan for the future of the region..”



Viewpoints Research, 1994

No Response
 1.5% (GVRD)
 1.6% (FVRD)

Questions & Answers

