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ARBORG BIFROST-RIVERTON SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

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ARBORG BIFROST-RIVERTON SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

Arborg Bifrost Riverton CDC

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1 INTRODUCTION

The Arborg-Bifrost Community Development Corporation (ABCDC), the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton, and the Town of Arborg have come together to create the Arborg Bifrost-Riverton Sustainable Community Action Plan (the Plan). The Plan provides an opportunity for establishing a shared vision for the municipal partners and for working together in areas of common interest, especially with the recent amalgamation of the Municipality of Bifrost and the Village of Riverton, to create the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton. The ultimate goal of the Plan is to help Arborg Bifrost-Riverton strengthen its position as one of the most self-reliant, progressive, and economically stable regions of the province. The Plan will contribute to the development of a cohesive approach by identifying the different initiatives, plans, programs and activities currently underway in the region and identifying areas for growth.

The Plan received funding from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) under the FCM's Municipal Green Fund. The Plan was an initiative of the ABCDC, of which the municipalities are the sole shareholders. WSP was engaged by the ABCDC to prepare the Plan with oversight from an Action Plan Working Group comprised of the ABCDC Economic Development Officer (EDO), the Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs) of both municipalities, and representatives and elected officials from the ABCDC Board of Directors and the Arborg and Bifrost-Riverton municipal councils. In addition to the working group, meaningful public engagement was also an essential part of the development of the Plan, which received thoughtful and generous input from the community, elected officials, and community leaders who participated in a variety of public engagement activities.

The Arborg Bifrost Community Development Corporation, at a meeting of its Board of Directors held on April 20, 2016, duly passed a resolution authorizing the preparation of the Arborg Bifrost-Riverton Sustainable Community Action Plan and authorizing entering into agreement with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities as a trustee of the Green Municipal Fund.

1.1 PLAN AREA

The Plan includes the area illustrated in **Figure 1-1**, which includes the Town of Arborg and the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton. The municipalities belong to the Eastern Interlake Planning District (EIPD) along with the Municipality of Gimli to the south. The Town of Arborg is located at the northern terminus of PTH #7 (Brookside Boulevard) 100 km (60 miles) north of Winnipeg has a population of approximately 1,230 people. It is a bustling Regional Trading Centre for the northern part of the Manitoba Interlake District serving a geographically unique farming area of some 3,000 square km (1,160 square miles) encompassing most of Bifrost-Riverton and extending west into the Municipality of Fisher and south into the municipalities of Armstrong and Gimli.

The Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton contains the Village of Riverton, a quaint community situated on the Icelandic River off of PTH #8 (McPhillips Street in Winnipeg). Riverton has evolved over the years from a fishing village to part retirement community-part tourist town, catering to a large seasonal population of summer cottagers. Riverton is considered the gateway to the unique and picturesque

Hecla/Grindstone Provincial Park which extends out into the large expanse of Lake Winnipeg's South Basin.

The Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton has the distinction of containing some of the most productive farmland in the entire province, although large areas have been taken out of production in recent years due to the cumulative impacts of several interrelated factors, including the increasing frequency and severity of rain events, overland flooding, inadequate land drainage, and high lake levels contributing to a persistently high water table. Fortunately, the Municipality is also known for the entrepreneurialism of its residents and enjoys a fairly balanced economy, in comparison to most rural municipalities, thanks to a small but thriving manufacturing sector.

1.2 PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

A Sustainable Community Action Plan is a long-term plan developed in order to establish direction for future sustainable practices aimed at enhancing the quality-of-life and well-being of current and future generations. The Arborg Bifrost-Riverton Sustainable Community Action Plan is based on a model of sustainability and integrated community planning. Sustainability objectives and existing plans and initiatives are integrated into a common vision with goals and actions aimed at its successful implementation. The Plan reflects the region's ideas and priorities and can be used to guide short, medium, and long-term decision making.

The goals of the project were to:

- Actively seek the opinion and involvement of interested and/or affected individuals in order to gather information, formulate a planning policy, and create a sense of pride and ownership.
- Establish a clear vision for the sustainable future of the region.
- Coordinate existing strategies, initiatives and actions, to provide a harmonized approach to growth and development.
- Identify strategies, initiatives, and actions, which a community can implement in moving towards a more sustainable way of growing.
- Identify targets for measuring progress towards achieving specific goals and objectives within the sustainability areas.

1.3 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN STRUCTURE

The primary document is the Plan which introduces the project and, most importantly, provides the sustainability vision, goals, and strategies. The Plan is accompanied by four separate supporting documents. The primary purpose of separating the Plan from the supporting documents was to streamline the Plan, while providing access to the valuable information that was used to inform the Plan. The four supporting documents include the following, in no particular order:

- A community asset inventory.
- A public and stakeholder engagement critical issues brief.
- A municipal servicing assessment.
- A growth management plan.

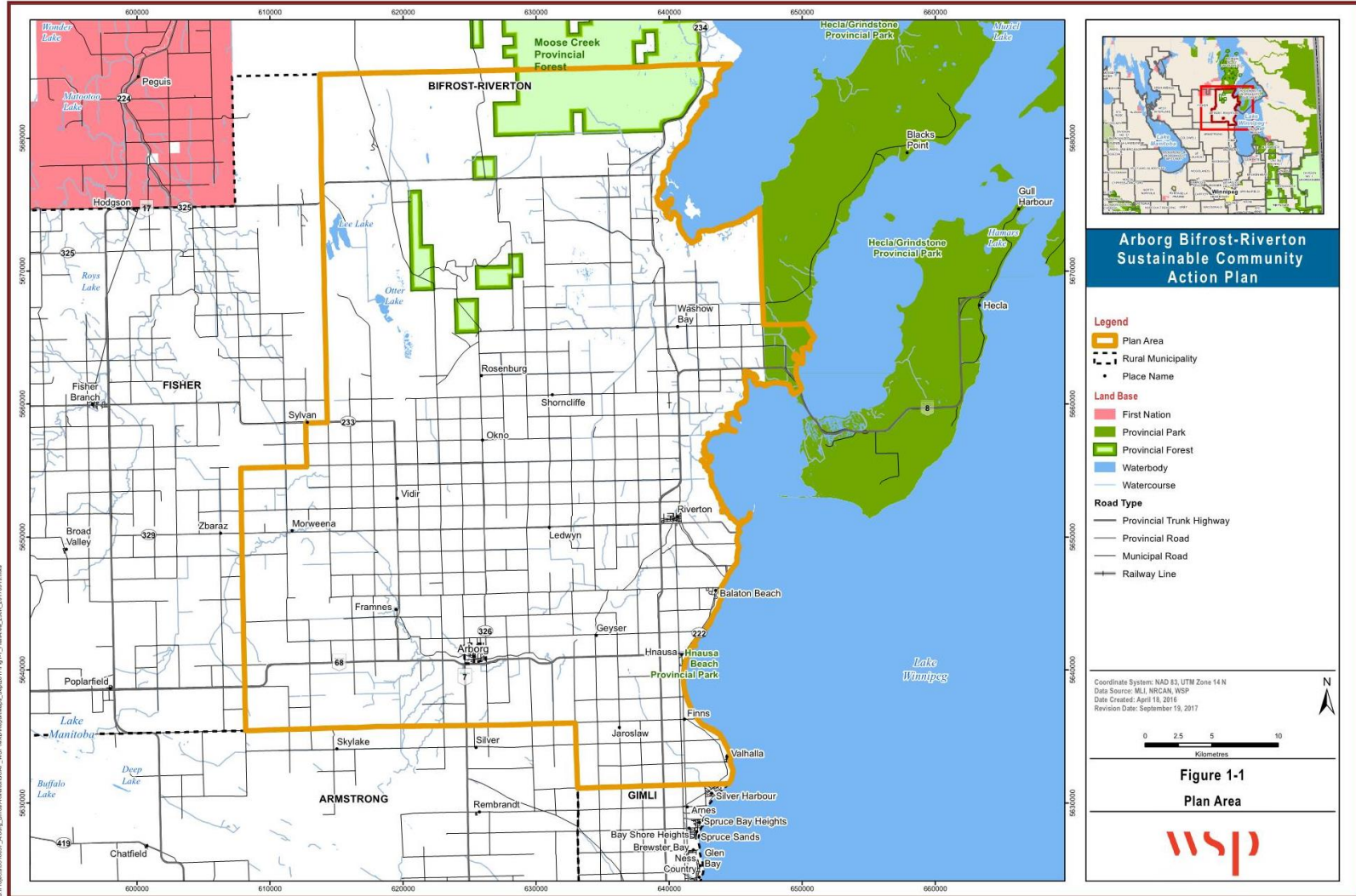


Figure 1-1 Plan Area

2

PLAN AREA BACKGROUND

2.1

GEOGRAPHY

The Plan Area of Arborg and Bifrost-Riverton is situated within the Interlake Plain; a sub-region of the Boreal Plains which, in turn, forms part of the vast Great Plains of North America. The second largest geographic region on the continent after the Canadian Shield, the Great Plains stretch from the Gulf of Mexico to the Arctic Ocean. Glacial Lake Agassiz covered the area following the last ice age and its receding waters deposited the gray, mostly Class 2 and 3, soils that overlie the limestone shale bedrock and account for the regions high agricultural productivity.

The area was once entirely covered with boreal forest, with treed vegetation consisting of spruce, balsam, jack pine, tamarack, aspen, poplar and birch. While the area was largely cleared for agriculture over the past century, limited logging operations persist on Crown Lands in the northern reaches of the Plan Area.

The area is located within the Hudson Bay continental watershed and is impacted by waters emanating from major river systems, including the Red, Assiniboine and Saskatchewan. With the exception of the northern portions of the Plan Area, drainage improvements conducted over a century of land clearing have largely eliminated the marshes and wetlands that covered much of the area prior to European settlement. Nonetheless, wetlands remain a vitally important component of the area's physiography and provide valuable wildlife habitat as well as the extensive bogs that supply the expanding peat industry.

The extensive network of municipal and provincial drains connect to the major local watershed, the Icelandic River and Washow Creek watershed. According to the Icelandic River and Washow Bay Creek Integrated Watershed Management Plan, the watershed drains an area of 2,640 square km (1,000+ square miles). The natural headwaters of the larger of the two waterways, the Icelandic River, originate to the west of the hamlet of Morweena and the river meanders over a distance of 30+ miles to its Lake Winnipeg outlet northeast of Riverton. Long stretches of the river have been engineered to improve flow, by straightening, widening and diking the channel.

The Interlake Plain climate is characteristically harsh given its mid-continent location and susceptibility to the southern flow of the Arctic air mass, but is moderated to some degree by its location between lakes Manitoba and Winnipeg. The mean annual temperature is about 1°C, and the mean seasonal temperature differences range from approximately 15.5°C in the summer to approximately -14.5°C in the winter. According to the Integrated Watershed Management Plan, the watershed receives precipitation levels of about 500 mm (19.7 inches) per year, which is higher than the average participation across the entire Boreal Plains Ecosystem of 450 mm (17.7 inches).

2.2 DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

The following section provides a demographic profile snapshot of the Plan Area with data from Statistics Canada:

- Population: In 2016, the total population of the Plan area was 4,610.
- Age Structure: Understanding the population by age structure can help communities understand demographic trends and how to identify any potential issues such as programming for youth, families, and seniors:
 - Age 0-14 years: 1,050;
 - Age 15-24 years: 655;
 - Age 25-54 years: 1,620;
 - Age 55-64 years: 550; and
 - Age 65 years and over: 755.
- There are 2,335 males and 2,330 females.
- Median Age: 38.1 years (male 36.1 years and female 39.9 years).
- Languages: English (69%) and German (19%) were the largest mother tongue languages. Other mother tongue languages included French, Ojibway, Oji-Cree, Cantonese, Chinese, Dutch, Hungarian, Japanese, Maltese, Polish, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, and Ukrainian.

2.3 ECONOMIC PROFILE

When discussing the economy with people from the Plan area, you quickly learn that the people in this area are very industrious and enable the economy to be more diverse and robust than would typically be found in a rural community of this size and nature. From these conversations, the authors learned that the overall economy is led by the agriculture sector and is reinforced by manufacturing, fishing, forestry, and mining (peat) industries. In addition to these industries, health care, recreational tourism and retail businesses support the area's economy. This learning was supported by the Regional Economic Analysis Process (REAP) Report that was completed in 2015, for the Town of Arborg and the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton.

The REAP Report is intended to provide basic information about the economy of a region in order to inform the strategic economic development initiatives of regional stakeholders and help identify unique regional strengths and potential competitive advantages. The REAP Report states that the strength and diversity of jobs can be analyzed by dividing industries into three sectors: the Primary Sector (industries that extract and produce raw materials i.e., Agriculture), the Secondary Sector (industries that change raw materials into goods i.e., Manufacturing) and the Tertiary Sector (industries that provide goods and services to business and consumers i.e., retail and healthcare). The Report found that over half of the region's 2,593 jobs are within four industries and cover the three sectors: Agriculture (478), Healthcare (379), Retail (337) and Manufacturing (232). The diversity of the economy is a strength of the area and, according to the REAP Report, having jobs in the primary and secondary sectors help to develop a sound economic base and spur on job creation in the tertiary sector, which appears to be happening in the region.

Additional highlights from the REAP Report include:

DEMOGRAPHICS

- Population has grown steadily since 1991, with only a small decline from 2001 to 2006.
- The young working age and senior populations are growing in this region, although youth population continues to decline.
- This region tends to have lower levels of university education than the province on average, although it has a higher percentage of people with apprenticeship or trades training.
- Incomes are rising in the highest three income levels, although there is a higher proportion of low income households than the provincial average.

JOBS AND LABOUR

- The industry sectors that employ the most people in the region are Agriculture (478 jobs), Healthcare (379 jobs), Retail (337 jobs), Manufacturing (232 jobs), other services (173 jobs) and Construction (171 jobs).
- Healthcare; Agriculture; Other services; Construction and Professional, scientific and technical have seen the largest job gains in the region, although 12 of the 20 industry sectors have shown job increases from 2006 to 2014.
- The largest job losses occurred in Wholesale; Manufacturing and Mining, followed by Transportation.

INDUSTRY STRENGTHS

- The industry sectors that have the most comparative advantages in the region and which likely are competitive advantages for the region include Agriculture, Healthcare, Retail and Construction.
- Other growing/emerging sectors include: Finance and insurance and Education.
- Manufacturing and Wholesale are mature industries that have declined in the number of jobs but are still very important to the region and strong relative to other industries.

3 SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability and related terms have been defined in many different ways. The most well-known definition related to sustainability came from the United Nations document titled *Our Common Future*, also known as the Brundtland Report. The Brundtland Report defined sustainable development as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Over time, the initial concept of this definition has been applied to and/or integrated with other sustainability related definitions, such as the definition of a sustainable community. A sustainable community has been defined as continually adjusting to meet the social and economic needs of its residents while preserving the environment's ability to support it. Furthermore, and similar to sustainable development, a sustainable community uses its resources to meet current needs while ensuring that adequate resources are available for future generations. A sustainable community seeks a better quality of life for all residents and decision-making stems from a rich civic life and shared information among community members.

Creating "sustainable" communities and regions takes concerted and integrated effort across what are typically regarded as the three major components or "pillars" of sustainability: social, economic and environmental. Since no two communities or regions are completely alike, the present challenge lies in creating a Sustainable Community Action Plan that addresses the sustainability challenges faced by both the Arborg and Bifrost-Riverton municipalities. The sustainability challenges can be common to both partners or unique to one or the other, depending upon the situation. This is especially true where, as is the current case, the Plan Area includes urban and rural settlement patterns presenting a wide range of land uses, development constraints, infrastructure priorities and environmental impacts associated with both types of human settlement.

When applied to urban and rural development, community sustainability may touch on a variety of themes and considerations that almost always overlap the major sustainability components.

Under the Social pillar, some common themes include:

- Resident health and well-being (i.e., "quality-of-life");
- Health care, education, child care, housing, recreation, and mobility;
- Community heritage, spirit and identity (i.e., "Sense of Place");
- Feeling of belonging, of accountability and responsibility to other community members;
- Community engagement in the social and cultural realms;
- Governance and inter-municipal cooperation; and
- Services to newcomers, families, seniors and the disadvantaged or vulnerable.

Under the Economic pillar, themes and considerations can include:

- Economic development (agriculture, industry, tourism, logging, peat, fishing);
- Business development and support, marketing and promotion;
- Retail and service commercial;
- Labour market development and job training;
- Roads and transportation;
- Sewer, water and land drainage services;
- Hydro, gas, phone and internet; and
- Housing choice and affordability.

Under the Environmental pillar, themes and considerations can include:

- Water management, flood control and land use management;
- Health and management of waterways, wetlands, forests, sensitive lands, and biodiversity;
- Water quality, surface and sub-surface;
- Air quality;
- Climate change adaptation and mitigation; infrastructure vulnerability and resilience;
- Solid waste disposal and recycling; and
- Alternative energy, energy conservation, emission reductions, building retrofits and vehicle conversions.

Where relevant or applicable, the Plan addresses issues related to the above sustainability themes and considerations in terms of where progress is being made, and where there is room for improvement.

4 PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Meaningful public engagement was essential for the development of the Plan and for it to be successfully implemented. Public engagement is also essential because it gives everyone an opportunity to be involved in the outcome of the Plan and this inclusiveness builds a sense of ownership and responsibility that can strengthen the accountability of implementing the Plan. This Plan is a result of meaningful engagement that was received through thoughtful and generous input from the community, elected officials, and community leaders who participated in a variety of public engagement activities.

4.1 COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

Throughout the development of the Plan, input was provided by a diverse group of participants, which included members of the general public, youth, seniors, elected officials, business owners, service providers, and community groups. Participants shared input through a number of opportunities, which included three focus group meetings, a workshop with each municipal council, two public workshops, three open houses, a youth survey, a senior's activity, and an online survey. The following provides a brief overview of the engagement activities.

FOCUS GROUPS AND COUNCIL WORKSHOPS

The intent of the focus groups and council workshops was to meet with elected officials and invited residents representing a cross-section of the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton, Village of Riverton and Town of Arborg communities. The Focus Groups and Council Workshops occurred early in the planning process and enabled the project team to learn firsthand the local concerns, issues and aspirations of the community. The open discussion also provided an opportunity for everyone in the room to hear from each other. The information from the meetings was used as a basis for identifying issues that the Plan can address within the social, economic and environmental framework of the Plan.

The focus groups began with introductions and a presentation on the project background and intent of the Plan (**Appendix A**) followed by round-table exercises and group discussions (**Appendix B**). The events focused on the identification and cursory examination of the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats affecting the social, economic, and environmental aspects of the Arborg and Bifrost-Riverton communities. The council workshops followed a similar format but expanded the discussion to include governance issues under the following broad headings: Political/Jurisdictional, Legal/Regulatory, and Technology/Infrastructure. Participants were also encouraged to mark-up maps of the Arborg and Riverton communities and Bifrost-Riverton municipality with any key regional features or development opportunities and constraints identified over the course of the discussions.

PUBLIC WORKSHOPS AND OPEN HOUSES

Public workshops and open houses were held in the Town of Arborg and Village of Riverton at both the commencement of the Plan and prior to the completion of the Plan. The events provided the community

residents and interested persons an opportunity to voice their needs, desires and goals, speak with project team members, and provide their input into the Plan. The events were planned concurrently on the same day to accommodate those who were interested in participating in a workshop format or a drop-in format. The events were advertised in the local newspaper (The Interlake Enterprise and The Interlake Spectator) (**Appendix C**) and on the Town of Arborg and Village of Riverton websites. The format of the workshop included a 20-minute presentation followed by a question and answer period. The open house was a drop-in format with presentation storyboards (**Appendix D**) displaying text and graphics on the project background and Plan area, the purpose and benefits of a sustainable community action plan, and the project timeline. The region's strengths, opportunities, weaknesses and threats which emerged from the focus groups and council workshop were also presented. Workshop and open house attendees were asked, through a questionnaire (**Appendix E**), to share their ideas for how the region can work towards sustainability. Following the open house, the presentation materials and questionnaire were posted online for two weeks. This provided an opportunity for those who could not attend the workshop or open house the opportunity to review the material and provide their input online.

SENIOR AND YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

Seniors and youth are two segments of society that have a lot to offer in terms of their knowledge of the past and their hope for the future, yet may not be inclined to attend a community meeting. Through targeted public engagement techniques, members of the planning team sought out the opinions of seniors and youth to ensure that their vision and ideas for sustainability were reflected in the Plan. Project team members visited with seniors in Arborg and in Riverton. Casual conversations about the region's assets and what should be strengthened or enhanced helped reveal local assets, issues, and priorities.

A questionnaire (**Appendix F**) was developed to help engage youth in the planning process. The questionnaire asked youth to describe what they like or don't like about living in the Arborg Bifrost-Riverton region, how the region can be improved, and how the region can become a better to place. The questionnaire was distributed to youth at Arborg Collegiate and Riverton Collegiate. The responses received were extremely informative of how youth of the region view their community.

4.2 COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT KEY THEMES

The main themes that emerged from the public and stakeholder engagement process were grouped, in no particular order, under the following headings:

- Housing (availability, choice, affordability);
- Jobs and the Economy (industries and manufacturing, agriculture, fishing, tourism, business opportunities);
- Community Services and Facilities (recreation, health care, social services);
- Environment (land drainage, lake, river and groundwater quality);
- Municipal Infrastructure and Roads (support and readiness for development);
- Education, Employment and Training; and
- Youth (current opportunities and future education and employment).

5 SUSTAINABILITY VISION, GOALS, AND STRATEGIES

The Arborg Bifrost-Riverton Community Sustainability Action Plan is led by the vision, goals, and supporting strategies. Each of which has been developed by compiling, summarizing and analyzing all of the input gathered during the public and stakeholder engagement process and background information.

5.1 VISION STATEMENT

The Arborg Bifrost-Riverton Region is recognized as a high performing and self-reliant region that strives to include sustainable principles (social, economic, and environmental) into its decision-making process, actions, and way of life.

5.2 SUSTAINABILITY GOALS, STRATEGIES, AND ACTIONS

S O C I A L S U S T A I N A B I L I T Y

Social sustainability can be defined as a community's ability to provide a high quality of life, meeting the needs of community members while supporting the ability of future generations to maintain a healthy community. Housing, education, health care, recreation services and facilities, governance, and accessibility all contribute to social sustainability.

To enhance social sustainability, opportunities exist to strengthen the social fabric of the region. The community assets inventory and comments from the public engagement events highlight that actions are required to: increase the diversity in the housing stock; commit to maintaining high quality community services and facilities; retain and support youth; sustain the region's legacy of community service and volunteerism; enable older adults to "age-in-place"; increase the population's educational attainment; enable people of all ages and abilities to move around the community; and to work as a region. By implementing actions which enhance the region's social sustainability, resiliency is instilled.

Table 5-1 Social Sustainability Goals, Strategies, and Actions

GOAL: TO STRENGTHEN THE SOCIAL FABRIC OF THE REGION					
STRATEGY: PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF DIVERSE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPTIONS					
Actions	Responsibility	Timeframe			Implementation Tool
		Short	Medium	Long	
Develop a housing strategy, which addresses affordability and encourages a variety of housing types, including rental.	Both Municipalities	●			Planning
Promote, and update as necessary, the existing development incentive program as a way to encourage developers to build the type of development that is in need at any given time. Currently there is a need for all types of housing, including senior housing, starter homes for families and young adults, and rentals.	Both Municipalities	●	●	●	Incentive
Foster relationships between the Municipalities and the development community and work with them to find opportunities that meet the needs of the municipality and development community.	ABCDC	●			Partnership
Explore opportunities for alternative types of housing such as tiny/mini homes and temporary housing, such as home shares or billeting.	Both Municipalities	●			Planning
STRATEGY: ENSURE THAT COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF FAMILIES AND YOUTH					
Actions	Responsibility	Timeframe			Implementation Tool
		Short	Medium	Long	
Conduct an annual survey for community services, facilities and programming to help identify gaps or opportunities for improvement.	Both Municipalities	●	●	●	Planning

STRATEGY: ENSURE THAT COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF FAMILIES AND YOUTH					
Actions	Responsibility	Timeframe			Implementation Tool
		Short	Medium	Long	
Ensure that volunteers are celebrated by hosting gratitude dinners and other events for active volunteers.	Both Municipalities	●	●	●	Leadership
Ensure recreational amenities are maintained in order to attract and retain new people to the community.	Both Municipalities	●	●	●	Planning
Work with local employers to sponsor replacing or restoring outdated or neglected facilities. This can benefit employers by creating a family friendly community and also retain youth in the community who could be future employees.	Both Municipalities		●		Partnership
Identify the community services and facilities that could not be possible without volunteers and post regular notices of volunteer opportunities along with the benefit of volunteering.	Both Municipalities	●	●		Planning Leadership
Create opportunities for youth to have challenges and opportunities that enable them to grow, obtain respect and be an important contributor to the overall well-being of the community.	Both Municipalities & ABCDC		●		Leadership Partnership
Foster partnerships with entrepreneurs and developers to fill the gaps in the community's retail needs.	ABCDC & Chamber of Commerce		●	●	Partnership
Determine the demand for health care professionals and understand how current health care needs are being met.	Both Municipalities & ABCDC	●	●		Planning

STRATEGY: ENSURE THAT COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF FAMILIES AND YOUTH					
Actions	Responsibility	Timeframe			Implementation Tool
		Short	Medium	Long	
Explore opportunities to attract health care professionals. This may include targeting individuals who may be interested and willing to establish a practice in the region, such as recent graduates, health care professionals approaching retirement, or newcomers.	Both Municipalities & ABCDC	●	●		Leadership
Encourage active transportation connections and small parks in new developments.	Both Municipalities	●			Planning
STRATEGY: INVEST IN REGIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING INITIATIVES					
Actions	Responsibility	Timeframe			Implementation Tool
		Short	Medium	Long	
Invest in and support community agencies and/or service providers to offer continuing education and English as an Additional Language (EAL) courses.	Both Municipalities & ABCDC		●	●	Capital Budget
Reinforce the relationship between regional schools and post-secondary institutions to ensure youth are aware of local post-secondary education options.	School Division	●	●		Partnership Leadership
Explore options with post-secondary institutions to increase local course and program offerings. This may include working with employers to identify desired skills and training.	ABCDC, School Division, and Employers	●			Leadership Partnership

STRATEGY: INVEST IN REGIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING INITIATIVES					
Actions	Responsibility	Timeframe			Implementation Tool
		Short	Medium	Long	
Provide an opportunity for youth to learn about starting a business in the school curriculum.	School Division	●			Leadership
Develop a regional training centre by working with local businesses, post-secondary institutions, and training providers to help identify and meet training needs for the region.	ABCDC		●		Partnership Leadership
STRATEGY: EMBRACE THE PRINCIPLES OF UNIVERSAL DESIGN					
Actions	Responsibility	Timeframe			Implementation Tool
		Short	Medium	Long	
Complete an inventory of accessibility barriers in the community and develop an action plan to remove or mitigate the barriers.	Both Municipalities		●	●	Planning
Ensure that all areas of a facility or building are accessible.	Both Municipalities	●			Planning
Ensure that multiple transportation choices are offered (shuttles, public transit, safe pedestrian access, accessible trails and pathways).	Both Municipalities		●	●	Planning
Ensure that all entrances, paths and sidewalks that are in a public right-of-way are firm, level and can accommodate persons using mobility aids.	Both Municipalities	●			Planning
Designate accessible parking that has direct access to main entrances.	Both Municipalities	●			Planning
Design public spaces and parks with universal accessibility in mind.	Both Municipalities	●	●	●	Planning

STRATEGY: EMBRACE THE PRINCIPLES OF UNIVERSAL DESIGN					
Actions	Responsibility	Timeframe			Implementation Tool
		Short	Medium	Long	
Promote public awareness of accessibility through signage and public notices encouraging community residents to contribute to universal accessibility.	Both Municipalities	●	●		Leadership Planning
STRATEGY: PARTNER FOR SUCCESS					
Actions	Responsibility	Timeframe			Implementation Tool
		Short	Medium	Long	
Embrace collaborative efforts between the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton and Town of Arborg for rural economic development, growth, and investment. This may require the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton and Town of Arborg to collectively decide which facilities and/or services should be shared and enhanced, re-purposed or closed.	Both Municipalities & ABCDC		●	●	Partnership
Establish a mutually beneficial relationship with Peguis First Nation and Fisher River Cree Nation.	Both Municipalities & ABCDC	●	●		Partnership
Develop a cohesive approach for planning decisions, municipal investments, and communications.	Both Municipalities	●	●		Partnership
Encourage the review and update of the EIPD Development Plan.	Both Municipalities, ABCDC, EIPD	●			Planning
Develop a secondary plan for each of Arborg, Riverton, and Bifrost-Riverton to provide guidance and consistency for future land use decisions.	Both Municipalities, ABCDC, EIPD	●	●		Planning
Provide opportunities for more face-to-face interactions between Council members and constituents.	Both Municipalities	●			Leadership

ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

A local economy that contributes to a strong community through diverse economic activities and responsible economic growth is critical for supporting a stable economy over the long term. Greater diversity in the local economy provides a degree of resiliency from economic downturns, changing legislation, and/or technological progress. In addition, a diverse economy attracts a diverse mix of residents, contributing to the region's social sustainability.

Maintaining a diverse and prosperous economy requires strategic actions, investments, and participation from all sectors of the community. The community assets inventory and comments from the public engagement events highlight that actions are required to: increase economic diversity; enhance the capacity of the local workforce; and provide long-term sustainable regional infrastructure. By implementing actions which absorb economic disturbances while continue to support the region, economic sustainability can be achieved.

Table 5-2 Economic Sustainability Goals, Strategies, and Actions

GOAL: TO MAINTAIN A DIVERSE AND PROSPEROUS ECONOMY					
STRATEGY: STIMULATE REGIONAL ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION					
Actions	Responsibility	Timeframe			Implementation Tool
		Short	Medium	Long	
Work with regional employers to identify what infrastructure investments are required to retain and attract employers. Explore alternative funding mechanisms, such as a matching program between manufacturers and the municipality and prioritize investments to maximize benefits.	ABCDC	●	●		Partnership Incentive
Preserve agricultural land to support both small-scale and large-scale farming. Support local food producers, and facilitate the production and distribution of locally produced food through farmer's markets and cooperative food buying programs.	Both Municipalities	●	●		Planning
Support persons and industries engaged in commercial and recreational fishing.	Both Municipalities	●	●		Leadership Partnership

STRATEGY: STIMULATE REGIONAL ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION					
Actions	Responsibility	Timeframe			Implementation Tool
		Short	Medium	Long	
Work with Entrepreneurship Manitoba to support entrepreneurs and foster growth in small businesses.	Both Municipalities		●		Partnership
Explore opportunities to encourage and support cottage lot development.	Both Municipalities, ABCDC, & EIPD	●	●	●	Planning
Invest in recreational tourism and promote it.	ABCDC		●		Capital Budget
Promote the region as an age-friendly community.	Both Municipalities & ABCDC	●	●		Leadership
Market the region towards attracting highly trained professionals in an effort to diversify the economy and labour pool.	ABCDC	●	●		Leadership
Continue to develop the Arborg-Bifrost Community Development Corporation and Community Futures programs.	Both Municipalities & ABCDC	●			Leadership Capital Budget

STRATEGY: ENHANCE THE CAPACITY OF THE LOCAL WORKFORCE					
Actions	Responsibility	Timeframe			Implementation Tool
		Short	Medium	Long	
Explore options with post-secondary institutions to increase local course and program offerings. This may include working with employers to identify desired skills and training.	School Division	●	●		Partnership
Establish a regional job posting website.	ABCDC	●			Leadership
Provide financial incentives for local businesses and entrepreneurs to offer internship programs.	Both Municipalities & ABCDC	●	●		Incentive
Partner with local high schools to educate students on regional employment and training opportunities. This may include inviting community members to share their work experience, hosting an annual career fair, or inviting post-secondary institutions to discuss the potential for future small business development with interested students.	ABCDC & School Division	●			Partnership
Assist regional employers with employee recruitment. This may include establishing and managing a list of job seekers and their competencies, as well as communicating job offers.	ABCDC	●	●		Leadership Partnership

STRATEGY: INVEST IN LOCAL AND REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE					
Actions	Responsibility	Timeframe			Implementation Tool
		Short	Medium	Long	
Secure Provincial support and funding to pave PR 326 from the Town of Arborg to the Okno/Vidir Area.	Both Municipalities & ABCDC	●	●		Partnership Leadership
Study the opportunity for a new bridge over the Icelandic River to connect PR 326 to PTH 68.	Municipality of Arborg & ABCDC		●	●	Planning
Invest in municipal infrastructure upgrades recommended in the municipal servicing assessment to accommodate population growth.	Both Municipalities & ABCDC	●	●		Capital Budget
Continue supporting the efforts of the Bifrost Agricultural Sustainability Initiative Cooperative (BASIC) to ensure a viable agricultural economy.	Both Municipalities & ABCDC	●	●		Leadership Partnership Capital Budget
Limit the expansion of services and infrastructure to defined service areas or containment boundaries.	Both Municipalities & EIPD	●			Planning
Explore opportunities to improve internet and cellular service.	ABCDC		●		Leadership
Study cost benefit of improving PR 234 and 326 for peat moss industry, cottages, and island communities.	ABCDC		●		Planning Capital Budget

ENVIRONMENT

Taking action to minimize negative impacts on natural resources and environmental degradation is critical to support environmental sustainability. A healthy environment supports a region's social and economic sustainability. Environmental sustainability can be demonstrated by embracing environmental stewardship, ensuring responsible use and protection of the natural environment.

To enhance environmental sustainability, opportunities exist to embrace environmental stewardship. The community assets inventory and comments from the public engagement events highlight that actions are required to: sustain biological systems through responsible use and protection; support an integrated approach towards watershed management planning; minimize development impacts on natural areas; and plan for climate resiliency.

Table 5-3 Environmental Sustainability Goals, Strategies, and Actions

GOAL: EMBRACE RESPONSIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP					
STRATEGY: EMBRACE RESPONSIBLE USE AND PROTECTION OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT					
Actions	Responsibility	Timeframe			Implementation Tool
		Short	Medium	Long	
Work with Manitoba Sustainable Development to ensure that areas of land that represent the enduring features found within a natural region are protected.	Both Municipalities & EIPD	●			Partnership Planning
Encourage the preservation and enhancement of natural areas while ensuring public access to valued resources. This may include access to wildlife management areas, or ecological reserves.	Both Municipalities & EIPD	●			Planning
Build on policies in the EIPD Development Plan to provide incentives and/or regulations which support the development of a sustainable built environment. This may include prioritizing infill, redevelopment of existing buildings, conservation subdivisions, and green space.	Both Municipalities & EIPD	●			Planning Incentive

STRATEGY: EMBRACE RESPONSIBLE USE AND PROTECTION OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT					
Actions	Responsibility	Timeframe			Implementation Tool
		Short	Medium	Long	
Continue working with resource networks such as the Lake Friendly Initiative, Eastern Interlake Conservation District and Lake Winnipeg Foundation to support initiatives related to the health of the Lake Winnipeg Watershed.	Both Municipalities & EIPD	●			Partnership
STRATEGY: SUPPORT AN INTEGRATED AND SUSTAINABLE APPROACH TO DRAINAGE, FLOODING AND WATER MANAGEMENT					
Actions	Responsibility	Timeframe			Implementation Tool
		Short	Medium	Long	
Work with Manitoba Agriculture, to develop a drainage management plan for the region.	Both Municipalities & ABCDC	●	●		Planning Partnership
Integrate stormwater management into municipal planning processes. Integrated stormwater management approaches emphasize protecting the natural environment, while accommodating land development and population growth.	Both Municipalities	●	●		Planning
Continue to support BASIC in their endeavours for a sustainable approach to drainage.	Both Municipalities & ABCDC	●			Partnership
Ensure drains and dikes are regularly inspected and maintained, creeks and watercourses are maintained.	Both Municipalities	●			Leadership
Address issues related to reducing the amount of phosphorus in effluent.	Both Municipalities	●	●		Planning Leadership

STRATEGY: SUPPORT AN INTEGRATED AND SUSTAINABLE APPROACH TO DRAINAGE, FLOODING AND WATER MANAGEMENT					
Actions	Responsibility	Timeframe			Implementation Tool
		Short	Medium	Long	
Ensure that the drinking water aquifers are protected from surficial pollution.	Both Municipalities	●	●	●	Planning Leadership
Implement programs that reduce nutrients and pollutants from entering waterways.	Both Municipalities	●	●		Leadership
STRATEGY: DIRECT INFRASTRUCTURE TO EXISTING AREAS TO PRESERVE NATURAL AND AGRICULTURAL AREAS					
Actions	Responsibility	Timeframe			Implementation Tool
		Short	Medium	Long	
Encourage urban growth to occur within existing town and village boundaries.	Both Municipalities & EIPD	●			Planning
Extend infrastructure in a contiguous manner.	Both Municipalities & EIPD	●			Planning
Encourage design and engineering practices that enhance the natural environment such as bioswales and native landscaping.	Both Municipalities & EIPD	●	●		Planning
STRATEGY: PLAN FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCY					
Actions	Responsibility	Timeframe			Implementation Tool
		Short	Medium	Long	
Ensure that the agricultural sector is prepared for climate change.	Both Municipalities & ABCDC	●	●	●	Planning
Ensure that key infrastructure is built in a resilient way such as in a location that can withstand extreme weather events, such as flooding, now and in the future.	Both Municipalities & EIPD	●	●	●	Planning

Appendix A

FOCUS GROUP PRESENTATION

ARBORG BIFROST-RIVERTON SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

FOCUS GROUP

Agenda

- Introductions
- Background Presentation
- Engagement Activity



Outline

- Project Background
- Sustainable Community Action Plans
 - About
 - Purpose
 - Benefits
- Project Timeline
- Questions



Project Background

- The Arborg-Bifrost Community Development Corporation (ABCDC) together with the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton and the Town of Arborg have come together to undertake a Sustainable Community Action Plan and have engaged WSP | MMM Group to lead the planning process.
- With the recent amalgamation, preparing a Sustainable Community Action Plan provides an opportunity for establishing a shared vision for the municipal partners and for working together in areas of common interest.
- The ultimate goal is to help Arborg & Bifrost-Riverton strengthen its position as one of the most self-reliant, progressive, and economically stable regions of the province.

Project Background

- This plan will build on the goals of the Eastern Interlake Planning District Development Plan and will contribute to the development of a cohesive approach to coordinating the different initiatives, plans, programs and activities currently underway in the region.
- The plan is funded in part by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Green Municipal Fund.

About

- A Sustainable Community Action Plan is a long term plan developed in order to establish direction for future sustainable practices aimed at enhancing the quality-of-life and well-being of current and future generations.
- The plan is based on a model of sustainability and integrated community planning. Sustainability objectives and existing plans and initiatives are integrated into a common vision with goals and actions aimed at its successful implementation.
- The plan will reflect the region's ideas and priorities and can be used to guide short, medium, and long-term decision making.



Purpose

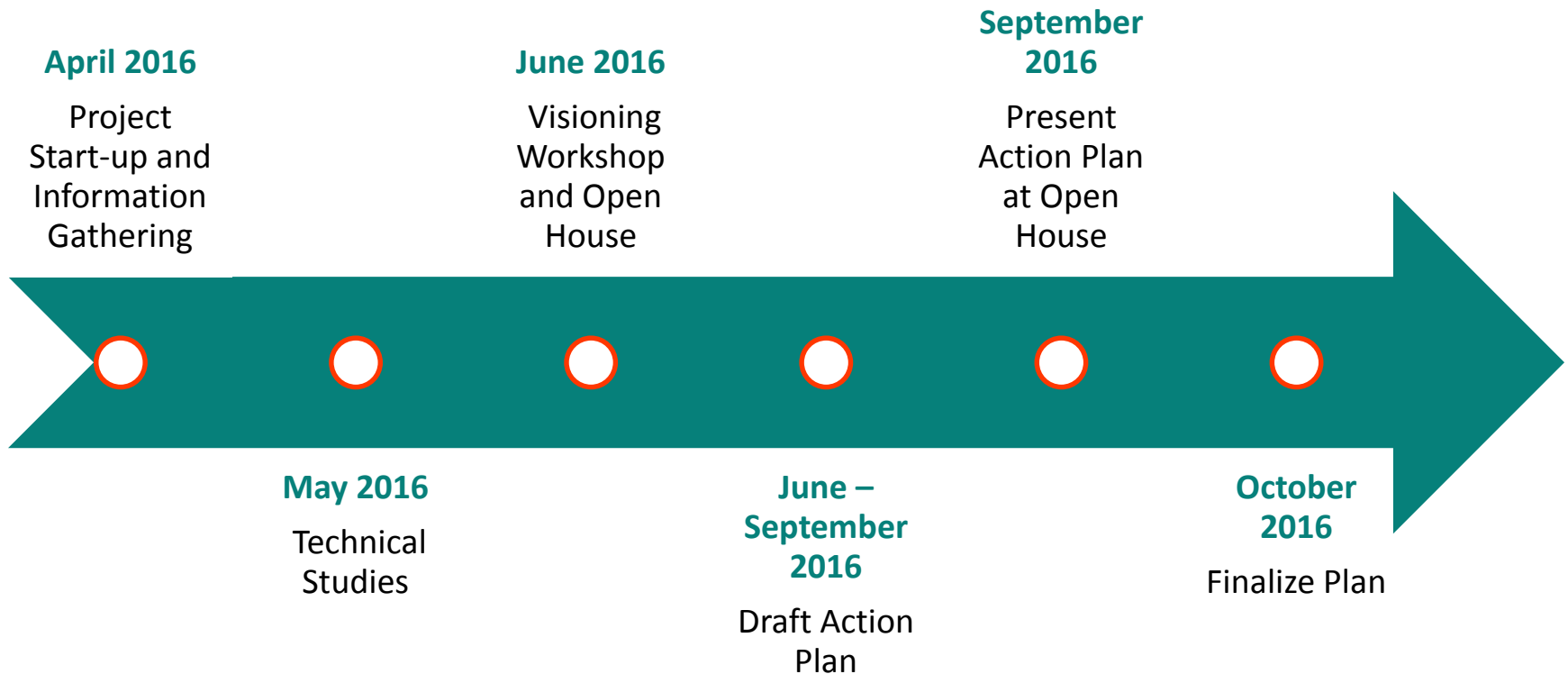
- The purpose of the Bifrost-Riverton Arborg Sustainable Community Action Plan is to evolve a coordinated approach to sustainable growth and development across the region.
- This will be accomplished by:
 - Actively seeking the opinion and involvement of interested and/or affected individuals in order to gather information, formulate planning policy, and create a sense of pride and ownership.
 - Establishing a clear vision for the sustainable future of the region.
 - Coordinating existing strategies, initiatives and actions, to provide a harmonized approach to growth and development.
 - Identifying strategies, initiatives, and actions which a community can implement in moving towards a more sustainable way of growing.
 - Identifying targets for measuring progress towards achieving specific goals and objectives within the sustainability areas.

Benefits

A Sustainable Community Action Plan comprehensively addresses:

- Growth management
- Self-sustainability
- Preservation of agricultural lands and natural areas
- Opportunities for economic resiliency
- Servicing and infrastructure cost savings
- Health and well-being of residents
- ...and more

Timeline



Focus Group Format

- As a group, we will identify the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) of the following areas:
 - Social
 - Economic
 - Environment
 - General / Others
- Mapping Exercise

Social

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats

Economic

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats

Environmental

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats

Others?

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats

Questions?



Thank You

Thank you for your participation.

Your input will be used to assist in the development of the Sustainable Community Action Plan

To receive project updates and invitations to future engagement events, please contact:

Ross Mitchell, 204-470-4802, ross.mitchell@wspgroup.com,
or

Brock Feenstra, 204-943-3178, feenstrab@mmm.ca



Appendix B

FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS

For Discussion Notes, please refer to the Critical Issues Brief

Appendix C

PUBLIC WORKSHOP & OPEN HOUSE ADVERTISEMENT

YOUR COMMUNITY, YOUR FUTURE!

Arborg Bifrost-Riverton Sustainable Community Action Plan

The Arborg-Bifrost Community Development Corporation (ABCDC) together with the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton and the Town of Arborg have come together to create a Sustainable Community Action Plan. The project is just getting started and we would like you to be involved.

Join us at **Community Visioning Workshops** in the Village of Riverton or Town of Arborg in order to share your dreams and aspirations for a Sustainable Community and help identify the goals and actions needed to bring your vision to life. If you can't commit to attending one of the workshops, plan to stop by the concurrent **Public Open Houses** to view information about the project, speak to a project planner, and fill out a questionnaire.

Please **RSVP** to Brock Feenstra by Monday, June 27, 2016 at feenstrab@mmm.ca or 204-943-3178 if you would like to be involved in one of the community visioning workshops.



Community Visioning Workshops & Public Open Houses

JUNE 29, 2016

Plan to attend one of the following:

RIVERTON

Riverton Fellowship Circle
50 William Avenue, Riverton, MB

Community Visioning Workshop:
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Public Open House:
3:00 pm – 8:30 pm

..... OR

ARBORG

Arborg Bifrost Community Centre
409 Recreation Centre, Arborg, MB

Community Visioning Workshop:
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Public Open House:
3:00 pm – 8:30 pm

COME SHARE YOUR IDEAS!

Appendix D

OPEN HOUSE STORYBOARDS

WELCOME

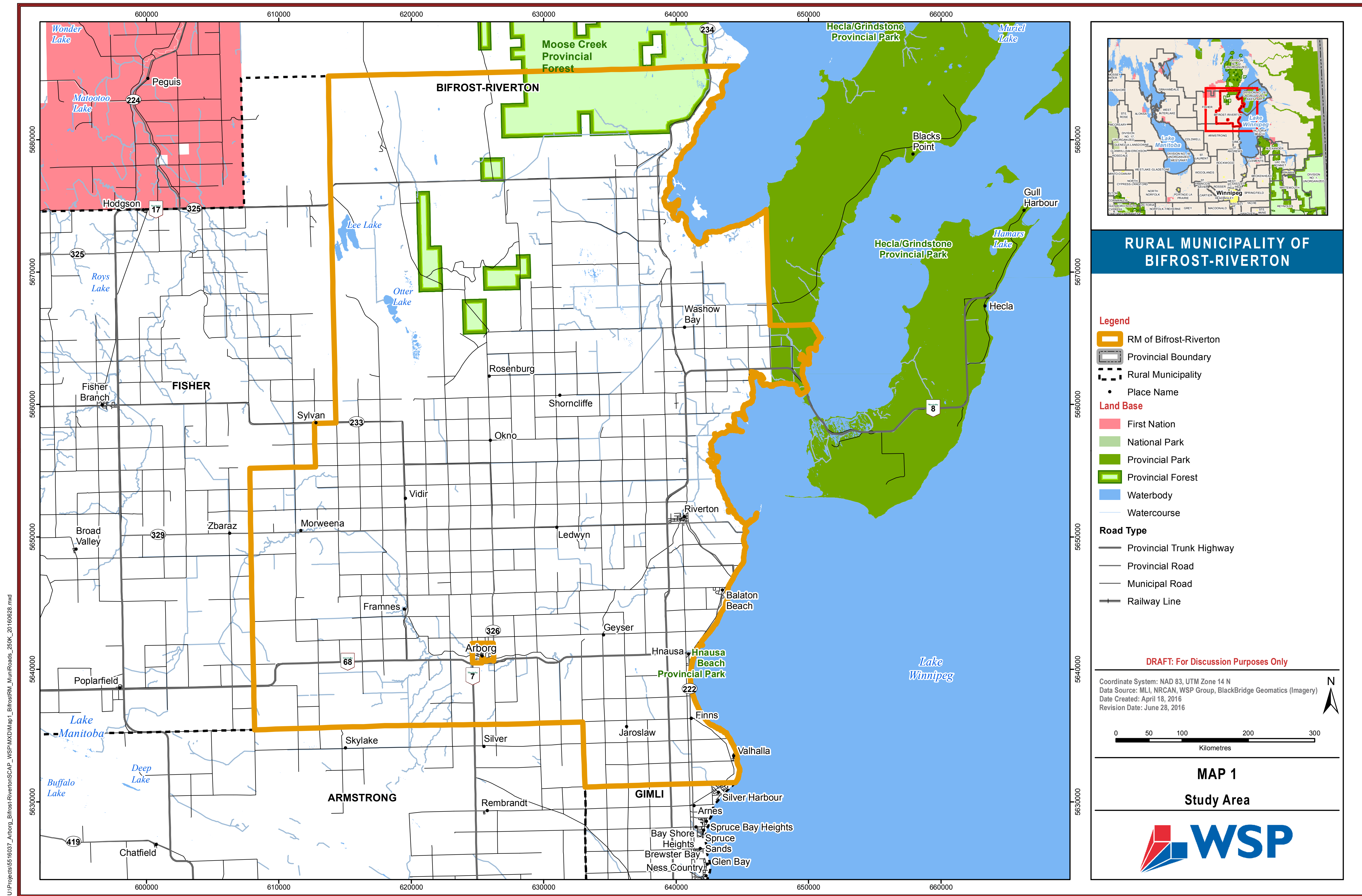
ARBORG BIFROST-RIVERTON SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

BOARDS OUTLINE

- 1 Study Area
- 2 Project Background
- 3 About
- 4 Purpose
- 5 Benefits
- 6 Timeline
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10 What We Heard
- 11 Contact Information

- » Please use the sticky notes to post comments directly on the presentation boards.
- » Please complete and submit a comment sheet prior to leaving.

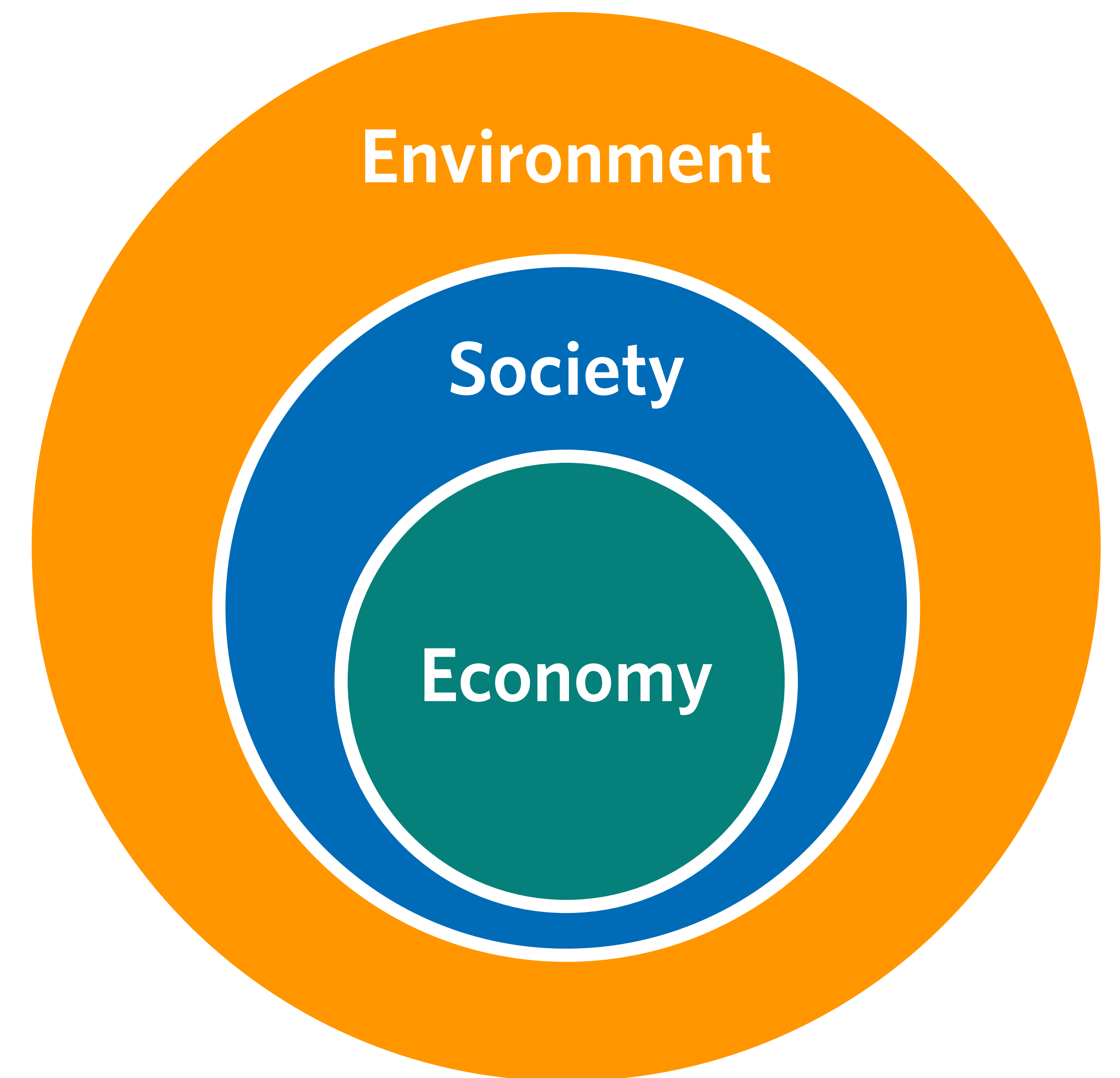
STUDY AREA



U:\Projects\5516037_Arborg_Bifrost-Riverton\SCAP_WSP\Map1\Map1_BifrostRM_MainRoads_280K_20160628.mxd

- » The Arborg-Bifrost Community Development Corporation (ABCDC) together with the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton and the Town of Arborg have come together to create a Sustainable Community Action Plan and have engaged WSP|MMM Group to lead the planning process.
- » With the recent amalgamation, preparing a Sustainable Community Action Plan provides an opportunity for establishing a shared vision for the municipal partners and for working together in areas of common interest.
- » The ultimate goal is to help Arborg Bifrost-Riverton strengthen its position as one of the most self-reliant, progressive, and economically stable regions of the province.
- » This plan will contribute to the development of a cohesive approach to coordinating the different initiatives, plans, programs and activities currently underway in the region.
- » The plan is funded in part by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Green Municipal Fund.

- » A Sustainable Community Action Plan is a long term plan developed in order to establish direction for future sustainable practices aimed at enhancing the quality-of-life and well-being of current and future generations.
- » The plan is based on a model of sustainability and integrated community planning. Sustainability objectives and existing plans and initiatives are integrated into a common vision with goals and actions aimed at its successful implementation.
- » The plan will reflect the region's ideas and priorities and can be used to guide short, medium, and long-term decision making.



- » The purpose of the Arborg Bifrost-Riverton Sustainable Community Action Plan is to evolve a coordinated approach to sustainable growth and development across the region.
- » This will be accomplished by:
 - Actively seeking the opinion and involvement of interested and/or affected individuals in order to gather information, formulate planning policy, and create a sense of pride and ownership.
 - Establishing a clear vision for the sustainable future of the region.
 - Coordinating existing strategies, initiatives and actions, to provide a harmonized approach to growth and development.
 - Identifying strategies, initiatives, and actions which a community can implement in moving towards a more sustainable way of growing.
 - Identifying targets for measuring progress towards achieving specific goals and objectives within the sustainability areas.

A Sustainable Community Action Plan addresses:

- » Community cohesion, livability, health and quality-of-life.
- » Housing requirements and improvements to community services and facilities.
- » Growth management (environmentally and fiscally sustainable).
- » Environmental stewardship for the health and enjoyment of future generations.
- » Business development, job creation and training, economic resiliency, and self-sufficiency.
- » Identification of implementation goals, actions, timeframes, responsibilities, and progress metrics.
- » Identification of partnerships and opportunities for coordination and cooperation.
- » And more...



- » Components: socio-cultural aspects of community, quality-of-life, life-style characteristics, variety of services and facilities that support “community” and local society.

Strengths/Opportunities

- » Strong sense of community: shared heritage (arts and culture), community service organizations, volunteer spirit, faith-based communities.
- » Increasing socio-cultural diversity.
- » Community services and facilities in the areas of parks and recreation, health care, and schools.
- » Quality-of-life, good place to raise a family.
- » Communities offer an adequate range of services to support day-to-day living.
- » Anything to add?

Weaknesses/Threats

- » Access to medical practitioners for higher level services, care and treatment.
- » Public transportation.
- » Housing (for all age groups and life cycle stages, tenure types and income levels).
- » Variety of activities for all age groups.
- » Increasing socio-cultural segregation/isolation.
- » Local politics, leadership, direction.
- » Sustaining population growth, retaining youth.
- » Anything to add?

Please use the sticky notes to share your ideas for improving the social sustainability of Arborg Bifrost-Riverton.

- » Components: local economy, business environment, economic development opportunities, regional cooperation and marketing, support for small-business and entrepreneurialism.

Strengths/Opportunities

- » Diverse economy underpinned by agriculture; home-grown industries with global focus.
- » Arborg, regional trade centre; public sector employment; expanding services in support of seniors.
- » Agencies and groups working to support the business community in areas such as worker training, business development, marketing the region, loans to small businesses, and identifying/exploring opportunities for economic development.
- » BASIC; efforts aimed at improving land drainage while diversifying and strengthening agriculture.
- » Natural environment, year-round tourism, cottage development, services to visitors, day-trippers and seasonal residents.
- » Renewable resource development; coarse fish processing; First Nations collaboration/cooperation.
- » Anything to add?

Weaknesses/Threats

- » Lack of housing diversity and affordability.
- » Proximity to Winnipeg, loss of trade, loss of small businesses, on-line shopping.
- » Roads, infrastructure (water), development-ready lands, lack of natural gas to Okno.
- » Retaining and training workers.
- » Spotty cell service and limited high-speed internet.
- » Excess moisture, poor drainage.
- » Anything to add?

Please use the sticky notes to share your ideas for improving the economic sustainability of Arborg Bifrost-Riverton.

- » Components: Sustainable development, conservation and protection of natural environment and ecologically sensitive areas, air and water quality, disposal of solid and septic wastes, recycling, community adaptation to climate change impacts, GHG reduction.

Strengths/Opportunities

- » Abundant natural resources and quality and diversity of the natural environment.
- » Icelandic River and Lake Winnipeg.
- » Opportunities for outdoor recreation and eco-tourism or experiential tourism.
- » Clean air.
- » Impact of climate change vis-à-vis crop diversification.
- » Anything to add?

Weaknesses/Threats

- » Excessive moisture, land drainage and water management.
- » Loss of farmland, wetland preservation/restoration.
- » Icelandic River sedimentation & impact on water conveyance, fishing and navigation.
- » Impacts of runoff on surface water quality.
- » Lake Winnipeg water quality, algae blooms, impact on fishing and tourism.
- » Invasive species like Zebra mussels.
- » Anything to add?

Please use the sticky notes to share your ideas for improving the social sustainability of Arborg Bifrost-Riverton.

On behalf of the project team, thank you for your participation.

Your input will be used to assist in the development of the Sustainable Community Action Plan

To receive project updates and invitations to future engagement events, please contact:
Ross Mitchell, 204-470-4802, ross.mitchell@wspgroup.com, or
Brock Feenstra, 204-943-3178, feenstrab@mmm.ca

Please complete and submit a comment sheet prior to leaving or by submitting it to the Town of Arborg or Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton office.

Appendix E

WORKSHOP AND OPEN HOUSE QUESTIONNAIRE

ARBORG BIFROST-RIVERTON SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN
PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE & COMMUNITY VISIONING WORKSHOP
COMMUNITY VISION & GOAL SETTING QUESTIONNAIRE
JUNE 29, 2016

Introduction: The Arborg Bifrost-Riverton Sustainable Community Action Plan will help guide future growth and community improvement in the Town of Arborg and Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton. By hosting this public open house and visioning workshop, we hope to obtain information and ideas from local residents, landowners, and business owners as to what the region's priorities and ideas are for working towards a more sustainable future in relation to the region's environment, economy and society. The Arborg-Bifrost Community Development Corporation (ABCDC), Town of Arborg, and Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton appreciates the time and effort of all those who participate in this community engagement process.



What is Community Sustainability?

Sustainability is often expressed as meeting the needs of the current generation without compromising the needs of future generations. Municipalities face their own, unique challenges related to community sustainability planning, which involves an exploration and examination of a community's economy, society, and environment. An example of economic sustainability is a community that has a strong economic base and business development opportunities for local job creation. An example of socio-cultural sustainability is a community with adequate community services and facilities, like housing, education, health care and recreation, for its population size and demographic profile, and one that provides its residents with opportunities for community involvement and social interaction. To be environmentally sustainable, a community should take measures to protect and enhance its natural environment for the health and enjoyment of its residents.

Using the sustainability components of economy, society, and environment, the following questions encourages you to think about the kind of community you would like Arborg, Bifrost-Riverton to be in the future, and how community leaders and residents can collaborate in helping to bring that vision to fruition.

COMMUNITY AND STUDY AREA MAPS:

We have provided maps of the Planning Area and the Communities of Arborg and Riverton. Please use the maps and markers provided to identify any issues or to convey your plans and ideas for community improvement.

ARBORG BIFROST-RIVERTON SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN
PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE & COMMUNITY VISIONING WORKSHOP
COMMUNITY VISION & GOAL SETTING QUESTIONNAIRE
JUNE 29, 2016

Q5) Why would people want to live in Arborg Bifrost-Riverton in 2035? What would residents value?
 Attach a “value” to the following Components of Community and add others as you see fit.

Community Component:	Value Attachment		
	Lower	Medium	Higher
More opportunities for country living			
More opportunities for town living			
Serviced land for new housing and businesses			
Public investment in roads and bridges			
Public investment in sewer and water services			
More community involvement in decision making			
Economic diversification & new businesses			
Collaboration with First Nations Communities			
Agricultural diversification			
Job training			
Recreation and leisure opportunities			
Community social events and celebrations			
Opportunities for community volunteerism			
Developing sources of renewable energy			
Water quality			
Solid waste reduction and recycling			
Air quality & reducing Greenhouse Gas emissions			
Transportation service (for people without cars)			
Community resiliency to Climate Change impacts			
Housing variety			
Housing affordability			
Health services			
Natural places & environmentally sensitive spaces			
Surface water management & land drainage			
Recreational services			
Education services			
Tourism			
Celebrations of community culture and heritage			
Did we miss any Community Components?			

ARBORG BIFROST-RIVERTON SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN
PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE & COMMUNITY VISIONING WORKSHOP
COMMUNITY VISION & GOAL SETTING QUESTIONNAIRE
JUNE 29, 2016

How adequate do you feel the following services currently are in Arborg Bifrost-Riverton?

Community Service or Facility:	Level of Service			
	Poor	Adequate	Good	Not Sure
Housing for young people starting out				
Housing for families				
Housing for workers				
Local roads & bridges				
Regional land drainage facilities				
Municipal wastewater service collection/treatment				
Municipal water supply/treatment/distribution				
Land for urban growth & development				
Garbage collection & recycling				
Land for cottage development				
Local retail and commercial services				
Local personal care services				
Facilities for indoor recreation				
Facilities for outdoor recreation				
Facilities for tourists				
Services to newcomers and immigrants				
Health facilities				
Health services				
Facilities and activities/programming for Youth				
Facilities and activities/programming for Families				
Facilities and activities/programming for Seniors				
Public schools				
High schools				
Educational programming/curricula in general				
Adult education and retraining				
Immigrant services and assistance				
Community events and celebrations				
Opportunities for community volunteering				
Community cultural facilities				
Mental health and counselling services for youth				
Mental health and counselling services for families				
Job opportunities for youth				
Did we miss any services or facilities?				

ARBORG BIFROST-RIVERTON SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN
PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE & COMMUNITY VISIONING WORKSHOP
COMMUNITY VISION & GOAL SETTING QUESTIONNAIRE
JUNE 29, 2016

Q9) What are the top five actions that could be taken to achieve the best Arborg Bifrost-Riverton?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO ADD ANY FINAL COMMENTS

Thank You for your participation in the Sustainable Community Action Plan.

Please hand in your questionnaire before leaving.

Appendix F

YOUTH QUESTIONNAIRE

WHAT IS **YOUR** VISION FOR A BETTER, MORE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY?



The Rural Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton and the Town of Arborg have come together to prepare a Sustainable Community Action Plan. This project needs ideas for making your community a better place to live both now and in the future. A Sustainability Plan tries to improve the way people live on the earth and interact with the natural environment that supports us. Here's a great saying to help you understand what sustainability is all about - 'Leave your part of the world better than you found it, take no more from the earth than you need to survive, and try to live in harmony with the natural environment that we share with all living things.'

Your class has been asked to participate in the project by completing a few activities that will help you share your ideas for making Arborg and Bifrost-Riverton a better place to live.

ACTIVITY #1:

What kinds of places are in my community?

Time: 15 minutes

Materials: "What kinds of places are in my community" worksheet; pen/pencil/markers

Instructions: This activity will get you thinking about places in your community and how they make you feel. Each person has a sheet in front of them with descriptive words on it. Think about places in your community that match those descriptions and fill in the worksheet.

Upon completion get one person per word to share their idea with the class.

Prompting Questions: What place in the Bifrost-Riverton Arborg area do you think is beautiful? Do you think the river or park is beautiful? Remember, we are thinking of places within our community. What place in the Bifrost-Riverton Arborg area do you think is fun? Do you have fun at the library or the park? Remember, we are thinking of places within our community.

ACTIVITY #1:

What kinds of places are in my community?

Friendly	Beautiful
Interesting	Fun
Boring	Exciting
Old	Ugly
Safe	Dangerous
Natural	Depressing

ACTIVITY #2:

What I like about growing up here.

Time: 20 minutes

Materials: "What I like about growing up here" worksheet; crayons/markers

Instructions: Now that you have started thinking about your community, we want to learn what you like about growing up in the Arborg and Bifrost-Riverton area. Think about the different places where you have fun, the places you think are beautiful, or about the different activities you participate in. Using the worksheet, draw a picture of a place or thing or some activity that makes growing up here fun.

Upon completion ask for a few people to share their ideas with the class.

Prompting Questions: What places do you visit? Are they close to home? Are there any natural habitats or open spaces that you like to visit?

ACTIVITY #3:

How can we make our community better?

Time: 20 minutes

Materials: “How can we make our community better” worksheet; crayons/markers

Instructions: What are your ideas for making your community an even better place to live? Write your ideas down on the worksheet.

Upon completion ask for a few people to share their ideas with the class.

Prompting Questions: How can you make your community more fun, safer, better? What activities would you like to have in your community? When you grow-up, or are older, where do you want to work? Where do you want to live? What type of shop or stores would you like to shop in?