Municipality of the Town of Antigonish
Integrated Community Sustainability Plan Progress Report 2012
Prepared for Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations
September 2012

No.	ICSP Topic	Pillar	Proirity level*	Time Frame	Goal(s)	Strategies / Actions	Progress To-Date	Projects	Future Plans
1	Regional and Provincial Collaboration	All Pillars	1	2010-2025	Maximize benefits for residents of both minicipalities, Town and County, and the Province through collaboration.	1. Work towards updated agreements with the County (Water & sewer) and on outer outstanding areas. 2. Propose Town/County joint committee to work on commonalities and develop a common vision. 3. Continue to work with the region's municiplaities and the province to identify common challenges and prepare a course of action.	1. County and Town Sewer agreement in progress. 2. Joint Council meetings have been in progress since 2011. 3. Collaboration with regional municipal units has increased.	New Turf Field, Joint local vision (County ICSP), Gateway Strategy, Joint-municipal IT Project.	Continue to work with regional municipal units and the Province to tackle common issues relating to the four pillars.
2	Emergency Measures plans, facilities, equipment	All Pillars	1	2010-2012	Ensure that plans and procecures are in place for continuity of the Town and its citizens in the case of a crisis.	1. Prepare Pandemic and business Continuity plans. 2. Enhance Emergency Measures Organization Hazard Response plan.	The municipality follows the recently upgraded EMO strategy for the region.	Upgrades to fire equipment and facilities.	Pandemic and Business Continuity Plans are planned to be prepared in the near future, time-frame has been extended to 2013-2015
3	Sustainable Performance Indicators	All Pillars	3	2010-2012	Enable the community to measure and benchmark performance in the environmental, economic, social and cultural pillars of sustainability.	Prepare a study to conduct analysis and establish baseline indicators as part of comprehensive database and online information system of sustainable performance indicators.	Study on Environmental Performance Indicators was completed in 2010. Stakeholders are continuously engaged on Economic, Social and Cultural Indicators and benchmarking.	Study on Environmental Performance Indicators - joint project with StFX university.	Consolidate indicators and identify mechanism to use them.
4	Heritage Buildings	Cultural	2	2010-2015	Promote the retention and enhancement of heritage buildings; apply place-making urban design principles.	1. Develop and implement a Heritage Promotion Strategy. 2. Review building list for possible heritage property designations and intrepretive panels.	Hertiage Strategy under development currently.	Letters were sent out to owners of 30 prospective designations. Fall Talk of the Town will feature a Heritage page and there is a webpage concerning Heritage Awareness.	Heritage property designation and interpretive panels.
5	Ethnic diversity	Cultural	2	2010-2015	Raise profile of other ethnicities while maintaing local distinctiveness and ensuring both are valued and protected.	1. Conduct research into current perceptions and acceptance of other clutural groups. 2 Create community activies around the appreciation of other cultures.	There is an increase in migrant population of other ethnicities to the area welcoming them to work in areas where there is a skill gap or lack of interest from the local population.	Support ethnic minorities through activities such as Black Awareness month, Antigo-night, Coady Community welcome and immigrant housing in the RK MacDonald Nursing Home.	Continue to find ways in which to create harmony among local population and migrants to the area which supporting distinct cultures.

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6	Advancement of Youth	Cultural, Social	1	2010-2025	Increase engagement of youth in community activities.	1. Develop youth recreation options for programs. 2. Increase recreational areas for teenagers.	Some new programs have been introduced and supported in joint collaboration with stakeholders.	Kayak program, Baseball and Soccer Programs, Police & Licencing Youth representatives (non-recreational).	Work is on-going with local stakeholders to continue to identify and support new programs.
7	Information Services	Social, Cultural	1	2010	Provide a central state-of-the art local information zone to serve the growing needs of the public and to foster education.	Establish a new Library.	Completed in 2011.	Jointly-funded Library in the heart of downtown Antiognish.	Maintain and encourage citizens and visitors to utilize the resources available at the site.
8	Tourism - Festivals and Events	Culture	2	2010-2025	1. Increase visitation through the enhacement of cultural festivals and events. 2. Foster increased appreciation for the culture and arts.	1. Inventory Festivals and events and develop a plan to enhance and sustain them. 2. Foster cultural appreciation through musicals, threatre, concerts and performances.	New Downtown Merchants Association created to increase events. Continued support for the local arts (Festival Antigonish).	Recent festivals/events include: Ships of 1801, Merchants Association co-ordinated Highland Games Street Fair, Music on the Main.	Asset-based inventory of festival and events in collaboration with stakeholders.
9	Economic Development	Economic	1	2009-2011	1. Encourage a broad range of economic activity within the community. 2.Support local commercial district.	Strengthen the economic development strategy with the Regional Development Authority.	New approvals for businesses in Town limits has seen significant increase in entrepreneural activity.	BizPal is now implemented. Access via new Website.	Continue to support local commercial district and increase development as a central serivce hub for the region.
10	Asset-based economic growth opportunities	Economic	2	2009-2025	Identify economic spin-off opportunitites from existing assets in the community such as the university and the hospital.	Conduct a study to to identify opportunities for business growth in key sectors: education, healthcare, energy, agriculture, IT services, tourism.	Through the Antigonish Regional Development Authority, projects are on-going.	Business Incubator Project.	Work with stakeholders to identify further opportunities for economic spin-off.
11	Support local procurement	Economic	1	2009-2025	Encourage community support for purchase of local products.	1. Raise public awareness of the benefits of local procurement through educational programs. 2. Facilitate local purchasing programs.	Continued support for local Farmer's Market, communication via Town newletter.	Internal procurement policy in place (leading by example).	
12	Downtown vitalization	Economic	3	2009-2015	1. Capture and maintain "uniqueness" of downtown core and enhance attractiveness of neighbourhoods. 2. Maintain a downtown core with various shops, restaurants and service providers selling products and services that meet the needs of the local population and tourists.	Conduct a palnning study leading to policy development.	Policy updates are on-going. Downtown core has new shops, 4 more restaurants and a host of new services providers. The Town has received the "Communities in Bloom" award at the national level because of the efforts put into beautification (Judged on 200 criteria).		Specific areas of the Town are expected to revitalized over the next 2 years.

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13	Tourism Destination & Marketing	Economic, Clutural	1	2010-2015	1. Increase knowledge of Anitognish area and its attractions. 2. Promote Sustainable tourism.	Conduct a destination audit and cosider establishment of a Destination Marketing Organization for the Antigonish area. Maintains and increase emphasis on museum, eco-tourism, events and family attractions.	Re-structuring is\ underway in the way tourism is handled in the region with the formation of DEANS. Working with partners, promotion of Sustainble Tourism is ongoing.The municipality is aware of the concept of Destination Levy for some time.	Stroll on the Main website.	A destination audit may be completed in collaboration though the Regional Development Authority and or DEANS as appropriate.
14	Economic Infratructure Enhancement	Economic	2	2010-2025	Improved way-finding, circulation and parking support of the Commerical core.	Planning study leading to policy development and infrastructure improvement including resurfacing of amin arteries for the purpose of economic sustinability of the commercial core.	Council has met with residents on the topic of Parking and new policy is under development. Way-finding will be implemented in conjunction with the Gateway Strategy that is underway.	Parking study is near completion, Gateway Strategy.	
15	Destination Antigonish	Economic	1	2010-2025	Highlight Antigonish as a high-quality destination for livability; work towards a proactive response to changing demographics.	1. Work with all major stakeholders within the community to develop strong marketing campaigns for the livablity of the area, education and work/business ventures. 2. Develop a plan of action to manage the impact of demographic changes.	Some work has been completed through the Regional Development Authority and the Chamber of Commerce.	New websites for both the Town and the RDA with emphasis on highlighting Antigonish as a destination and the quality of life present here.	The muncipality will continue to engage and work with stakeholders to respond to demographic changes.
16	Muncipal road and transit infrasturcture	Cultural	1	2009-2015	Ongoing infrastructure improvements and improved roady safety.	1. Replacement of East Main Bridge. 2. Develop and implement an Infrastructre Management Plan. 3 Prepare plan for action for new emergency route to hospital.	Completed in 2011, 2012.	Replacement of East Main Bridge (CIP), Emergency route.	
17	Energy planning (conservation and greenhouse gas reduction)	Environmental	1	2010-2012	Encourage energy conservation and annual reduction in muncipal expenditures.	1. Conduct municipal energy audit. 2. Investigate feasibility of alternative energy soruces in municipal buildings and retrofit older buildings for energy efficiency. 3. Develop staff awareness program and community awareness program.	Completed in 2011.	Muncipal Energy Audit, LED Program for Street Lighting, Anti-idlying policy for Fleet (Staff), Community awareness programs (Town Newsletter tips, Light bulb exchange program), Library uses geo-thermal.	
18	Preservation of biodiversity and wildlife habitat.	Environmental	2	2015-2025	Protect critical wild-life eco-systems.	1. Conduct and inventory and risk assesment for wetlands, and develop strategy for protection, if appropriate. 2. Map ecologically sensitive areas; develop an environmental awareness plan for the community.	Inventory and assessment for wetlands and mapping of ecological sensitive areas completed.	GIS Wetland Mapping.	Strategy for protection and environmental awreness plan to be completed in the near future.

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19	Waste Management	Environmental	3	2009-2020	Reduce volume of waste produced locally.	1. Enhance the solid waste disposal strategy. 2. Increase public awareness (reduce, recycle, reuse, "refuse"). 3. Encourage provincial standards and ownership.	On-going - Town Committee tasked to lead and collaborate with stakeholders including the Eastern Region Solid Waste Management. Policies and multiple awareness programs are in place.	Waste Management Committee, Local bi-laws on Waste Management.	Continue work on measuring, seperating and decreasing volume of waste.
20	Storm water management and control	Environmental	2	2012-2015	Ensure Storm Water management strategy is in place.	1. Develop and implement storm water management strategy and infrastructure improvements. 2. identify and incorporate storm drainage improvements.	1. Storm water management strategy to be developed. 2.Storm drainage improvement in progress.	Whidden Street Water Improvement Project.	Extension needed to continue this work through 2020.
21	Sustainable Planning and Development	Environmental	1	2012-2025	Encourage a mix of land uses and building types within the community.	1. Full revision of the Municpal Planning Strategy/Land Use By-Law. 2. Investigate feasibility of LEED approach to community planning.	Planning Advisory Committee engaged with revision of Planning Strategy / Land-use By-Law - 50% complete.	Planning Advisory Committee	
22	Sustainable Procurement (municipal)	Environmental	1	2009-2012	Change municipal purchasing practices to those using local and environmentally-friendly products and services.	Develop and implement a sustainable procurement plan for the municipality.	Some work has been done ad-hoc to achive this goal.		Extension needed to continue work through 2015. Upcoming new provincial regulations on procurement expected to the base for a Town procurement plan.
23	Sustainable Energy	Environmental, Economic	1	2009-2025	Lower dependence on fossil-fuel based energy.	Continue to explore alternatives: Wind power development, hydro; solar; geo-thermal; district heating (co-gen) for muncipal operations including power utility and sewage treatment plan.	The municipality is exploring options proactively but nothing concrete yet. New projects are being evaluated through this lens (example Geo-thermanl was implemened in Library).	The munciplaity will be upgrading windows and insulation in Town Hall as well as install a new heating plant.	
24	Climate Change adaptation	Environmental	2	2012-2015	Identify potential impacts from sea-level rise and tempreature fluctuation including impact on flood-prone areas.	Conduct storm surge/sea-level rise risk assessment and coastal zone mapping/modeling; prepare action plan; assess risks using percipitation records. Develop an applicable strategy for protection.	In progress - Studies/strategies will be identified in the upcoming Climage Change Action Plan.	LIDAR floodplain mapping has been completed but is currently unter review for final adoption.	
25	Municipal water supply watersheds, including aquifers feeding individual wells.	Environmental	2	2010-2015	1. Develop a source water protection plan. 2 Protect natural watercourses. 3. Lower water misuse and waste.	1. Conduct an inventory and risk assessment in collaboration with regional muncipalities. 2. Develop a strategy for protection and stream rehabilitation program. 3. Complete water metering for all residential, commercial and industrial buildings.	Risk assessment and Water metering completed.	Town water metering project, NS Water protection strategy - County Aquifer located in Town (in progress).	Strategy for protection is ongoing.

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26	Promotion of Sustainable Lifestyles	Environmental, Social	2	2008-2015	Lower the carbon footprint of Antigonish.	1. Support existing initaitves of community organizations such as the Framework for Antigonish as a Leading Sustainble Community. 2. Develop and implement educational strategy, tools and incentives to promote sustainble living.	The municipality has continued work with Antigonish Sustainable Development (currently known as Sustainable Antigonish) as well as local groups and organizations in promoting sustainable lifestyles through awareness programs and educational sessions.	Framework for Antigonish as a Leading Sustainable Community, Early Adopter Program, Early Minority Program, Information sessions.	The promotion of sustainable lifestyles in Antigonish continues to evolve and gain momentum. The muncipality will conitnue to be engaged in practicing and encouraging sustainable lifestyles.
27	Pesticide Reduction	Environmental	1	2009-2012	Reduction / elimiation of cosmetic pesticide use.	1. Prepare a cosmetic presticide reduction plan and policy/by-law. 2. Identify and promote educational programs.	Complete - Extensive study was completed to look at policy options. Internal (municpal policy of use of pesticides in place). The Town has adapted has since adapted the Provincial Pesticide Policy.		
28	Sustainable Transportation	Environmental	2	2009-2012	Increase public's access to sustainble transportation options.	Examine the feasibility of a town/county public transit system, allowing for transportation between communities.	Transit system study is currently in-progress, "Share the road" prgram implemented with Bike racks around Town.	"Share the Road", Bicycle racks have been purchased.	Extension needed through to 2015 to continue exploring options.
29	Community Partnerships	Social	1	2009-2025	Promote awareness and strengthen existing community partnerships.	1. Prepare an inventory of organization within the community to aid with achieving the goals of the ICSP. 2. Engage existing partnerships and identify new ones to work on advancing sustainability and prosperity of the area.	Inventory was completed in 2010. Other aspects are on-going. .		Multiple organizations and local groups wll continue to be engaged within the area to accomplish this goal.
30	Recreation facilities	Social	1	2009-2015	Increase the quality of existing facilities bringing them up to Provincially established standards.	1. Identify and implement a preventative maintenance plan. 2. Work with community user groups on long range plan. 3. Conduct an annaul playgrounf safety audit.	Existing maintenance plan is being updated. Playground safety auduts being completed regularly.		Long-range plan.
31	Volunteerism	Social	3	2009-2025	Encourage, promote and celebrate value of volunteer work/opportunities for all citizens.	Explore opporutinity to develop an information forum in a central location for people to explore volunteer opportunities. This can be achieved through traditional and online media as well as housed in a downtown location. Recognition will be given through awards.	Completed in 2011.	Library Project (provide usable space for volunteer organizations in a central hub).	

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32	Active lifestyles	Social	2	2009-2025	Promote active lifestyles; a social environment and healthy outdoor living.	1. Promote through various communtiy efforts such as implentation of community garden. 2. Promotion of trails and facilities for diverse interest groups. 3. Carry out active transportation study for new walking and biking opportunities. 4 Develop a community open/green space strategy.	On-going.	Guysborough-Antigonish Active Living Network, Canoe / kayak launch area on the estuary.	Completion of an Active Living Strategy/Plan.
33	Accessible Facilities	Social	2	2010-2015	All public facilities should be accesible.	1. Conduct an inventory and assess municipal and other buildings open to public. 2. Develop a strategy for making municipal buildings accessible, if appropriate. 3. Develop awarenes program for other public buildings.	Mostly complete.	Town Hall Accessiblity.	Awareness program pending but may not be required.
34	Affordable Housing	Social	1	2010-2015	Encourage a variety of housing types including affordable housing.	Review housing needs and develop a strategy for provision in Municipal Planning Strategy, if appropriate.	Town Council has approved land for new affordable housing project.	Affordable Housing Committee.	Muncipal Planning Strategy will be update with a provision and tied to the Provincial Statement of Interest.
35	Equality of Access	Social	1	2009-2025	Increase access to Town Recreation programs for underpriveledged individuals.	Conduct an inventory of shortfall on town's recreation programs and facilities in order to identify mechanisms to enhance accessibility for underpriveledged and physically-disabled individuals.	On-going.		
36	Open, green, and public spaces	Social	3	2010-2015	Maintain and protect a variety of public open spaces for current and future generations.	Inventory and map existing open spaces, identify potential new open spaces and prepare a long-term strategy to enhance, link and expand green and open spaces.	Mapping green spaces in progress but limited to land locking as it constrains municipal boundaries and hinders lack of opportunity to expand a growing town.		Long-term Green Space strategy.
37	Emergency Services	Social, Economic	2	2009-2015	Maintain a high quality of public safety and emergency services.	Conduct an inventory of existing equipment and revise maintenance plans, establish a neighbourhood safety program.	Mostly completed. Maintenance plan through individual departments (Fire Dept. etc)	Seniors Safety Program implemented, switch to 24 hour policing.	
38	Food Security	Social, Environmental	2	2010-2012	Lower dependence on imported food and increase dependence on local and organic food.	Work with the County to encourage rural areas to ensure sustainable agricultural land for food production.	On-going through local groups.		Extension needed to 2020.