

# LANARK COUNTY

## SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES OFFICIAL PLAN

Local priorities for a sustainable County

Adopted  
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Prepared by



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## INTRODUCTION

In 2010 Lanark County decided to develop its first Official Plan. The decision to move forward with the development of an Official Plan was based on a broad based consensus that the County Plan would need to recognize and emphasize local municipal land use priorities within a broader framework of county sustainability. In other words the Official Plan must establish a “plan regionally, act locally” approach to land use decisions which recognizes and supports local municipal land use planning responsibilities.

In order to realize this objective Lanark County Council chose to work with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to combine the development of an Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP) with an Official Plan. The result is this Plan which will be known as the Lanark County Sustainable Communities Official Plan (SCOP) which will meet the County’s obligation under the Municipal Funding Agreement administered by the FCM and ensure continued access to significant funding generated by the federal gas tax. The SCOP provides for the implementation of land use policies through traditional tools such as zoning and lot creation with a focus on the integration of sustainable practices regardless of political boundaries. The ICSP, although not a part of this Plan under the meaning of the Planning Act, is included as an appendix to this Plan and identifies goals and objectives designed to enhance community sustainability. Accordingly the SCOP will help implement many of the objectives identified in the ICSP.

The Sustainable Communities Official Plan is a legal document adopted and approved under the *Planning Act*. The SCOP applies to all lands within the corporate limits of the County of Lanark. The decision making process on all land use matters covered in this Plan is intended to be based on general, broad policies at the County level that are consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement and more detailed and focused policies reflecting local priorities in local Official Plans. Accordingly it is necessary to read the County Plan and the local Official Plan together when considering new development or when moving towards the implementation of a policy or sustainable action plan.

The Lanark County Sustainable Communities Official Plan is intended to provide a land use framework for the next 20 years. As required in the *Planning Act* the SCOP will be reviewed every five years.

## VISION, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The policies in this Plan were developed on the basis of achieving a stated long term vision for the future of this County. The vision was inspired by a series of public open houses, focused consultation events and work by sustainability task forces where numerous residents expressed their opinions, hopes and concerns for the future of their community. These sessions inspired a number of goals and objectives, structured into the four pillars of a sustainable community: the environment, the economy, social values and cultural values. These goals and objectives are found in the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan which is included in Appendix 1 of this Plan. They are reflected throughout the SCOP and will help guide future decision making and facilitate the achievement of the County’s stated Vision.

Decisions on development in the County should be reconciled with the long term vision of the Plan in order to provide for sustainability and responsible planning

## **Vision**

Long term planning starts with a vision for the future. Attaining that vision requires that everyone who participates in the long term development of the broader county community work in a manner that will help achieve the goals and objectives which in turn are at the core of the policies in the Plan. The following statement was developed by the County as part of the Lanark Strategic Plan and is intended to be an expression of Lanark County's vision for the future of the region:

### *Our Vision*

*Lanark County is proud of its heritage and cherishes its small-town character, rural way of life, sense of community and distinctive natural features. We want to strengthen and diversify the economy effectively manage growth, protect the environment, preserve our heritage and maintain our unique character for future generations.*

## **PLAN STRUCTURE**

The SCOP is designed to facilitate the integration of land use planning policies with sustainable action plans designed to facilitate the implementation of planning goals and objectives. As this Plan is a legal document which is adopted and approved under the authority of the *Planning Act*, there is a need to ensure that the Plan's content is consistent with provincial land use policies as expressed in the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS).

The Provincial Policy Statement includes definitions of numerous significant terms used in its policies. These definitions will apply to instances in this Plan where the same terms are used, for instance in reference to "development", "adjacent lands", or "Significant", among others. Where this Plan employs a different meaning for a term defined in the Provincial Policy Statement, this will be specifically identified in the text of the Plan.

The Plan is intended to be accessible and broad in its policy context relying extensively on the implementation of its policy directives through local Official Plans. Municipalities shall ensure that local Official Plans are in conformity with this Plan in accordance with the requirements of section 27 (1) of the *Planning Act*.

The Plan is organized in four sections:

### **PART I –SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES**

This section of the Plan discusses the overall settlement pattern in Lanark County and provides general direction on managing land use in a sustainable manner. It speaks to our Towns, Villages and Hamlets, our rural communities including waterfront areas and dispersed countryside uses. This section of the Plan also addresses required infrastructure needs to ensure long term sustainability.

### **PART II – SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT**

Part 2 speaks to natural heritage features such as significant wetlands, endangered species and wildlife habitat as well as natural resources such as agricultural lands and mineral aggregates. It

also addresses hazardous features such as floodplains where there is a need to ensure the safety of people and property. These areas need to be managed in an integrated manner to ensure a balance between communities and environmental and economic needs.

#### PART III – GENERAL POLICIES

This section includes policies that apply on a general basis across the county. They include the various tools available to the County and local municipalities for the implementation of the SCOP's policies.

#### PART IV – LAND USE SCHEDULE

The land use designations described in the text of the Sustainable Communities Official Plan are illustrated on a map schedule, Schedule A, which provides a geographical reference for the Plan's policies.

The SCOP addresses a broad range of land and community development issues that are important to residents. Many of these issues are not typically addressed in *Planning Act* documents such as this Plan. Accordingly the Plan includes, for reference purposes, an Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP) which will be implemented in part through the SCOP. The ICSP, though technically not a part of this Plan under the meaning of the Planning Act, is included in Appendix 1.

## **PART I – SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES**

### **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

The policies in this section of the plan are intended to guide residential and non-residential development in areas of the County which are not required for resource development or for their natural heritage values. The policies are designed to help manage change and to promote efficient use of scarce land resources. It is the objective of these policies to strengthen our communities through effective use of our infrastructures and by striving to achieve efficient development patterns. Protecting our natural and environmental resources as well as the distinct character of our towns, villages, hamlets and waterfront communities and the rural countryside will contribute to the long term goal of developing sustainable communities.

#### **1.1 Population Projections and distribution**

Lanark County is expected to experience modest growth in the next 20 years. The most recent Census data shows the County's 2011 population at 56,689. This Plan is designed to manage growth to a population of 70,434 by the year 2031, based on a medium growth scenario as shown in Appendix 2.

Demographic projections developed in support of this Plan provide a breakdown for the County and the constituent municipalities for the next 20 years. It should be noted that these projections are based on total growth of the County with a proportionate allocation to local municipalities. Local conditions, for example the expansion or enhancement of local municipal infrastructure or growth in employment opportunities, could impact these projections. Accordingly it is understood that the population projections and allocations provided in Appendix 2 shall not be used to constrain growth or to prevent or delay local infrastructure improvements or enhancements. Appendix 2, which forms part of this Plan, is intended to assist in monitoring population growth and distribution over the life of this Plan in five year increments.

It is also expected that current trends with respect to the population distribution will continue. Across the County it is estimated that seventy percent or more of development takes place in designated settlement areas. This provides for a healthy distribution of residential and non-residential growth between urbanized areas and rural and waterfront communities. This is considered a balanced and desirable approach to future growth and the policies of this Plan supports a continued County based approach to the distribution of growth.

It must be noted that these ratios are not intended to impose development quotas on individual municipalities. The growth target ratios represent an objective for the entire planning area and the Plan recognizes that regional differences may emerge. Council will monitor these growth targets and take them into consideration when making decisions on new lot creation, the expansion of existing settlement areas, or the creation of new settlement areas within the County.

#### **1.2 Objectives**

The following are the objectives that the County of Lanark is seeking to achieve through the implementation of the sustainable communities policies of this Plan. These objectives are consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement.



1. We will strengthen our communities by providing for efficient land use and opportunities for mixed use development on appropriate infrastructures which recognizes the diversity of Lanark County's settlement areas.
2. Local municipalities will, in a fiscally and environmentally responsible manner, maintain a three year supply of serviced land at all times as part of the ten year supply of land designated for residential development. This objective does not apply where local municipalities do not provide public piped services or where such services are constrained by environmental or financial conditions.
3. A broad range of housing types will be permitted in local municipal planning documents in order to meet the requirements of a growing population.
4. Local Official Plans will designate a sufficient supply of land for uses which facilitate employment growth.
5. Economic development will focus on increasing total employment within the County as a whole taking into consideration the availability of county and local infrastructure.
6. The distinct character and heritage of our towns, villages, hamlets and rural and waterfront areas will be maintained.
7. Significant natural heritage sites and areas will be protected from incompatible land uses.
8. Development shall be directed away from areas of natural or man-made hazards where there is an unacceptable risk to public health or safety or of property damage.

## **2.0 SETTLEMENT POLICIES**

### **2.1 General**

The historical pattern of development in Lanark County consists of fully serviced (i.e. water and waste water infrastructure) Towns and Villages, partly serviced or un-serviced Villages and Hamlets, individual lots and rural subdivisions dispersed throughout the rural area and along hundreds of water bodies.

The settlement policies are intended to create a planning framework which will encourage and support diversified, mixed use Settlement Areas which have developed on the basis of full or partial municipal services or which are planned population centres to be developed on the basis of sustainable private services.

The policies are intended to ensure that local Councils will have the ability and authority to shape their communities in accordance with local needs and local characteristics. The policies are also intended to permit continued development while also ensuring that costly unplanned engineered water and sewer infrastructures will not be required to resolve environmental problems in the future.

### **2.2 Settlement Pattern types**

Local Official Plans shall include policies addressing the two predominant settlement pattern types which exist in Lanark County. These are:

1. Settlement Areas which can consist of fully serviced Towns and Villages and partially serviced or un-serviced Villages and Hamlets. Policies which address Settlement Areas are included in Part 1 - section 2.0.

2. Dispersed rural and waterfront uses which are or can be developed on existing lots of record or on lots created by plan of subdivision / condominium or by consent. Policies for Rural development are included in Part 1 - section 3.0.

## **2.3 Settlement Area Policies**

### **2.3.1 General Policies**

Lanark County is home to many thriving Towns, Villages and Hamlets which provide a place to live, work and play. The following shall apply:

1. Settlement Areas are identified on Schedule A to this Plan. The limits of the Settlement Areas are in accordance with the limits established in local Official Plans.
2. Local Official Plans shall designate Settlement Areas and shall ensure that there is sufficient land area to accommodate a broad range of land uses to meet current needs and expected population growth over a maximum twenty year timeframe.
3. Local Official Plans shall distinguish between fully serviced, partially serviced and un-serviced settlement areas and provide appropriate land use policies for each.
4. Local Official Plans shall promote intensification in existing built-up areas based on the type of servicing infrastructure.
5. Efficient development patterns will be encouraged in Settlement Areas to optimize the use of land, resources, infrastructure and public service facilities.
6. Local land use policies shall provide for mixed use development including residential, commercial, employment lands, parks and open space and institutional uses in areas designated as a settlement area in local Official Plans.

## **2.4 Settlement Area Boundary Expansions**

### **2.4.1 Information Requirements**

When considering expansions to a Settlement Area boundary which would increase the total development potential of the community in question, the local Council shall require sufficient information to allow for a comprehensive review of the proposed expansion and the following studies shall be required in support of the Official Plan Amendment:

1. demographic projections, pursuant to section 1.1, which demonstrates the need for settlement area expansions to accommodate growth;
2. an analysis of the alternatives to settlement area expansion including intensification and redevelopment and an inventory of existing vacant lots of record within the settlement area;
3. a study which establishes water, waste water and stormwater servicing requirements on the basis of reviewed population projections and which examines municipal financial impacts and environmental impacts which would result from the proposed expansion. If private or communal water and waste

water treatment services are proposed, a study will also be required to determine the capability of the soils to support the safe and long-term use of these systems and to confirm that there is a supply of water of sufficient quality and quantity to support the increase in development capacity without adversely affecting existing development in the community;

4. the expansion complies with the requirements of the MDS formulae.

Settlement Area boundaries will be expanded only where existing designated settlement areas in the municipality do not have sufficient land supply to accommodate the growth projected for the municipality.

Expansions into prime agricultural areas are permitted only where there are no reasonable alternatives which avoid prime agricultural areas and there are no reasonable alternatives with lower priority agricultural lands in the prime agricultural area.

The expansion of a Settlement Area or the creation of a new settlement area shall require an amendment to this Plan. The need to undertake a comprehensive review to expand the boundaries of a settlement area does not require the undertaking of a comprehensive review of this Plan.

## **2.5 Settlement Area Boundary Adjustments**

Settlement Area boundary adjustments which do not increase the total development potential of the community in question may be permitted through the local Official Plan where it is demonstrated that such boundary shifts will result in improved infrastructure efficiencies and/or more efficient linkages to the existing community. In such cases an amendment to this Plan shall not be required.

Where boundary adjustments are proposed that include prime agricultural areas, the relevant policies stated in section 2.4.1 shall apply and an amendment to this Plan shall be required.

## **2.6 Settlement Area Land Use Policies**

### **2.6.1 Objectives**

The County of Lanark's objectives respecting development in Settlement Areas are as follows:

1. To ensure the provision of an adequate supply of residential land;
2. To provide for a range and mix of low, medium and high density housing types in accordance with servicing capacities;
3. To provide for neighbourhood facilities and amenities which are appropriate to a residential living environment;
4. To ensure the provision of roads and other municipal services necessary to the development of functional neighbourhood areas;
5. To provide for mixed use communities with appropriate commercial, institutional and employment uses.

## **2.6.2 Local Planning Framework**

2.6.2.1 Settlement Areas shall be defined through local Official Plans and municipal zoning by-laws. Local Councils shall zone land for specific types of residential uses and shall ensure that permitted non-residential uses are appropriately zoned.

2.6.2.2 Vacant land may be identified in local Official Plans for future uses and local Councils may zone such land by using the Holding provisions in Part 3 of this Plan. Appropriate conditions for removing the holding provisions shall be established. Where such areas are large or where there are complex issues to resolve such as infrastructure capacities, fractured ownership patterns or environmental considerations, supporting studies and reports may be required by the Council of the local municipality prior to the removal of the Holding restriction.

2.6.2.3 Local Councils through the development of municipal zoning by-laws and the application, where required, of site plan control, shall regulate the development of settlement areas. The use of consent, subdivision and condominium control by the County in a cooperative process with local municipalities shall also apply.

2.6.2.4 The implementation of this Official Plan through local Official Plans, zoning regulations, subdivision and condominium control and site plan control shall consider the following criteria:

1. permit and zone a range of residential housing types and sizes;
2. ensure development can proceed on appropriate and verified water, waste water, storm water and transportation services;
3. ensure adequate buffering of residential areas from incompatible non-residential uses through separation distance, landscaping or other appropriate means;
4. identify and zone an appropriate range of commercial, institutional and employment lands;
5. where applicable identify and zone mixed-use areas in selected areas of the municipality;
6. permit increased housing densities through redevelopment of existing residential and non-residential buildings to meet locally established intensification targets where infrastructures permit;
7. permit accessory apartments in accordance with section 16(3) of the *Planning Act*;
8. provide for open space and parkland and the protection of natural heritage features;
9. allow residential infill and redevelopment provided there is sufficient reserve capacity in water and waste water facilities;
10. regulate the physical character of infill or redevelopment projects to ensure their compatibility with established communities;
11. when reviewing applications for redevelopment or infill, consider the impact of the proposed development on the neighbourhood in terms of parking, traffic, open space, and proposed uses;

## **2.6.3 Lot Creation**

The creation of new lots in Settlement Areas shall generally occur through plans of subdivision or consent. The use of the *Planning Act's* consent provisions may be appropriate under certain circumstances such as infill development and where a limited number of new lots are proposed to be created. The criteria identified for land division by consent in local Official Plans shall apply.

### **3.0 RURAL AREA POLICIES**

#### **3.1 General**

The County of Lanark is characterized by its large expanses of rural, agricultural and recreational lands. The following policies are intended to provide for the long term orderly development of the rural area in a manner which is consistent with ensuring the protection of natural and environmental resources and which will respect the objective of protecting the character of our rural and urban areas.

The rural area is not the principal sector for development. Population growth and employment is intended to be directed to Settlement Areas identified in local Official Plans. The intent of this Plan however is not to prohibit development in the rural areas, but rather to provide a framework for appropriate growth which will support the objective of preserving the identity and character of rural and settlement areas.

#### **3.2 Identification of Rural Areas**

Local municipalities shall identify and designate Rural policy areas which shall be composed of lands which are located outside of the primary development and resource areas, that is to say lands which are outside of local Settlement Areas and lands which are not required for resource uses such as mineral aggregates and agricultural uses or natural heritage functions such as provincially significant wetlands or wildlife habitat areas.

Lands which are subject to public health and safety constraints may be included in these designations but development, or certain uses, may be constrained or prohibited in the interest of the protection of life and property.

Rural lands are shown on Schedule A to this Plan. The rural designation may include various local Official Plan designations intended to provide additional policy direction for specific types of rural land uses. For example local Official Plans could designate lands shown as Rural on Schedule A of this plan as Highway Commercial, Industrial Park, Tourism Commercial etc. Changes to rural designations in local Official Plans will not require an amendment to this Plan.

#### **3.3 Land Use Policies**

##### **3.3.1 Objectives**

The County of Lanark's objectives respecting development in Rural Areas are as follows:

1. To ensure that residential and non-residential development is consistent with rural service levels;
2. To maintain the distinct character of rural, waterfront and settlement areas;
3. To ensure that development is compatible with natural heritage features and natural resource uses.

##### **3.3.2 General Policies**

1. Local Official Plans will contain policies that ensure that development, redevelopment and the increasing use of rural properties does not result in additional negative environmental impacts.

2. Local Official Plans shall include policies which will ensure that rural development will occur on appropriate water and waste water services.
3. Rural development shall have regard for the safety of people and property and shall occur in a manner which will not result in an increased need or demand for municipal services.
4. Local Official Plans shall ensure that development will be directed to occur in a manner that makes efficient use of existing infrastructure, allows for the maintenance of the area's character and provides for the long term availability of the resources that make the area attractive.

### **3.3.3 Lot Creation**

The creation of new lots in rural areas shall be limited in nature and shall generally occur through plans of subdivision or consent. The use of the *Planning Act's* consent provisions may be appropriate under certain circumstances. The criteria identified for land division by consent in local Official Plans shall also apply.

### **3.3.4 Planning Framework**

3.3.4.1 In order to maintain and protect the character and identity of rural areas, it will be important to avoid inefficient land use patterns, to minimize incompatibility between land uses and to minimize adverse environmental impacts in accordance with the relevant policies of this Plan and local Official Plans.

3.3.4.2 Development in rural areas shall generally proceed on the basis of private water and waste water systems.

3.3.4.3 Communal services which are not connected to full municipal sewage and/or water services, may be permitted provided that they are for the common use of more than five units/lots and are owned, operated, and managed by the municipality, another public body, or a condominium corporation or single owner which has entered into an agreement with the municipality or public body, pursuant to Section 51 of the *Planning Act*. Such agreement shall provide for municipal/public body assumption of the communal services in the event of default by the owner. It is recognized that local municipalities may not have the financial or human resources to own, operate and manage such systems and as such local municipalities are not obligated to accept communal systems. The need to develop on private services may place limits on the amount, distribution and type of development which may take place.

3.3.4.4 Partial services are only permitted where they are necessary to address failed individual on-site water and sewage services in existing development. They are also permitted within settlement areas to allow infilling and rounding out of existing development on partial services. This is provided the development is within the reserve water and/or sewage system capacity and site conditions are suitable for the long term provision of services.

3.3.4.5 Local Councils through the development of local Official Plans and municipal zoning by-laws shall regulate rural residential and non-residential development. The use of subdivision and condominium control shall also apply as will the granting of consents by the appropriate consent granting authority. The implementation of this Plan through zoning regulations, subdivision and condominium control and consents shall be based on the following criteria:

1. permit and zone a range of housing types and sizes;
2. ensure adequate buffering of residential areas from incompatible non-residential uses through separation distance, landscaping or other appropriate means;
3. identify and zone permitted non-residential uses;
4. permit accessory apartments in accordance with Section 16(3) of the *Planning Act*;
5. ensure the protection of resources from incompatible uses through appropriate setbacks and the use of Minimum Distance Separation formulae where appropriate;
6. ensure the protection of natural heritage features.

3.3.4.6 Lot frontage, depth and area shall meet local zoning by-law requirements.

3.3.4.7 The minimum lot area required in rural areas shall be based on the area required to ensure adequate private water and septic waste water disposal systems. The minimum lot area shall be identified in local zoning by-laws. Local municipalities may require lot areas larger than what would be required for appropriate private servicing in order to maintain the character of a community or to minimize the potential of providing additional municipal services.

3.3.4.8 The approval authority may require the preparation of a hydrogeology study in support of a lot creation application by consent or plan of subdivision.

### **3.3.5 Special Policies**

#### **3.3.5.1. The Rideau Canal Corridor UNESCO World Heritage Site**

Some municipalities include parts of the Rideau Canal Corridor, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. In these municipalities the local Official Plan should consider policies which address the need to protect and preserve the heritage resource.

Part of the designation requires the inclusion of strategies that will preserve the heritage and cultural resources. Parks Canada is leading the development of a landscape strategy for the Rideau Corridor.

The Rideau Canal Corridor Landscape Strategy, once completed, will be taken into consideration by the County as it discharges its responsibilities with respect to the approval of local Official Plans and Official Plan Amendments, and in the review and approval of plans of subdivisions and consent applications.

## **4.0 INFRASTRUCTURE POLICIES**

### **4.1 Introduction**

Infrastructure refers to the construction and maintenance of roads, bridges, structures and railway lines required for transportation services, the physical supply and distribution of water, the collection and treatment of waste water and the management of storm water, the collection and disposal of solid waste, the construction and maintenance of energy production and distribution facilities such as hydro-electric structures, wind and solar energy facilities and gas pipelines and finally the development of communication facilities such as transmission towers and telephone and fibre optic lines. Infrastructure

policies also take into consideration the on-going development of multi-purpose recreational trails by the County and local municipalities.

The objective of these policies is to ensure that effective infrastructure services will be provided by the appropriate level of government or the private sector in a cost efficient manner which recognizes development priorities and which ensures the protection of our environment.

*The Planning Act* requires that infrastructure expansions conform to the upper tier Official Plan. (See Section 24.1, *Planning Act*). The *Development Charges Act, 1997* and associated regulation requires that the Council of a municipality must indicate, in an approved Official Plan, capital forecasts or similar expression of the intention of the Council, that it intends to ensure that an increase in the need for service will be met (See *Development Charges Act*, paragraph 3 of Section 5(1)).

The intent of this Plan's infrastructure policies is consistent with provincial legislation.

## **4.2 Infrastructure Planning**

The provision of transportation, water, waste water, solid waste, energy and communication infrastructures are crucial to ensuring that the County can continue to accommodate growth in a manner which is environmentally, socially and economically sustainable. Accordingly the County of Lanark may authorize the undertaking of regional level studies in order to plan future capital improvements. Such studies may include an update of the Transportation Master Plan as well as other key infrastructure components such as recreational trails or participation in regional level strategies such as groundwater management.

### **4.2.1 Local Infrastructure Planning**

This Plan recognizes that the responsibility for the planning, construction and maintenance of some infrastructures is the responsibility of local municipalities. The Plan further recognizes and supports on-going efforts to resolve local infrastructure problems. Continued efforts to find solutions to local infrastructure problems by local municipalities are considered to be appropriate and in conformity with the policies of the County Official Plan.

## **4.3 Transportation**

The management of the roadway infrastructure in Lanark County is shared between the Province, the County and local municipalities. The transportation system is composed of Provincial highways, County roads, local public roads opened and maintained on a year round basis, seasonal roads which are not maintained during the winter maintenance season and local private roads.

The County of Lanark's objective for the development and maintenance of the transportation infrastructure is to ensure that the road network within the County will function in a cost effective, efficient and safe manner for the movement of people and goods throughout the county.

The transportation system is shown on Schedule A. The local road system is shown on Schedule A for reference purposes. Any change to the local road system shall not require an amendment to this Official Plan.



#### **4.3.1 Provincial Highways**

There are two Provincial Highways in Lanark County, Highway 7 and Highway 15. Development fronting on or in proximity to these highways must be reviewed by the Ministry of Transportation Ontario (MTO) and development is conditional on the issuance of MTO permits which are designed to ensure that the long term efficiency of the highway is not compromised. The MTO permit can apply to building setbacks, signage, location and number of highway accesses, frontage requirements and required improvements such as culvert installation, road widenings, traffic signalization or the construction of turning lanes. Development proponents will be required to consult with the MTO prior to the submission of a development application to the local municipality or to the County.

The County of Lanark will closely monitor provincial highway design and management activities and will seek to have the Ministry of Transportation resolve any identified or existing safety or efficiency issues in a timely manner.

#### **4.3.2 County Roads**

The County road system is composed of arterial, collector and local County roads which:

- have the capacity to carry large traffic volumes;
- provide a functional link between communities or significant developments and land uses;
- functions as an integral part of the provincial transportation network through linkages to Provincial highways.

The County road system is the subject of the Lanark County Transportation Master Plan which is considered to be in conformity with this Plan.

#### **4.3.3 County Road Policies**

The policies of this section are designed to maintain a high level of efficiency for the movement of vehicles while also providing limited opportunities for commercial and industrial development which can benefit from high traffic volumes.

The following policies shall apply:

1. Lot creation for residential purposes with direct access to a County Road located outside of a settlement area may be permitted provided the required access will not result in traffic safety issues which cannot be mitigated or result in a change in the roadway's capacity through speed or signage changes.
2. Residential subdivisions fronting on a County Road may be permitted in accordance with the land use designation, provided that access is provided through a public road maintained year round. The review process shall ensure that adequate measures are included in the subdivision design to mitigate any potential negative impacts related to the proximity of the County Road to the residential development.
3. Lot creation for commercial or industrial development may be permitted in accordance with local Official Plan policies provided that there are no traffic safety or hazardous conditions. Where such conditions are identified development may proceed provided that appropriate mitigation measures are implemented in accordance with an approved report prepared by a qualified civil engineer. The design and location of the lot access shall be subject to the approval of the Lanark

County Public Works Department and may require the construction of various safety features such as acceleration and deceleration lanes, turning lanes, fencing and noise barriers/berms etc. where it is established through a traffic impact analysis, completed to the satisfaction of the Director of Public Works, that the development will generate substantial traffic volumes.

4. Development on lots of record existing as of the day of adoption of this Official Plan may be permitted in accordance with the applicable land use designation policies and local zoning regulations and provided that new accesses are kept to a strict minimum by enforcing, where possible, a minimum separation distance from existing accesses on the same side of the road. Alternatively safety issues may be addressed through engineered solutions such as turning lanes, acceleration lanes or deceleration lanes.
5. A minimum development setback of 15 metres from the property line shall generally be required.
6. The use of development charges to address the impact of proposed new development on a County road(s) is consistent with the intent of this plan.

#### **4.3.4 Local Roads**

Local roads consist of:

- local collectors;
- local streets which are publicly maintained on a year round basis;
- seasonal roads and private roads.

Local Official Plans shall include policies which ensure that the main function of the roadway as an efficient transportation artery is maintained.

The criteria identified for private roads contained in any local official plan shall apply.

#### **4.3.5 Land Acquisition**

Land may be acquired by a public authority for road widenings, road extensions, rights-of-way, intersection improvements or railway crossing improvements. Such land may be acquired through the subdivision or consent process, through site plan control or through formal agreements.

The minimum right-of-way for County Roads shall 25 metres for urban arterials, urban collectors and rural collectors and 30 metres for rural arterials. The County Road hierarchy is identified in the Lanark County Transportation master Plan.

#### **4.3.6 Addition of Roads**

New roads may be added to the local or county road system without amendment to this Plan or to a local Official Plan where such roads are the result of the approval of a Plan of Subdivision or a Plan of Condominium or is required as a condition of Site Plan Approval. The transfer of roads between upper tier and lower tier jurisdictions may also occur without an Official Plan amendment.

#### **4.3.7 Bridges and Culverts**

Bridges and culverts are an integral component of the County and local municipal transportation systems. The maintenance, repair, replacement or expansion of these structures are an on-going and necessary activity and are considered consistent with the policies of this Official Plan.

#### **4.4 Water, Waste water and Stormwater Services**

##### **4.4.1 General**

The following general policies shall apply:

1. Development will not be encouraged where such development would result in, or could lead to, unplanned expansions to existing water and waste water infrastructures.
2. Development shall generally be directed to communities which can reasonably provide or extend full water and waste water services.
3. The allocation of infrastructure capacity for infill and economic development purposes is encouraged.

##### **4.4.2 Watershed Planning**

The County encourages the preparation of watershed and subwatershed studies where major development is proposed, which could have a significant downstream impact upon a watershed. These studies are most needed in areas with both development pressures and highly sensitive natural environments to provide some understanding of the relationship between water resources and land use activities. The development of sound watershed and subwatershed plans will require cooperation between all affected municipalities, government agencies and interested groups to ensure that potential cross-boundary environmental impacts are addressed. The results of watershed studies should be incorporated into the County and/or Municipal Official Plans whenever practical.

##### **4.4.3 Surface Water Management Plans**

In order to control flooding, ponding, erosion and sedimentation and to protect, as much as possible, water quality and aquatic habitat or other natural habitat which depend upon watercourses and other water bodies for their existence, surface water management plans (or stormwater management plans) shall be required for some forms of new development. Storm water management plans shall be required for any new development consisting of more than four lots or for commercial or industrial developments with large amounts of impervious area. Stormwater management will be undertaken in accordance with the Ministry of the Environment Guideline entitled "Stormwater Management Planning and Design Manual, 2003" or amendments thereto. Stormwater management may not be required for small scale developments such as lots created through the consent process or developments subject to site plan control where there is no impact on the watershed.

##### **4.4.4 Municipal Drains**

As part of the establishment and maintenance of the municipal drainage infrastructure, the County will be both fiscally and environmentally sensitive, and act according to the procedures set out in the Drainage Act and other applicable provincial and federal legislation. Impacts on municipal drainage infrastructure may need to be assessed when proposing new land uses.

#### **4.5 Waste Management**

##### **4.5.1 Objectives**

Lanark County's objectives for the provision of waste management infrastructure services are as follows:

1. to ensure waste management uses are environmentally sustainable;
2. to provide appropriate waste management infrastructures which support on-going development.

#### **4.5.2 Policies**

The following general policies shall apply:

1. Development shall be reviewed to ensure that appropriate solid waste disposal services can be provided in a manner which is consistent with environmental considerations.
2. Waste water and solid waste disposal sites shall be identified in local Official Plans. The establishment of new sites or the enlargement of existing sites shall be in accordance with Ministry of the Environment guidelines and regulations.
3. Waste water and solid waste disposal sites shall be appropriately zoned in local zoning by-laws.

#### **4.5.3 Land Use Adjacent to Waste Water or Solid Waste Management Sites**

Development adjacent to waste water or solid waste management sites shall generally be discouraged unless supported by an appropriate study or studies which confirm that there will be no negative impacts on the proposed development related to the adjacent waste water or waste disposal site. In addition the study (ies) shall confirm that the proposed development will not impact future expansions of the waste disposal site in question. The identification of adjacent areas shall be based on the type of waste management system.

Separation distances shall normally be measured from the periphery of the odour producing source structure to the property line of the sensitive land use for a waste water or solid waste management site or from the boundary of the fill area (footprint) specified in the Certificate of Approval (or property line for closed sites where no Certificate of Approval is available) to the property line of the sensitive land use for a solid waste management site.

In reviewing development proposals adjacent to such disposal sites the approval authority shall consult Guideline D-2 and Guideline D-4 issued by the Ministry of the Environment.

#### **4.6 Energy**

It is a policy of this Plan to encourage the use of alternate energy sources, such as wind, solar and energy from waste heat or gases. Alternative energy generation is permitted in any settlement pattern type in accordance with provincial and federal legislation. Land use patterns and development should promote energy efficiency.

#### **4.7 Utility and Communication Facilities Corridors**

Utility and communications facilities and corridors include a wide variety of utilities owned and operated by both public and private entities. The well-being of Lanark County's economy is closely linked to the presence of hydroelectric corridors, utilities networks and energy pipelines.

#### **4.7.1 General Policies**

The following policies shall apply:

1. The development of hydro-electric power generation and supply facilities, telecommunications facilities and local utilities are permitted throughout the County provided that they are in full compliance with applicable Provincial and/or Federal legislation.
2. The development of hydro-electric power generation and supply facilities, telecommunications facilities and local utilities shall be subject to the provisions of local official plans and zoning by-laws except where located on crown lands.
3. The development of local utilities is not permitted in Provincially Significant Wetlands or in the Habitat of Endangered and Threatened Species.
4. Utility installations that may pose a hazard shall be located away from residential areas.
5. The multiple use of corridors for utility and transportation uses shall be encouraged.

#### **4.7.2 Other Infrastructure Corridors and Seasonal Corridors**

The County of Lanark recognizes the importance of other infrastructure corridors, such as hydroelectric transmission corridors, oil pipelines, natural gas pipelines, abandoned rail lines for use as trail or transit services, fibre-optic corridors, in addition to other seasonal corridors such as those used by snowmobile / ATV clubs, the Trans-Canada Trail and County and local recreational trails. The development, re-development, expansion, maintenance and preservation of these and other infrastructure corridors are important to continued economic development and diversification and as such are permitted throughout the County. Any capital project related to this section is considered to be in conformity with this Plan.

#### **4.8 Airports**

This Plan recognizes that airports are a federal government responsibility. It is further recognized however that land use adjacent and / or in the vicinity of existing airports should only occur where the functional operation of the airport is protected and where potential adverse impacts on adjacent land uses have been addressed through local Official Plan and zoning provisions.

## **PART II – SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT**

### **5.0 NATURAL HERITAGE**

#### **5.1 Introduction**

The landscape of Lanark County is a mosaic of cleared lands, forests, wetlands, watercourses, and settled areas. This diversity plays an important role in defining the rural character and natural environment of the County. Within this diverse landscape, there are many “natural heritage features” including wetlands, woodlands, areas of natural and scientific interest (ANSI’s), fish habitat, wildlife habitat, the habitat of endangered and threatened species and ground and surface water resources.

All natural heritage features are important to the County. However, certain natural heritage features have been identified as having special significance to either the Province of Ontario or to the County, or both.

#### **5.2 Determination of Significance**

Features that are “significant” for the purposes of this plan are illustrated on Schedule A. These have been determined by the Province or the County to be either:

1. ecologically important in terms of functions, representation or amount, and that contribute to the quality and diversity of the natural heritage system of the County; or
2. economically or socially important in terms of resource utilization, public access, recreational enjoyment, and community values.

It is especially important to Lanark County that the characteristics that made these significant features be retained for the benefit of future generations.

For the purposes of the Natural Heritage policies, “development” is defined as the creation of a new lot, a change in land use, or the construction of buildings and structures, requiring approval under the *Planning Act*.

#### **5.3 Objectives**

It is Lanark County’s overall goal that the County’s natural heritage features be both conserved and protected from negative impacts of development. Principles that form the basis of policies that achieve this goal are as follows:

1. The County’s significant natural heritage features shall be protected from negative impacts of development.
2. The County’s natural heritage features, including non-significant features, should be conserved and rehabilitated for the benefit of future generations according to best management practices undertaken today and as they evolve.

#### **5.4 General Land Use Policies**

The County of Lanark acknowledges that its decisions regarding land use and development can affect significant natural heritage features. Therefore, policies are required to protect these features from the potential negative impacts of development or to conserve them by prohibiting development. The following general policies shall apply:

1. Local Official Plans shall identify and protect those features where development and site alteration is prohibited. These include Provincially Significant Wetlands which are shown on Schedule A to this Plan and the habitat of endangered or threatened species which are not identified on Schedule A as identifying these features may prove to be harmful.
2. Local Official Plans shall identify and protect areas where development is permitted provided there is no negative impact to the natural heritage feature. These include Areas of Natural or Scientific Interest (ANSI's) and Significant Woodlands which are identified on Schedule A, as well as, fish habitat, significant valleylands, shore lands along major waterways and ground water resources.
3. Development control shall be implemented by local municipalities primarily through the use of local planning controls or in accordance with the relevant sections of this Plan.
4. The County of Lanark and its constituent municipalities have an obligation to consider the impact of development and land use on waterbodies throughout the County in order to ensure the long term viability of this important natural and economic resources. Local Official Plan requirements which provide for a minimum 30 metre setback where development is proposed adjacent to a waterbody shall apply. Any proposed reduction to the minimum setback requirements shall be in accordance with the provisions of local Official Plans.
5. Where the policies in this Plan provide for the undertaking of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), it is understood that, on the basis of consultation with the appropriate review agency, the EIS may be scoped or eliminated in those instances where the potential impact of development is reduced or non-existent.

#### **5.5 Landform Specific Land Use Policies**

The following provide policies specific to natural heritage features in the County of Lanark.

##### **5.5.1 Provincially Significant Wetlands**

Wetlands are lands which have specific ecological characteristics which include, but are not limited to, the presence of a permanent or seasonal shallow water cover, water-tolerant vegetation or the presence of a water table which is close to the surface. They are commonly known as swamps, marshes, bogs, and fens. Wetlands serve important functions such as controlling ground water recharge and discharge, reducing flood damage, stabilizing shorelines, retaining and removing nutrients, supporting the food chain, providing fish and wildlife habitat and contributing to the social and economic quality of life in the County.

The Ministry of Natural Resources has developed a wetland evaluation system based on the biological, hydrological, social and special characteristics of a wetland area and on the abundance of water which

has caused the formation of hydric soils and has favoured the dominance of either hydrophylic plants or water tolerant plants. Wetlands that meet Ministry criteria are classified as provincially significant and have been designated on Schedule A to this Plan as "Provincially Significant Wetlands". It is a policy of this Plan that such wetlands are to be protected from development and site alteration. The following policies shall apply:

1. Local Official Plans shall designate Provincially Significant Wetlands in their Official Plans and shall base the designation limits on mapping prepared by the Ministry of Natural Resources. Additional Provincially Significant Wetlands may be identified by the Ministry and subsequently added to local Official Plans by amendment. Similarly wetlands that are no longer considered provincially significant may be deleted from Official Plans by amendment.
2. Provincially Significant Wetlands shall be zoned restrictively in local municipal zoning by-laws.
3. Local municipalities may choose to protect non Provincially Significant Wetlands through local Official Plans and restrictive zoning regulations. Where zoning is used to protect locally significant wetlands, the zoning by-law shall be considered to conform to this Plan.
4. Development or site alteration in a significant wetland designated in a Local Official Plan is not permitted.
5. Activities that create or maintain infrastructure within the requirements of the Environmental Assessment process or works subject to the *Drainage Act* are not subject to the policies of this section, however wherever possible such uses shall be located outside of designated wetlands.
6. Development or site alteration within 120 metres of a designated wetland may be permitted, if it can be demonstrated that there will be no negative impacts on the wetland's natural features or ecological functions. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be required except for established agricultural uses. In accordance with provincial regulation, approval from the applicable conservation authority is required for all development and site alteration on lands within 120 metres of a wetland designated in this Plan or any local Official Plan.

### **5.5.2 Endangered or Threatened Species Habitat**

Endangered and threatened species can encompass any of the many types of living things: birds, mammals, plants, fish, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates. The existing habitat sites of any endangered or threatened species in the County are not identified in this Plan or in local Official Plans in order to protect endangered or threatened flora or fauna.

It is important to protect the significant habitat of endangered and threatened species found within the County. The County and Local Municipalities will work with the Ministry of Natural Resources to develop a mutually acceptable protocol for sharing available endangered and threatened species habitat information. Where this information indicates there is a potential for the habitat of endangered and / or threatened species to be present, any development proposal shall be accompanied by an Ecological Site Assessment to confirm the presence and extent of the significant habitat, as approved by the Ministry of Natural Resources.



Where endangered or threatened species habitat is identified in Lanark County then the following policies shall apply:

1. Development and/or site alteration is prohibited in significant habitat of endangered or threatened species as may be identified from time to time.
2. Approval authorities shall, subject to federal or provincial legislation, refuse development applications where the development review process, which can include an Ecological Site Assessment, confirms the existence of significant habitat of endangered or threatened species as approved by the Ministry of Natural Resources.
3. Notwithstanding sub-sections 1 and 2 above, development and site alteration may be permitted on lands within 120 metres of the habitat of endangered or threatened species provided it has been demonstrated through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that there will be no negative impacts on the natural features or the ecological functions for which the area is identified.

### **5.5.3 Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI's)**

According to the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS), Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSIs) are defined as "areas of land and water containing natural landscapes or features that have been identified as having life science or earth science values related to protection, scientific study or education."

Significant ANSIs are those sites that have been identified by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) as being representative of the most significant and best examples of natural heritage or geological features found in Ontario.

The following policies apply:

1. Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest are designated on Schedule A to this Plan. Local municipalities shall designate ANSI's on the map schedule of local Official Plans.
2. Development may be permitted in significant areas of natural and scientific interest (ANSIs), or on adjacent lands within 120 metres, only if it has been demonstrated through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that there will be no negative impacts on the natural features or on the ecological functions for which the area is identified.
3. Notwithstanding policy 1 above, existing agricultural activities including plowing, seeding, harvesting, grazing, animal husbandry, and minor expansions to existing buildings and structures associated with farming operations are permitted on adjacent lands without an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

### **5.5.4 Significant Woodlands**

According to the PPS, *woodlands* are defined as "treed areas that provide environmental and economic benefits such as erosion prevention, water retention, provision of habitat, recreation and the sustainable harvest of woodland products. Woodlands include treed areas, woodlots or forested areas and vary in their level of significance."

Significant woodlands in the County have values, both natural and human. The more obvious values are that they:

1. help to moderate climate, as temperature and moisture are influenced by respiration of trees and shrubs and by their shading;
2. provide oxygen to the atmosphere while reducing carbon dioxide, via photosynthesis;
3. clean air pollutants;
4. prevent soil erosion and stabilize slopes;
5. help to maintain good surface water quality;
6. provide habitat for a diverse range of species;
7. retain water and may recharge ground water;
8. yield economic products including lumber, firewood, maple syrup and mushrooms;
9. provide recreational activities such as wildlife observation, hiking, and hunting;
10. contribute to the beauty and visual diversity of the urban and rural landscape; and,
11. provide an attractive setting for rural residential development.

Lanark County has 38 forest properties, known as Community Forests in the County's Resource Management Plan, with an area of approximately 4,638 hectares located primarily with the Township of Lanark Highlands. The County also enjoys properties scattered throughout the County in Tay Valley, Mississippi Mills, Montague and Drummond/North Elmsley. These properties provide habitat and include areas that are designated as Provincially Significant Wetlands (PSW). Sustainable forestry practices are identified as one of the primary principles of managing the Community Forest lands.

These woodlands have been identified as Significant Woodlands and are shown on Schedule A. Local Official Plans shall identify and protect Community Forests as Significant Woodlands in accordance with the following policies:

1. Development may be permitted in Significant Woodlands, or within 120 metres on adjacent lands only if it has been demonstrated through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that there will be no negative impacts on the natural features or on the ecological functions for which the area is identified.
2. Notwithstanding policy 1 above, existing agricultural activities including plowing, seeding, harvesting, grazing, animal husbandry, and minor expansions to existing buildings and structures associated with farming operations are permitted on adjacent lands without an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).
3. The identification of Significant Woodlands other than Community Forests shall be in accordance with the specific circumstances of each individual municipality. Local municipalities may undertake their own studies to identify significant woodlands or they may rely on Ministry of Natural Resources data bases and select specific criteria as the basis for the identification of significance. Once Significant Woodlands are identified policies 1 and 2 above shall apply.

4. In addition to the need to identify and protect significant woodlands which are located south and east of the Canadian Shield, local municipalities may also choose to protect significant woodlands located on the Canadian Shield.
5. Notwithstanding policy 1 above, where Significant Woodlands located on the Canadian Shield are designated in local Official Plans, development and site alteration may occur on adjacent lands without the need to undertake an Environmental Impact Statement unless it is required in the local Official Plan.

#### **5.5.5 Significant Wildlife Habitat**

According to the PPS, wildlife habitat is defined as “areas where plants, animals and other organisms live, and find adequate amounts of food, water, shelter, and space needed to sustain their population. Specific wildlife habitats of concern may include areas where species concentrate at a vulnerable point in their annual or life cycle; and areas which are important to migratory or non-migratory species.” Wildlife habitat, and particularly significant areas, has many values that warrant its conservation: wildlife contributes to a diversity of species in the County; wildlife forms a fundamental component of the ecosystem and the food chain; wildlife represents social and economic benefit, through nature observation, hunting, and trapping.

Local Official Plans shall include specific policies to address significant wildlife habitat and such areas shall be appropriately recognized on the land use schedules forming part of local Official Plans. Local Official Plans shall not permit development and site alteration in significant wildlife habitat unless it has been demonstrated through the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement that there will be no negative impact to the natural feature or its ecological function.

#### **5.5.6 Significant Valleylands**

Valleys perform an important function within a watershed and provide migration corridors for wildlife. Some general guidelines for valley evaluation include:

1. Its prominence as a distinct landform
2. Its degree of naturalness
3. The ecological linkages it provides
4. Its potential for restoration
5. Its historical and cultural value

Local Official Plans shall include specific policies to address significant valleylands, where such areas have been identified, and such areas shall be appropriately recognized on the land use schedules forming part of local Official Plans. Local Official Plans shall not permit development and site alteration in significant valleylands or on adjacent lands within 120 metres unless it has been demonstrated through the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement that there will be no negative impact to the landform.

#### **5.5.7 Fish Habitat**

According to the PPS, fish habitat is defined as: “the spawning grounds and nursery, rearing, food supply, and migration areas on which fish depend directly or indirectly in order to carry out their life processes.” Fish resources have many values to the County, including:

1. Contributing to a diversity of species;
2. Providing a natural indicator of water quality and environmental health;
3. Forming a vital part of the aquatic food chain;
4. Providing commercial fishing such as baitfish (minnow) harvest (OMNR, 1983); and,
5. Providing recreational sport fishing opportunities and related economic spin-offs (OMNR, 1990).

Local Official Plans shall include specific policies to address significant fish habitat and such areas shall be appropriately recognized on the land use schedules forming part of local Official Plans. Local Official Plans shall not permit development and site alteration on lands within 120 metres of fish habitat unless it has been demonstrated through the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement that there will be no negative impact.

The harmful alteration, disturbance or destruction of fish habitat without the authorization of the Canada Minister of Fisheries and Oceans is prohibited under section 35 of the Fisheries Act. Applicants should consult with the local conservation authority to determine if approval is required.

#### **5.5.8 Surface and Ground Water Protection and Enhancement**

The ground water resource is crucial in the County of Lanark as it is the source of drinking water for the vast majority of our communities and our rural population. It is noted that several communities also rely on surface water as their source of drinking water.

In addition to residential uses, ground water is crucial for the watering of livestock, farm irrigation and commercial and industrial uses.

The County of Lanark and its constituent municipalities have an obligation to consider the impact of development and land use on surface water and ground water in order to ensure the long term viability of this resource.

Areas in the County have been identified as Highly Vulnerable Aquifers and Significant Groundwater recharge Areas in the Source Protection Plan which is under development. Where applicable local Official Plans shall refer the reader to the Source Protection plan for information about these areas.

#### **5.5.9 Municipal Source Water Protection and Enhancement**

Areas in the County are identified as a Wellhead Protection Zone in the Source Protection Plan which is under development. Local Official plans should include mapping which identifies these areas and should refer to the Source protection Plan for information about applicable policy.

### **6.0 RESOURCES**

The management of natural resources is a key component of Lanark County's economy. Our resources include agricultural land, aggregate resources such as sand, gravel and limestone, minerals and vast forested areas. Appropriate land use policies are required to ensure the wise use and conservation of these resources for future generations.

#### **6.1 Agricultural Resources**

The County of Lanark is composed primarily of rural municipalities, within which agricultural activities are numerous. Agriculture plays a significant role in the local economy and consequently there is a need to ensure that this resource is protected.

### **6.1.1 Identifying Agricultural Resource Policy Areas**

Local Official Plans shall identify agricultural resource lands. The identification of prime agricultural lands should be based primarily on three factors:

1. soil capability for agriculture, primarily soil classes 1, 2 and 3 (Canada Land Inventory classification system) and associated class 4 to 7 lands where there is a local concentration of farms which exhibit characteristics of on-going agriculture;
2. the extent of land fragmentation; and
3. the presence of conflicting land uses in the area.

Prime agricultural areas have been identified on Schedule A of this Plan. Any change to the Agricultural designation in local Official Plans will require an amendment to this Plan. Agricultural resources will be protected through designation in the local Official Plan as well as the Lanark County Plan and the implementation of policies for their protection.

### **6.1.2 Permitted Uses**

The following uses are permitted in the areas identified as agricultural resource areas in local Official Plans:

1. Agricultural uses and normal farm practices
2. Uses which are secondary to a principal agricultural use and which add value to agricultural products or support the agricultural resource use;
3. Uses secondary to the principal use of the property such as home-based work, bed and breakfast establishments, domestic industries and uses that produce agricultural products;
4. Forestry uses;
5. Uses related to the conservation or management of the natural environment;
6. Small scale farm related industrial and commercial uses that are directly related to an agricultural operation;
7. Wayside pits and quarries which, if established on land that is of high capability for agriculture, shall be subject to a rehabilitation plan showing how the site will be rehabilitated for productive agricultural use;
8. Public utility corridors and communications facilities;
9. Private communications facilities subject to local zoning and development controls;
10. Farm related residential uses.

All uses permitted shall be subject to the appropriate Minimum Distance Separation (MDS) calculation as developed by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and amended from time to time. Permitted uses are subject to local municipal zoning and development control.

### **6.1.3 Lot Area**

Decisions regarding agricultural lot area standards for zoning by-laws and lot creation purposes shall be guided by the following criteria:

1. The minimum lot area of the agricultural parcel shall be appropriate for the type of agriculture common in the area.

2. The minimum lot area shall be sufficiently large to ensure that long-term flexibility of lands to accommodate different agricultural uses in the future.
3. Minimum lot area may be reduced where specialized agricultural operations which do not produce animal waste and which by their nature do not require large lot areas such as garlic farms, apiaries or aquaculture.
4. Lot areas for residential uses (farm and non-farm) and industrial or commercial uses related to agricultural uses shall be kept to the minimum required for site services and local development standards in order to limit the loss of prime agricultural land.

#### **6.1.4 Lot Creation**

Farm related residential severances in agricultural resource areas may only be considered for a dwelling made surplus through farm consolidation. A farm consolidation is defined as the consolidation of one farm operation with another. A farm operation is defined as all of the legally conveyable lots, whether contiguous or not, which are associated with the operation of a farm including those lands which are owned and which are considered to be one operation for income tax purposes.

The consent approval authority shall impose restrictive conditions to prohibit the construction of a new dwelling on the parcel rendered vacant as a result of the severance.

The consent approval authority shall consider non-residential farm severances in accordance with the following:

1. for making minor boundary adjustments between farms, provided that no building lot is created;
2. for creating a new holding intended to be used exclusively as an agricultural operation, provided that:
  - the size of the parcel to be severed as well as the parcel to be retained are appropriate for the type of agriculture proposed for each parcel;
  - the size of the parcel to be severed as well as the parcel to be retained are appropriate for the type of agriculture for the area in which these parcels are located;
  - the size of both parcels are common for the area in which they are located;
  - the severed and the remaining parent parcel are sufficiently large to make them suitable for other types of agricultural operations in the future.
3. for creating a new holding intended to be used for a farm related commercial or industrial operation. Where possible, such a lot will be located on land of low capability for agriculture.

Minimum Separation Distance formulae shall apply to all lots created in the Agricultural Policy Area.

#### **6.1.5 Zoning and Development Control**

Local Councils through municipal zoning by-laws shall endeavour to maintain the character and scale of development in agricultural resource areas and to ensure appropriate regulatory control. The review of site development and the development of zoning by-laws shall address the following:

1. permit a range of uses in accordance with policy 6.1.2;
2. identify agriculture zones;
3. ensure the protection of agricultural resources.

## **6.2 MINERAL RESOURCES**

Mineral resources in County of Lanark consist of aggregates such as sand, gravel and limestone. There are also active mining operations such as the Tatlock Calcium Carbonate mine in Lanark Highlands. There are no known petroleum resources.

The following policies address mineral mining operations as well as mineral aggregate extraction.

### **6.2.1 Mineral Mining**

1. Mining and related activities will only be permitted outside identified settlement areas;
2. The establishment of new mining and mining related activities shall be subject to the approval of the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines under the Mining Act and the Environmental Protection Act, and shall be subject to local Official Plan policies and local Zoning By-law regulations;
3. An Influence Area shall be used as a means of protecting existing land uses in the vicinity of proposed mining operations from a land use conflict and, reciprocally, to protect areas designated and licensed for mineral mining from the encroachment of incompatible land uses. Development may be permitted in the Influence Area in accordance with the relevant local land use designation only where the impacts of mining operation can be properly mitigated. Local Official Plans shall establish the extent of the influence area;
4. The establishment or modification of an Influence Area should be carried out in consultation with the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines and the Ministry of the Environment;
5. Proposals for development within 1000 metres of known abandoned mine sites should not be approved until the nature and extent of any potential hazards have been mitigated with the approval of the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines (MNDM). Local Official Plans shall establish appropriate setbacks from known mine hazards.

### **6.2.2 Mineral Aggregates**

Mineral and aggregate resources are important to all facets of development in the County as these materials are used in the construction of roads, water and sewer infrastructures, homes, schools and commercial buildings and landscaping projects. As such the identification and long term protection of aggregate resources is important to the County's well-being.

#### **6.2.2.1 Identifying Mineral Aggregate Resource Policy Areas**

All licensed pits and quarries are identified as "Licensed Aggregate Extraction Operation" on Schedule A of this Plan. The identification of mineral aggregate resources in local Official plans shall be based on areas which are currently licensed or areas with known high quality aggregate deposits as follows:

1. Mineral Aggregate Resource - Licensed Pit
2. Mineral Aggregate Resource - Licensed Quarry
3. Mineral Aggregate Resource - Sand and Gravel Reserve
4. Mineral Aggregate Resource - Bedrock Reserve

#### **6.2.2.2 Permitted Uses**

The following uses shall generally be permitted in areas of mineral aggregate resources:

1. licensed pits and quarries;
2. licensed wayside pits and quarries;
3. portable asphalt plants and concrete plants;
4. agricultural uses excluding any accessory building or structure;
5. forestry uses excluding any accessory building or structure;
6. conservation and natural resource management uses excluding any accessory building or structure;
7. uses accessory to an aggregate extraction operation such as crushing and screening operations, machinery storage facilities and office space;
8. Permanent asphalt and concrete plants may be permitted subject to site specific municipal planning control.

#### **6.2.2.3 Prohibited Uses**

Development, including changes in land use and the creation of new lots for residential, commercial, institutional, recreational or industrial development which has the potential to preclude or hinder future aggregate extraction or the expansion of existing extraction operations or resource use shall be prohibited in mineral aggregate resource areas.

#### **6.2.2.4 Adjacent Land**

In areas located within 300 metres of an area intended or utilized for a licensed pit operation below the water table and 150 metres of an area intended or utilized for a licensed pit operation above the water table as well as in areas located and 500 metres from an area intended or utilized for a licensed quarry operation, incompatible development, including the creation of new lots shall only be permitted subject to the following criteria:

1. That it is demonstrated that the resource use would not be feasible or that the proposed use or development would serve a greater long term public interest;
2. That the proposed non extraction development can be adequately serviced by water and waste water services in a manner which will not impede continued existing and proposed extraction operations;
3. Any other investigation as required by the development approval authority such as traffic studies, noise studies, vibration studies, slope stability studies, air quality impact studies etc. are carried out and demonstrate that the proposed development can proceed without impeding the continued operation of the existing licensed operations and future operations on reserves. Such studies are to be carried out by qualified professionals;
4. When a license for aggregate extraction or operation ceases to exist policies 1, 2 and 3 above shall continue to apply.

#### **6.2.2.5 Zoning and Development Control**

The establishment of any new pit or quarry or the expansion to existing licensed areas shall be in accordance with the *Aggregate Resources Act* and will require an amendment to this Plan and to the local



Official Plan. Studies and site plans required under the *Aggregate Resources Act* shall be reviewed prior to any Official Plan Amendment or rezoning.

The licensed area of pits and quarries shall be zoned for extraction and associated accessory uses in local zoning by-laws. Licensed areas may also be zoned for aggregate-related uses, such as portable asphalt plants and concrete plants.

The municipality may use zoning, holding provisions or interim control by-laws to implement any of the policies stated in this section. The Ministry of Natural Resources will provide advice to the municipality or the County with respect to any license required under the *Aggregate Resources Act*.

## **7.0 PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Our natural landscape and resources are constantly being shaped and reshaped by naturally occurring physical and ecological processes. These landscapes and resources only become a hazard when people and structures are located within them or are affected by them. As such environmental conditions occasionally pose constraints to the development of land such that there can exist a significant threat to people's health and safety.

Constraints to development are primarily related to hazardous conditions such as the existence of floodplains, erosion hazards and the presence of unstable slopes. To a lesser extent, development may be restricted on the basis of existing site contamination or noise and vibration concerns.

Promoting quality of life and self-sufficiency for our citizens requires that all development be carried out in a manner which ensures that life, safety and economic welfare be protected.

### **7.1 Objective**

It is the objective of these policies to permit only suitable development, which does not pose a danger to public safety or health or result in property or environmental damage, in areas subject to development constraints.

### **7.2 Identifying Hazard Areas**

Accurate mapping showing the location of areas characterized by health and public safety hazards and/or by constraints for development is of crucial importance in order to ensure informed decisions by approval authorities when considering development applications. The Ministry of Natural Resources and the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines (floodplains, unstable slopes and former mineral extraction sites) and Conservation Authorities (floodplains, unstable slopes) are the primary sources of information for the identification of hazardous areas. The Ministry of the Environment can provide information respecting contaminated sites such as closed landfill sites.

The mapping of these sites is on-going and is being coordinated by the County for inclusion in the County Geographic Information System (GIS) data base and will be available to local municipalities. Local Official Plans shall identify hazardous areas on their map schedules.

### **7.3 FLOODING AND EROSION**

Floodplains include all areas known to be subject to 1 in 100 year flood events. These areas have been identified and mapped by the Conservation Authorities and by the Ministry of Natural Resources in those areas which are outside the jurisdictions of the Conservation Authorities.

1. Local Official Plans shall include mapping which identifies areas subject to flooding and erosion.
2. Development and site alteration is prohibited in flood plains and areas subject to erosion hazards except in accordance with the policies respecting development and site alteration in such areas established by the Conservation Authority having jurisdiction over the lands in question.

### **7.3.1 Additional Policies**

#### **1. Two Zone Concept**

The County or local municipalities may choose to establish a “two zone concept” for the management of land use in areas susceptible to flood hazards. This concept identifies the floodway and the flood fringe. The floodway refers to that portion of the floodplain where development and site alteration would cause a threat to public health and safety and property damage. The flood fringe is the portion of the flood plain where development may be permitted subject to 7.3 subsection 1.

#### **2. Special Policy Areas**

In some unique or exceptional situations, communities may be allowed to continue uses in a floodway if the area is officially designated as a Special Policy Area (SPA) in the local Official Plan. The application of the SPA concept is really limited to those areas, which are essential for the continued viability of existing uses; e.g. historical sites or old neighbourhoods built before flood plain policies came into effect.

#### **3. Floodplain designation**

The floodplain is shown on Schedule A to this Plan. An amendment to this Plan will not be required for changes in the floodplain, floodway or flood fringe boundary where it is deemed to be suitable for development after consultation with the appropriate Conservation Authority or the Ministry of Natural Resources having jurisdiction over the flood risk area.

### **7.4 Hazardous Geological Formations**

Development and site alteration in areas designated as having unstable slopes, unstable bedrock, organic soils, areas where Leda clay is present or where there is evidence of Karst topography is generally prohibited.

Development may be permitted in areas with hazardous geological formations where sufficient soils and engineering information is made available to indicate that, although the site is identified as having hazardous conditions, it is in fact suitable or can be made suitable for development using accepted scientific and engineering practices.

Areas with hazardous geological formations shall be identified on local Official Plan map schedules.

Where applicable in accordance with provincial regulation, approval from the local Conservation Authority is required prior to any development or site alteration on or adjacent to a hazardous site.

### **7.5 Closed Waste Disposal Sites**

Development and site alteration in closed Waste Disposal Sites shall generally be prohibited unless it can be demonstrated that it is consistent with Ministry of the Environment Guideline D-4 “Land Use on or near Landfills and Dumps” and the following policies:

1. Where development is proposed within 500 metres of an active or closed landfill site, the proponent shall be required to demonstrate that no impacts will result from the landfill activities or associated activities and appropriate buffering and monitoring may be required. Development approval shall be subject to the requirements of the Environmental Protection Act.
2. Land or land covered by water which has been used for the disposal of waste within a period of twenty-five years from the year in which such land ceased to be so used shall not be developed or re-developed unless an approval has been obtained under Section 46 of the Environmental Protection Act.

### **7.6 Other Contaminated Sites**

Contaminated sites are defined as sites where the environmental condition of the property, i.e. the quality of the soil or ground water, may have the potential for adverse effects to human health or the natural environment.

In reviewing development applications the approval authority may require the undertaking of an ESA.

Where the ESA produces reasonable evidence to suggest the presence of site contamination, the proponent may be required to undertake appropriate technical studies as part of the development review process in order to identify the nature and extent of contamination, to determine potential human health and safety concerns as well as effects on ecological health and the natural environment, to demonstrate that the site can be rehabilitated to meet provincial standards and to establish procedures for site rehabilitation and mitigation of the contamination.

The ESA and site restoration, if required, shall be undertaken according to Ontario Regulation 153/04, Record of Site Condition.

### **7.7 Abandoned Pits and Quarries**

Development on, abutting or adjacent to lands affected by former mineral resource operations may proceed only if rehabilitation measures to address and mitigate known or suspected hazards are underway or have been completed. For the purposes of this policy, adjacent lands are the same as set out in section 6.2.2.4 of this Plan.

### **7.8 Noise and Vibration**

Noise and vibration impacts shall be addressed for new sensitive land uses adjacent to stationary or line sources where noise and vibration may be generated. The approval authority may require the proponent to undertake noise and/or vibration studies to assess the impact on existing or proposed sensitive land uses within minimum distances identified in Ministry of Environment guidelines including Publication LU – 131, Noise Assessment Criteria in Land Use Planning. Noise and/or vibration attenuation measures will be implemented, as required, to reduce impacts to acceptable levels.

Existing and proposed agricultural uses and normal farm practices, as defined in the *Farm and Food Production Protection Act, 1998*, shall not be required to undertake noise and or vibration studies.

### **7.9 Incompatible Land Uses**

Every effort shall be made to prevent or minimize future land use conflicts which can arise when incompatible land uses develop in close proximity to one another. Ministry of the Environment guidelines on Land Use Compatibility (Guidelines D-1, D-2, D-4 and D-6 and any other relevant or future MOE Guideline documents) should be considered when preparing and adopting local Official Plans and Zoning By-laws and when considering amendments to this Plan.

## **PART III – GENERAL POLICIES**

### **8.0 Introduction**

The following policies are provided to guide the implementation of the Sustainable Communities Official Plan as well as to provide local municipalities with the required policy framework to adopt the full slate of land use controls available through various pieces of legislation. Nothing in this section of the Plan is intended to limit the ability of local municipalities to develop implementation policies for their specific Official Plans tailored to local requirements.

### **8.1 General**

The policies of this Plan shall be implemented by the County, the consent approval authority, local municipalities, and local Committees of Adjustment through the powers conferred upon them by the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990*, the *Municipal Act, 2001*, the *Development Charges Act, 1997*, the *Building Code Act, R.S.O. 1992*, as amended, and any other applicable statutes of the Province of Ontario.

The decisions of County Council, the Consent Approval Authority, local municipal Councils, and local Committees of Adjustment in respect to planning matters must be consistent with and in conformity to the relevant policies of this Plan.

County Council and local municipal Councils may acquire, hold, or dispose of land for the purposes of implementing any policies of this Official Plan subject to the provisions of the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990*, the *Municipal Act, 2001*, and any other applicable statutes of the Province of Ontario.

All forms of development agreements regarding subdivisions, consents, condominiums, variances and site plans are required to conform to the policies of this Plan.

### **8.2 Implementation Tools and Processes**

#### **8.2.1 Plans of Subdivision**

The County of Lanark is the approval authority for Plans of Subdivision.

A plan of subdivision application will be reviewed on the basis of technical, environmental and planning and design considerations. The following is a list of some of the types of studies which may be required. Though this list summarizes the types of studies commonly required for plans of subdivision in Lanark County, it is not necessarily exhaustive, and other studies may be required in certain situations.

8.2.1.1 Technical considerations relate to the following requirements:

1. The application must be complete in accordance with the requirements of Section 51 (17) and applicable regulations under the *Planning Act, R.S.O.1990*;
2. The application must conform to the policies of this Plan and the local Official Plan; where an application does not conform to this Plan or the local Plan an Official Plan Amendment application(s) may be submitted concurrently;
3. Consideration of local zoning and other regulations;

4. Application of local and county development charges or servicing charge backs where applicable.

8.2.1.2 Environmental documentation which should accompany the submission of application for draft plan approval, relate to the following requirements:

1. Evidence respecting the availability and suitability of water and waste water services including where appropriate the preparation of a hydrogeological study, terrain analysis and an impact assessment report in accordance with the Ministry of Environment guidelines and regulations;
2. Preparation of a servicing options statement;
3. Preparation of a preliminary stormwater management plan;
4. Completion of studies required under the Natural Heritage policies of this Plan as stated in section 5.0, studies required under the Resources policies of this Plan as stated in section 6.0 or studies required under the Public Health and Safety policies under section 7.0 of this Plan.

8.2.1.3 Planning and Design Considerations include the following:

1. Lot and block configuration
2. Compatibility with adjacent uses
3. Road access, street layout and pedestrian amenities
4. Parks and open space amenities
5. Easement and right-of-way requirements
6. In considering a draft plan of subdivision, regard shall be had to, among other matters, the criteria of Section 51 (24) of the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990*
7. Emergency and secondary accesses
8. Additional considerations as may be required in local Official Plans.

The Approval authority will, in giving draft approval to plans of subdivision or condominium which have access to full or partial municipal water and/or sewage services, provide that approval will lapse not more than 3 to 5 years from the date draft approval is given, in accordance with section 51 (32) of the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990*, as amended. The Approval authority may, in giving approval to plans of subdivision or condominium which will employ private services, provide that approval will lapse at the expiration of a period of time to be specified by the approval authority in accordance with section 51 (32) of the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990*, as amended.

### **8.2.2 Consents**

Lanark County, through an appointed Land Division Committee is the approval authority for the issuance of consents.

Lot creation by consent shall be permitted where lot creation by plan of subdivision is deemed to be unnecessary.

Consideration of locational and development criteria by the approval authority shall be based on local Official Plans. In considering a consent, regard shall also be had to, among other matters, the criteria of Section 51 (24) of the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990* with necessary modifications.

### **8.2.3 Site Plan Control**

The objective of site plan control is ensure functional and aesthetically pleasing, safe development and redevelopment throughout the County.

In order to achieve the goal, local Councils may adopt a Site Plan Control By-law which provides for the following:

1. The submission of site plans for review;
2. The application of appropriate engineering and site development standards;
3. Reducing or eliminating land use incompatibility between new and existing development;
4. Ensuring that approved developments are built and maintained as set out in the site plan agreement;

The entire geographical area of the County of Lanark shall be considered a Site Plan Control Area pursuant to the provisions of Section 41(2) of the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990*.

Site plan control may be used to require the dedication of land for road widenings as identified in this Plan and local Official Plans.

Local Councils shall have regard for the enabling authority of Section 41 of the *Planning Act* with respect to the matters which may be addressed under site plan control, the entering into one or more agreements for the provision of any or all of the facilities, works or matters as provided for by the Act and the maintenance thereof and for the registration of such agreements against title to the land. Local Council will also have regard to the requirements of the County of Lanark Public Works Department and the Ministry of Transportation with respect to road widenings, safe access and the provision of storm drainage facilities.

### **8.2.4 Holding Provisions**

The use of Holding provisions in accordance with Section 36 of the *Planning Act R.S.O. 1990* is permitted. A municipality may adopt holding provisions and when doing so shall clearly state the conditions which must be met prior to the removal of the "H" designation by the local Council. The use of Holding provisions shall conform to the policies of this Official Plan.

### **8.2.5 Development Permit By-law**

Local Official Plans are encouraged to include policies respecting the use of a Development Permit By-law as an implementation tool for this and for local Official Plans. The Development Permit approval framework combines existing systems of zoning, site plan control, tree cutting by-laws and site alteration by-laws into one approval or permitting system. Provisions for new development, infill and construction are outlined within the Development Permit By-law in a manner which must be consistent with Official Plan designations and directions. It differs from traditional land use regulations by allowing discretionary uses, conditional approvals, and variations to standard requirements, control of exterior design elements and control over removal of vegetation. Municipalities may tailor a Development Permit By-law to their specific conditions and development requirements.

This provides staff and Council with flexibility within the context of the By-law to review development proposals and provide approvals without further site specific amendments to the By-law. The Development Permit By-Law must clearly articulate and establish development and design requirements, provisions and standards which must be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the municipality prior to the granting of any approval.

The Development Permit By-Law will generally provide for a streamlined approach to the review and approval of development applications, including delegation of some approval authority to municipal staff where warranted, and allows for flexibility within a clearly articulated context

In order to adopt a Development Permit By-law, local municipalities must first establish a policy framework in its Official Plan which must address the area to which the by-law applies, the objectives of the by-law, application requirements and the types of conditions which can be imposed. Where this Plan refers to zoning by-laws as an implementation tool, such references shall be understood to include development permit systems.

#### **8.2.6 Community Improvement Plan**

The intent of the Community Improvement Plan policies at the County level is to achieve and maintain a standard of physical infrastructure and associated facilities that form the foundation of development including:

- transportation corridors and facilities
- communications systems
- electric power systems, oil and gas pipelines, alternative energy systems and renewable energy systems

Accordingly Lanark County may seek to become a prescribed municipality for the purposes of section 28 of the Planning Act.

Local municipalities are encouraged to develop policies in their Official Plans regarding Community Improvement Plans and plan areas.

#### **8.2.7 Zoning By-law**

Following the approval of this Plan by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local municipal Official Plans and Zoning By-laws shall be brought into conformity with the policies of this Plan in accordance with the *Planning Act*.

#### **8.2.8 Brownfield Redevelopment**

Brownfield sites are undeveloped or previously developed properties that may be contaminated. They are usually, but not exclusively, former industrial or commercial properties that may be underutilized, derelict or vacant. The County and/or local municipalities shall identify and promote opportunities for intensification and redevelopment of brownfield industrial sites. Private sector investment in the re-use and/or redevelopment of underutilized and/or abandoned brownfield industrial lands will be encouraged.



### **8.2.9 Affordable Housing**

Council and local Councils will provide for affordable housing by enabling a full range of housing types and densities to meet projected demographic and market requirements of current and future residents of the County by:

1. Monitoring the need for social assisted housing for households and seniors through periodic surveys in co-operation with area municipalities. Where specific needs are identified, Council will work with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the Social Services Department of the County of Lanark to meet identified needs.
2. Encouraging infill and housing intensification particularly in urban core areas. This may be achieved through the conversion of single detached dwellings to multiple units, through re-development at higher densities, through land severances on large under-utilized lots which create opportunities for development on the severed lot (subject to the relevant policies elsewhere in this plan) and through infill on vacant lands.
3. Ensuring a minimum 10-year supply of residential land at all times.
4. Working with the development industry to ensure that a 3-year minimum supply of registered or draft approved lots and blocks for new residential development is available at all times.
5. Monitoring population projections and the residential development targets discussed in section 1.0 of this Plan.
6. Encouraging cost-effective development standards and densities for new residential development to reduce the cost of housing.

### **8.2.10 Consultation with First Nations**

The Algonquins of Ontario shall be consulted on any Archaeological Studies related to proposed developments where areas of Algonquin Interest and/or Native Values and/or the potential for aboriginal artifacts to be encountered have been identified.

The Algonquins of Ontario shall be consulted on any Environmental Impact Studies related to proposed developments where areas of Algonquin interest and/or Native Values and/or the potential for aboriginal artifacts to be encountered have been identified.

### **8.2.11 Heritage Conservation**

The heritage resources policies of this plan shall apply when:

1. Conserving built heritage resources, cultural heritage landscapes and archaeological resources that are under municipal ownership and/or stewardship;
2. Conserving and mitigating impacts to all significant cultural heritage resources, when undertaking public works;
3. Respecting heritage resources identified, recognized or designated by federal and provincial agencies.

Local Official Plans may permit development and site alteration on adjacent lands where the proposed development and site alteration has been evaluated and it has been demonstrated that the heritage attributes of the protected heritage property will be conserved.

A heritage impact assessment may be required if there are any adverse impacts to any significant cultural heritage resources resulting from development proposals. Mitigative measures and/or alternative development approaches may be required for the conservation of heritage attributes of a protected heritage property. The *Ontario Heritage Act* may be utilized to conserve, protect and enhance any significant cultural heritage resources located in a municipality.

Areas of archaeological potential are determined through the use of provincial screening criteria, or criteria developed based on the known archaeological record. Local Official plans shall include policies to ensure that archaeological features and resources are conserved.

### **8.2.12 Pre-consultation and Complete Application Requirements**

In order to provide clarity and transparency to the process of obtaining municipal approval for development applications local municipalities may require that proponents undertake a pre-submission consultation process in order to identify information requirements necessary to ensuring a full review of a development proposal. Local Official Plan may include the need to pre-consult and in addition may set out the requirements for a complete application.

## **8.3 ADMINISTRATION OF THE OFFICIAL PLAN**

### **8.3.1 Amendments to the Sustainable Communities Official Plan**

Pursuant to subsection 17(9) of the *Planning Act*, the County may request the Minister to amend Ontario Regulation 525/97 [Exemption from Approval (Official Plan Amendments)] to be exempted from ministerial approval of future amendments to the County Plan.

Amendments to this Plan shall be considered in accordance with related policies elsewhere in this Plan. In general, amendments will only be considered when they are justified and when the required supportive information is provided as stated in the policy sector proposed for revision. Proposed amendments to this Plan shall be accompanied by sufficient information to allow Council to fully understand and consider the following:

1. the impact of the proposed change on the achievement of the stated goals, objectives and policies expressed in this Plan;
2. the need for the proposed change;
3. the effect of the proposed change on the need for public services and facilities;
4. the physical suitability of the land for the proposed use.

Accordingly applications to amend this Plan will not be considered complete until the information and materials required under the Planning Act and Regulation 543/06 have been provided.

### **8.3.2 Consultation**

Council shall undertake a community consultation program for all amendments to and reviews of the Plan. The consultation process shall include timely provision of adequate information as well as opportunities for members of the public and the Algonquin First Nation of Ontario to discuss this information with Counties' staff and to present views to Council and to local Councils.

### **8.3.3 Review and Monitoring of the Official Plan**

Council shall at regular intervals of not more than five years, determine whether there is a need to revise this Plan, or parts thereof, to ensure that:

1. the Plan's goals and objectives remain valid and realistic in light of prevailing circumstances;
2. the Plan's policies are adequate for the achievement of its goals and objectives.

In order to facilitate the review of this Plan, Council will monitor the achievement of its objectives and the effectiveness of its policies.

### **8.3.4 Local Official Plans and Official Plan Amendments**

Lanark County is the approval authority for local Official Plans and Official plan Amendments. In addition to any requirements of the Local Official Plans, the complete application requirements which are listed in section 8.3.1 shall also apply to the review of local Official Plans and Official plan Amendments by the County.

### **8.3.5 References to Statutes**

Where any Act or portion of any Act is referred to in this Plan, such references shall be interpreted as referring to the stated Act or portion of the Act and any subsequent changes to or renumbering of these sections of such Act.

### **8.3.6 References to Ministries and Review Agencies**

Throughout this Plan, references are made to various Provincial Ministries and agencies in regard to the review of and/or input on various types of planning issues and development proposals. While such references are considered to be current at the date of adoption of this Official Plan, it is acknowledged that changes may occur as a result of on-going changes in the planning and application review processes in the Province of Ontario. No amendment to this Plan is required in order to acknowledge such changes; however, it is the intent of the County to update such Ministry and agency references at the time that general reviews and updates of the County Plan are undertaken.

### **8.3.7 Interpretation of figures, quantities and uses**

It is intended that all figures and quantities herein shall be considered as approximate unless stated otherwise. Amendments to the Official Plan will not be required where Council is satisfied that the variance from the figure or quantity is minor and that the intent of the policy in question is met.

Where examples of permitted uses are provided for in the land use policies of the Plan, it is intended that these be recognized as representative examples as opposed to a definitive and/or restrictive list of uses.

### **8.3.8 Land Use Designation Boundaries**

The boundaries of the land use designations established by this Plan and as shown on Schedule "A" included as Part IV of this Plan, are intended to be approximate and shall be considered as absolute only where they coincide with roads, railway lines, rivers, lot lines shown in an implementing Zoning By-law or Development Permit By-law, or other clearly defined physical feature.

Amendments to this Plan will not be required in order to make minor adjustments to land use designation boundaries provided that the general intent and purpose of the Plan are maintained. This will include minor changes to the boundaries of towns, villages and hamlets where such changes are not considered to increase the settlement area boundary as per section 2.5.

Minor adjustments shall be determined by Council and will not need to be incorporated into the land use schedules.

**SCHEDULE A – LAND USE DESIGNATIONS**

## **APPENDIX 1 – INTEGRATED COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY PLAN**

# APPENDIX 1

## Sustainable Lanark

An Integrated Community Sustainability  
Plan for Lanark County, Ontario



Adopted June 27, 2012



**GRANT CONSULTING**  
SUSTAINABILITY one step at a time





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**Appendix A – Implementation Matrix**

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Many people contributed to the development of Sustainable Lanark and they all deserve to be recognized for their efforts.

*Social Task Force members:*

- Susan Berlin (Resident, Lanark Highlands)
- Patricia Larkin (Resident, Mississippi Mills)
- Lois Ellen Dewey (Healthy Communities Partnership Lanark, Leeds and Grenville)
- Ray Elgersma (Resident, Carleton Place)
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*The Economic Task Force members:*

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- John Hall (Lanark Highlands)
- Susan Brandum (REAL)
- Nicole Guthrie (Community/Cultural Programmer, Mississippi Mills)
- Cassandra McGregor (Recreation Coordinator, Beckwith Township)
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- John Gemmell (Perth)
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- Peter Wagland, CAO
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- Mary Kirkham, Planning Approvals Administrator



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### ***Introduction***

Lanark County is developing an Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP) called **Sustainable Lanark** as part of the development of the Sustainable Communities Official Plan in order to meet the requirements of the Federal Gas Tax Transfer Agreement that is in place with the County, the Government of Canada and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO). This document contains the core plan elements and it describes how the plan will be implemented and monitored in future years.

Sustainable Lanark was developed by almost 40 volunteers working through a Task Force process. Sustainable Lanark includes a vision statement, 19 themes with theme statements and strategic objectives.

### ***Our Vision***

The vision for Sustainable Lanark comes from the Lanark Strategic Plan:

*Lanark County is proud of its heritage and cherishes its small-town character, rural way of life, sense of community and distinctive natural features. We want to strengthen and diversify the economy, effectively manage growth, protect the environment, preserve our heritage and maintain our unique character for future generations.*

### ***Themes, Theme Statements and Strategic Objectives***

Sustainable Lanark includes 19 themes that cover the four pillars of sustainability: cultural, environmental, economic and social. Each theme has a theme statement that describes what we would like to see for Lanark County in the future. Finally each theme has a number of strategic objectives which are designed to guide our future development. A one page summary has been prepared for each theme.

### ***Link to the County Official Plan***

Lanark County Council chose to combine an Integrated Community Sustainability Plan with an Official Plan (OP). The result is the Lanark County Sustainable Communities Official Plan (SCOP). The SCOP balances the implementation of land use policies through traditional tools such as zoning and lot creation with direct actions designed to ensure integration of sustainable practices regardless of political boundaries. It also includes a sustainability component to address issues that are beyond the powers of an OP.

The SCOP is a legal document adopted and approved under *the Planning Act*. The SCOP applies to all lands within the corporate limits of the County of Lanark. The decision making process on all land use matters covered in this Plan is intended to be based on general, broad policies at the County level and more detailed and focused policies reflecting local priorities in local Official Plans. Accordingly it is necessary to read the County Plan and the local Official

Plan together when considering new development or when moving towards the implementation of a policy or sustainable action plan.

The Lanark County SCOP is intended to provide a land use framework for the next 20 years. As required in *the Planning Act*, the SCOP will be reviewed every five years.

### ***The Role of the County and Local Municipalities***

Sustainable Lanark is an aspirational document that reflects the contributions of over 300 local residents and defines a vision for a more sustainable future. Lanark County is responsible for the creation of the document and for reporting and monitoring over the long term. The County also has a role to play in implementation as do the local municipalities.

However, the strategic objectives will only be achieved if other community partners play a role. In fact it is safe to say that Sustainable Lanark will only succeed if all community partners, including businesses, institutions, non-profit groups, all levels of government, and individual residents – commit to doing their part and participating in implementation over the short and long term. If we work together we can achieve our long-term vision for Sustainable Lanark.

### ***Contribution of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities***

Lanark County received funding from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to complete the development of its integrated community sustainability plan (ICSP) known as Sustainable Lanark. This funding was critical to the ongoing development process.

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## INTRODUCTION

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### ***Implementation***

**Appendix A** of this document lists each strategic objective and notes those that will be implemented using the SCOP.

Although the SCOP will be the primary implementation tool, the strategic objectives will only be achieved through a collective effort between community partners.

In **Appendix A** notes have been added to identify potential partners.

### ***Community Partners***

Community Partnership for Sustainability is a new model of community development that invites local municipalities, businesses, institutions (including hospitals, universities, colleges and schools), branches of the federal or provincial government and non-governmental organizations to participate in the long term implementation of a sustainability plan.

*Local government cannot be expected to implement sustainability on its own. Lanark County will need to establish ways in which its community partners can work together to implement actions that will move the whole community closer to our shared vision of sustainability. We need to look at the community as a whole when measuring progress and it is in our best interests to identify opportunities to collaborate.*



## **Public Engagement**

The development of the sustainability component of the SCOP was facilitated through the direct engagement of members of the public.

A project web site was set up at <http://sustainablelanark.wordpress.com> and regular updates have been posted. Subscribers to the site receive automatic email updates every time that a new story is posted.

A questionnaire on sustainability was hosted at the project web site from September 1, 2011 until November 8, 2011 and members of the project team used iPads to collect questionnaire responses at intercept engagements (farmers markets, landfill sites/waste events, hockey arenas). There were 255 responses in total with approximately 40 percent of responses collected using the iPad and 60 percent collected through the project web site.

The questionnaire results are included as **Appendix B**.

## **Task Force Process**

Using an invite list of close to 70 people provided by members of the Steering Committee and recruited through the project web site, four Task Forces were formed on for each of the sustainability pillars – cultural, economic, environmental and

social. In mid-October each Task Force held two meetings at the Lanark County Administration Building.

The project team used the results of the Task Force meetings to develop a preliminary list of themes and strategic objectives. This list was circulated to all Task Force members who provided further comment and clarification. The draft list of themes and strategic objectives are included in this document.

## **Monitoring and Reporting**

In an ICSP, the progress towards goals needs to be measured and the results of the performance measurement should be shared with County Council, the public and community partners.

*After the ICSP has been approved by County Council, County staff will need to work together to develop a process for fostering community partnerships and for measuring ongoing progress.*

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## ICSP FRAMEWORK

Sustainable Lanark is being developed using the Adaptive Management Framework (AMF) which has also been used in Kingston, the County of Peterborough, Bancroft, the County of Frontenac and Roseland, British Columbia. To learn more about this framework see **Appendix C**. A glossary of terms used is included as **Appendix D**.

The key framework components are as follows.

### ***Vision***

The vision for Sustainable Lanark comes from the Lanark Strategic Plan and describes a 20 year vision for the County:

*Lanark County is proud of its heritage and cherishes its small-town character, rural way of life, sense of community and distinctive natural features. We want to strengthen and diversify the economy, effectively manage growth, protect the environment, preserve our heritage and maintain our unique character for future generations.*

### ***Themes***

There are 19 themes within Sustainable Lanark linked to the four pillars: Cultural, Environmental, Economic and Social. Each theme is profiled in detail within this document and the supporting several strategic objectives are identified.

### ***Strategic Objectives***

The Lanark County vision describes the community both from the perspective of

what residents appreciate about it now and what they want to see it become over the next 20 years. The strategic objectives can be seen as a map designed to move the community from its current reality to our vision of sustainability.

Strategic objectives provide direction as they articulate the local vision for sustainability in greater detail. When coupled with the theme statements they provide clarity to everyone who will be involved in shaping the future of Lanark County.

In addition, they provide the starting point for businesses and organizations interested in **creating shared values**. This important concept is an evolution of the thinking that supports corporate social responsibility or CSR. The SCOP provides forward thinking businesses and organizations with a clear understanding of the sustainability values of Lanark County and a way to quickly create shared values within the community.

### ***Actions and Targets***

There are many businesses, organizations and individuals who are doing things right now that will move Lanark County towards its vision of sustainability. In addition, ideas for new actions will become clear as various community partners review this document.

*To be effective, these actions will need to be tracked and monitored on a regular basis.* Meetings between partners should be held to assure an integration of efforts and to avoid duplication.

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## THEMES AND PILLARS

A theme is a specific focus area of Sustainable Lanark that supports the achievement of the overall vision. Each theme includes a theme statement and several strategic objectives. Although organized into pillars the strategic objectives are integrated and link to multiple themes.

### **The Cultural Pillar**

Everyone can be creative and in a sustainable society there are many ways that individuals and groups can express their creativity. The cultural pillar focuses on the places and spaces where people can be creative, the ways in which we can be creative and our opportunities to support one another as audiences. We also focus on celebrating our history and heritage and sharing the stories of the past with present and future generations.

**Themes** include: Places and Events; History and Heritage; and the Arts.

### **The Economic Pillar**

An essential component of quality of life is the ability to meet our basic needs as well as the opportunity to be prosperous. Prosperity can be measured in many ways but meaningful economic activity is at the core of a successful and sustainable community. The economic pillar focuses not only on creating good jobs but on doing so in a way that enhances overall community development on every level.

**Themes** include: Tourism; Infrastructure and Quality of Life; Economic Development; and Agriculture.

### **The Environmental Pillar**

In recent years environmental issues have received more attention than the other three pillars in large part because sustainability is often thought of as an environmental issue. The environmental pillar does focus on core issues like energy water and waste, however it also extends into many other areas including the built environment, how we live our lives and the impact we have on the natural world.

**Themes** include: Local Natural Heritage Features; Climate Change and Air Quality; Local Food and the Protection of Farmland; Energy; Water; and Waste.

### **The Social Pillar**

Health and well-being are at the core of the social pillar. Meeting our basic needs and supporting those around us who need assistance makes our community richer and more diverse. The themes within this pillar are focused on key issues such as social inclusion, health promotion, cooperation, sharing and enjoying a long life in our communities.

**Themes** include: Housing; Age-Friendly Communities; Healthy Communities; Transportation; Safety; and Diversity.

## Theme 1: The Arts

Author Richard Florida has said that human creativity is the ultimate source of economic growth and that every single person is creative in some way. Supporting the arts and encouraging residents, and in particular our youth, to be creative is essential. It not only increases their chances for future success, it makes Lanark County more attractive and gives us a better chance to retain our youth and to attract new residents and businesses.

### Where Are We Now?

Almost 24 percent of Lanark residents who provided input noted that creative places including studios, galleries, museums, dance, visual arts, cafes, restaurants and libraries were some of the greatest cultural assets of the community and another 15 percent indicated that there is a good arts community in Lanark County.

However the arts in general need support in order to thrive. The support can come in many forms including the creation of space for artistic pursuits, encouraging residents and visitors to become patrons and working with all levels of government to provide funding.

### Where Do We Want To Be?

Adding creative spaces over time will encourage growth and support creativity. The arts are also a tourism attraction that will grow over the years, supporting the local economy.

### Theme Statement:

*We encourage artistic expression and have a diverse and growing group of artists and artisans throughout our community.*

Physical infrastructure will continue to be important. We need places to display the work of local artists, performance venues and events festivals and fairs to showcase local talent.

### How Are We Going To Get There?

We need to look for more opportunities to share local art and creativity. This will mean displays of finished work in local galleries, restaurants and other businesses; increasing capacity of local libraries by modernizing and improving facilities and offerings; ensuring that performing arts have places where local residents and visitors can see them; and linkages to tourism promotion through County.

We also have to look to our history and heritage and preserve traditional arts and crafts like weaving and the production of maple syrup.

### Strategic Objectives

- 1.1. Connect visitors to our local artists and artisans.
- 1.2. Preserve traditional crafts like weaving, pottery, the development of stick furniture and maple syrup production.
- 1.3. Encourage the provision of affordable arts space.
- 1.4. Encourage the development of innovative ways to invest in and support public art and murals.

## Theme 2: Places and Events

Places are an important part of our daily lives. The parks, downtowns, waterfronts, plazas, neighborhoods, streets, markets, arenas, recreational facilities and public buildings in our community bring people together. Similarly events give us focus and reflect the personality of the community.

### Where Are We Now?

Festivals and events were identified by 23 percent of questionnaire participants as greatest cultural asset in Lanark County. There are a wide variety of events held every year from the Garlic festival to various musical festivals, agricultural fairs and other events.

Each community with Lanark County shares information about parks, trails, historic sites and events with the public in print and electronic format.

### Where Do We Want To Be?

We want to have great public spaces that can be used by a wide variety of people. This includes everything from parks and downtown squares to large areas capable of hosting music festivals or agricultural fairs.

We want to have a wide variety of events that appeal to local residents and attract visitors from nearby urban centres. We want our events to be strong, well-attended, well supported and viable.

### Theme Statement:

*Our community has great public spaces, festivals and events and we cooperate with each other to promote our region's places and events.*

We want to appeal to the interests of many target audiences from visitors to youth to seniors along with everyone in between.

### How Are We Going To Get There?

We need to work collaboratively with our tourism partners, cultural groups, local entrepreneurs and local municipalities in order to develop new spaces and events to ensure the viability of existing events.

We need to define, design and build great public spaces to accommodate our need for

### Strategic Objectives

- 2.1. Encourage the creation of more physical places to gather for social and cultural events especially in rural areas.
- 2.2. Ensure that we have sufficient hotels, restaurants and transportation for visitors.
- 2.3. Encourage the design and building of cultural spaces such as studios, galleries, museums, cafes, restaurants and libraries.
- 2.4. Encourage the development of new events.

more physical places to gather for social and cultural events especially in rural areas. An increase in hotels, restaurants and transportation for visitors to festivals and other events will help to make our region more attractive.

It is important to invite our municipal neighbours to key events in order to broaden our base of support. In return we need work together to support regional tourism

by cross-promoting our cultural assets.

### Theme 3: History and Heritage

In order to understand where we are going we need to better understand our past. History and heritage provide linkages to the past and lessons for the future. Lanark County has many proud traditions and yet history is being made every day as new people come to live here and help to define our future.

#### Where Are We Now?

While 18 percent of residents participating in our questionnaire identified historic buildings, architecture, historic recognition, almost 22 percent indicated that we can do more to promote local history and heritage.

With hundreds of heritage sites within Lanark County we have a story to tell. In addition our past history in terms of economic development, from mills to forestry to agriculture, plays an important role in how the County was settled.

#### Where Do We Want To Be?

We want to continue to protect, share and celebrate our history and heritage, building on past initiatives while continuing to share stories in more depth about our community.

We want to educate local residents and visitors alike about the land, settlement, opportunities and challenges faced by all local residents from First

#### Theme Statement:

*Our community acknowledges, appreciates and shares the rich history and heritage of our region.*

Nations to recent arrivals.

#### How Are We Going To Get There?

We need to continue to recognize heritage buildings in the region.

We need to encourage cooperative work between volunteers, residents, private sponsors and all levels of government to preserve our heritage assets and to create interpretive programs. This includes integrating history and heritage into tourism promotion.

#### Strategic Objectives

- 3.1. Continue to protect, share and celebrate our history and heritage including our natural, built and archaeological sites that contribute to Lanark’s unique identity and character.
- 3.2. Continue to elevate the awareness of residents and visitors about local history and heritage.
- 3.3. Recognize and build on the link between economic benefits and the celebration of our history and heritage.
- 3.4. Seek opportunities for intergenerational engagement where our youth can learn from our elders.
- 3.5. Recognize and document history and heritage.
- 3.6. Support efforts to understand and celebrate recognize our water heritage.

## Theme 4: Tourism

Economic development encompasses a variety of activities all of which seek to create meaningful jobs within the local community. Tourism is an important contributor because it is organic, scalable and a good fit for local entrepreneurs. Many people can earn a decent living and everyplace has a story to tell making tourism an important focus for the future.

### Theme Statement:

*Our community promotes our local history, heritage, and natural features and shares it with visitors from Ontario, Canada and the rest of the world.*

hotels, restaurants, coffee shops, stores and other retail.

### Where Are We Now?

According to the Ontario Highlands Tourism Organization close to 4.1 million people visited the region consisting of Renfrew, Hastings, Lanark, Haliburton, and parts of Lennox, Addington and Frontenac counties. The vast majority of visitors were from Ontario (95 percent of day visits and 89 percent of overnight visits).

The top five tourism activities were outdoor/ sport activity (1.8 million); provincial parks (271,000); historic sites (200,000); festivals and fairs (123,000); and cultural events (110,000).

### Where Do We Want To Be?

We want tourism to be a reliable source of well-paying jobs with a focus on professionalism and service quality.

We want to develop the tourism potential of our underdeveloped assets and we want to provide more services to visitors in terms of

### How Are We Going To Get There?

#### Strategic Objectives

- 4.1. Make our region distinct from our competitors.
- 4.2. Work together to attract visits from the 6.5 million people who are located within 5 hours of the majority of the region.
- 4.3. Work together to build on our top five tourist activities: outdoor/sports activities; fishing; boating; museums/ art galleries; and historic sites.
- 4.4. Work together to extend length of stay, peak season travel and shoulder season business.
- 4.5. Continue to develop tourism assets.
- 4.6. Work together to understand the needs of seasonal and cottage residents.

Led by our tourism partners, we need to work collaboratively to focus on growing our existing market. This will include developing tourism assets including: trails inventory; public docking at Rideau Ferry; railway museum proposal; interpretation tours and animation of public spaces; shuttles from provincial parks into town; and learning experiences such as dark skies and genealogy.

We will also develop a better understanding of the needs of seasonal and cottage residents to determine how to best serve seasonal tourists and begin to understand better ways to leverage their presence for the

benefit of the tourism industry within the region.

## Theme 5: Infrastructure and Quality of Life

We see infrastructure as roads and bridges; cycling lanes, paved shoulders and walkways; support for safe walking; access to health care and nature; rural broadband; and electric transmission lines. These various items are all related to each other in that they play a crucial role in improving quality of life for our residents.

### Where Are We Now?

Recently there have been significant improvements to local infrastructure. Highway 417 provides easy access for Mississippi Mills to Ottawa while the expansion of Highway 7 to Carleton Place provides safe access to the heart of the County. The Eastern Ontario rural broadband initiative has provided more residents with access to high speed Internet. Lanark County continues to grow in popularity as a cycling destination as roads and trails improve.

### Where Do We Want To Be?

We want to make active transportation priority in all towns and villages. This means becoming walkable communities but also provide safe routes for cycling.

We want residents to be able to access services and employment opportunities over the Internet from their homes.

### Theme Statement:

*Our community's quality of life is enhanced by access to excellent infrastructure.*

We want to be able to take advantage of solar power opportunities.

### How Are We Going To Get There?

We need to continue to work collaboratively with other municipal, provincial, federal and private partners to develop the infrastructure that we need in the future.

Our infrastructure focus needs to take into account significant future pressures arising from peak oil and the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. We need to focus on providing services to residents in such a way that they do not have to drive all the time.

We need to push rural broadband providers to ensure that our residents can access services online from healthcare advice to purchasing common products in an easy and equitable manner.

### Strategic Objectives

- 5.1. Support the development of infrastructure to support safe walking and cycling.
- 5.2. Promote our quality infrastructure to prospective residents and new businesses.
- 5.3. Continue to support the expansion of rural broadband.
- 5.4. Work collaboratively with other municipal, provincial, federal and private partners to focus strategically on infrastructure investments.
- 5.5. Support the improvement of transmission lines to deliver solar power and local renewable energy and to receive power for local businesses efficiently.



## Theme 6: Economic Development

Dr. Ernesto Sirolli firmly believes that the future of every community lies in capturing the talent, energy and imagination of its people and that success lies in growing the community from within, transforming passionate people into successful entrepreneurs. This organic, sustainable model is being adopted in many Eastern Ontario communities as an important supplement to more traditional economic development.

### Where Are We Now?

Almost 35 percent of residents participating in our questionnaire indicated that the greatest economic asset of Lanark County is the range and diversity of small businesses. On the other hand, 30 percent of respondents indicated a desire for more jobs and better job choice.

In 2004 the Eastern Ontario Warden’s Caucus endorsed a report that recommended building on Eastern Ontario’s assets: encourage new enterprises; retain and grow existing businesses; attract more investment; increase employment and income; and increase the tax base for Eastern Ontario municipalities.

### Where Do We Want To Be?

We want to have access to more jobs and better jobs. We want to support the local economy and businesses that are

### Theme Statement:

*Our community works together to support local businesses, to attract new businesses, and retain and generate jobs across sectors.*

contributing to local sustainability. Finally, we want to benefit from better infrastructure (high speed, business parks, access to supplies).

### How Are We Going To Get There?

We recognize that economic development brings local employment, which in turn broadens the tax base and helps to pay for the services that residents expect from local municipalities.

We will work with our economic development organizations to support local entrepreneurs as their companies grow. We will look for opportunities in the ‘green economy’ and will take advantage of our local natural resources.

We will work with other levels of government to provide critical skills training to our workforce as we meet changing job requirements.

### Strategic Objectives

- 6.1. Support efforts to provide small businesses and local entrepreneurs with access to information and support.
- 6.2. Support efforts to identify innovative ways to take advantage of our local natural resources.
- 6.3. Support efforts to take a creative economy approach and focus on opportunities for people who are paid to think.
- 6.4. Encourage job creation in renewable energy, energy conservation and other green job areas.
- 6.5. Support efforts to provide training in renewable energy and re-skilling for sustainable energy practices.
- 6.6. Work together to attract and support new businesses and help them to become sustainable and profitable.

## Theme 7: Agriculture

Farming has been a way of life for almost 200 years in Lanark County. Today many challenges exist as older farmers plan to retire and look for someone to take over their land. However the growing local food economy is attracting new farmers and entrepreneurs into agriculture.

### Where Are We Now?

According to the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, the total number of farms in Lanark County dropped from 1,065 to 874 from 1996 to 2006 with total acres dropping from 256,485 to 232,575. In 2006 37 percent was in crops, eight percent was tame or seeded pasture, 17 percent was natural land for pasture, 33 percent was Christmas tree area, woodlands or wetlands, and all other uses accounted for five percent.

### Where Do We Want To Be?

We want to preserve the rural character of Lanark County which includes a strong and vibrant agricultural economy.

We want to support farmers by helping them to access markets for a variety of products so that they can maintain a reasonable quality of life.

We want to enhance and rehabilitate agricultural land where possible.

### Theme Statement:

*Our community has a thriving agricultural sector that is economically viable and produces a diverse number of products.*

### How Are We Going To Get There?

Our economic development focus needs to include ways in which farmers can be innovative, catering to new and emerging markets with value added products and services.

### Strategic Objectives

- 7.1. Preserve our rural character by supporting local agriculture.
- 7.2. Support agricultural tourism by emphasizing value added products and experiences linked to agriculture and tourism such as maple syrup harvesting.
- 7.3. Support the rehabilitation and enhancement of agricultural land use where possible.
- 7.4. Anticipate and prepare for changes in agricultural food production and economics overtime.

We will encourage the study of changes to agricultural markets by local universities, colleges and other think tanks, with a goal of transferring this knowledge to local farmers and potential new farmers interested in getting into agriculture.

## Theme 8: Local Natural Heritage Features

Planning for the protection of natural heritage features and areas for the long term is a fundamental policy of the Ontario Provincial Policy Statement (PPS). The goal is to protect the ecological function, health and biodiversity of natural heritage systems.

### Where Are We Now?

The landscape of Lanark County is a mosaic of cleared lands, forests, wetlands, watercourses, and settled areas. This diversity plays an important role in defining the rural character and natural environment of the County. Within this diverse landscape, there are many “natural heritage features” including wetlands, woodlands, areas of natural and scientific interest (ANSIs), fish habitat, wildlife habitat, portions of the habitat of endangered and threatened species and ground water resources.

### Where Do We Want To Be?

We want to protect local natural heritage features in accordance with federal and provincial law to ensure that they are healthy and diverse for generations.

We want to raise awareness of the value of local natural heritage to the environment and emphasize the natural capital benefits in both financial and ecological measures.

### Theme Statement:

*Our community preserves, protects and enhances local natural heritage features.*

### How Are We Going To Get There?

The SCOP provides protection for local natural heritage systems that is consistent with the Ontario PPS. This long term protection will enable Lanark County to meet its strategic objectives and the overall theme statement.

### Strategic Objectives

- 8.1. Consider natural heritage features when making decisions.
- 8.2. Recognize and raise awareness of the economic and environmental benefits of wetlands and forests.
- 8.3. Work with partners to harmonize local natural heritage policies regulations.
- 8.4. Recognize and protect local biodiversity in accordance with federal and provincial legislation.
- 8.5. Recognize the value that agricultural lands can provide as part of a natural heritage system.

## Theme 9: Climate Change and Air Quality

Renowned Canadian climatologist David Phillips has said that there is no question that the climate is changing. Not only is the average annual temperature getting warmer but there are more instances of extreme climate – stronger winds, more intense rain storms and more fluctuation in snow cover from year to year. The challenge now is not only to cut greenhouse gas emissions but to adapt to future weather variation.

### Where Are We Now?

Air quality on the whole has been getting better since the 1970s due to the presence of regulations at the provincial and federal level.

The County does not have a community or county level greenhouse gas emissions inventory. According to Environment Canada, greenhouse gas emissions in Canada increased 24 percent from 1990 to 2008 but actually declined slightly from 2003 to 2008.

### Where Do We Want To Be?

We want to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from sources in Lanark County. This means looking not only at municipal operations but working with partners to reduce overall emissions.

We want to improve local air quality.

### How Are We Going To Get There?

We need to make individuals and businesses aware of how they can invest in long term energy conservation and

### Theme Statement:

*Our community minimizes the emissions of greenhouse gases and other air pollutants*

greenhouse gas reductions while also saving money.

We need to support and facilitate the development of local renewable energy sources including solar power installations that meet the requirements of the Ontario feed in tariff program.

We need to incorporate the consideration of greenhouse gas emissions into purchasing decisions where possible.

### Strategic Objectives

- 9.1. Anticipate and plan for changes in climate, the natural environment and the resulting impacts on our economic and social systems, and municipal infrastructure.
- 9.2. Work together to make the reduction of greenhouse gases and air pollutants an objective when making choices and decisions in our County.

## Theme 10: Local Food

In 2011, the Government of Ontario recognized efforts by members of the Broader Public Sector (BPS) (government plus hospitals, universities, schools and so forth) that succeeded in getting more locally grown food into use in their kitchens. The Town of Markham was recognized for a progressive purchasing policy requiring the use of local food. Food Services at University of Toronto, St. George Campus was recognized for using 65 percent local food for meals served to over 1,000 students.

### Where Are We Now?

Farmers in Lanark County produce and market locally grown food and many markets within the County as well as in markets in Ottawa and other centres.

Farmers markets are in place in Carleton Place, Perth, Almonte, McDonald's Corners and Union Hall. Lanark Local Flavours is a well-established program that promotes local food use.

### Where Do We Want To Be?

We want to be able to buy locally grown or produced food. We want local residents to understand the values of local food – taste, health benefits and preservation of a rural way of life in Lanark.

We want to make it easier for farmers to produce local food by working with

### Theme Statement:

*Our community supports the production, availability and consumption of local food.*

partners to eliminate barriers to market.

We want to help farmers to develop markets for their goods in grocery stores, local restaurants and institutional kitchens.

Finally we want support gardeners who produce food for personal consumption and we want to educate youth about the benefits of local food and farming.

### Strategic Objectives

- 10.1. Buy local food and promote its values: taste, nutritional value, availability and contribution to local economic benefits.
- 10.2. Support the development and ongoing operations of local community gardens.
- 10.3. Make regulations flexible to keep land in agricultural use and to support farmers focused on local food production.
- 10.4. Work together to eliminate the constraints to marketing local food (example distribution, storage).
- 10.5. Encourage efforts to educate our youth about food and provide training in agriculture.
- 10.6. Support the movement of local foods to restaurants and stores.
- 10.7. Support the use of sustainable agricultural practices where feasible.

### How Are We Going To Get There?

The local food movement is strong and is led by Lanark Local Flavour. By working with this group and others, citizens and community partners can grow the market for local food and reduce barriers faced by farmers.

Many other communities have launched innovative programs that bring chefs together with producers. In addition, as noted above, some institutional chefs are adding local food to their menus without breaking their budgets. We would like to use these best practices as examples for Lanark County.

## Theme 11: Energy

Energy will be a significant challenge for all Canadians over the next 20 years and beyond. All sources of energy have impacts – some local and some global. In terms of production, Lanark County and other communities have a tremendous opportunity to bring local renewable sources into the energy mix. From a consumption perspective, there are many excellent programs to encourage conservation and reduce waste.

### Where Are We Now?

In Ontario there have been close to 10,000 separate installations of solar panels with another 15,000 conditional offers in place under the microFIT program as of November 25, 2011. There are solar installations all over Lanark County.

There are many programs available to residents for energy conservation through Natural Resources Canada. Municipalities, businesses and other organizations are also eligible for a wide number of programs that fund energy conservation.

At present, applicants for building permits are not required to implement energy conservation measures exceeding the requirements of the Building Code.

### Where Do We Want To Be?

We want local residents, businesses, municipalities and other organizations to implement energy conservation measures wherever possible. In addition we would like

### Theme Statement:

*Our community enhances its capacity to generate renewable energy and progressively improves its energy efficiency.*

to reduce the energy required to transport people, goods and services wherever possible.

We want to diversify our local energy mix so that we are not overly reliant on any one source.

We want to develop local renewable energy projects wherever it is feasible to do so.

### Strategic Objectives

- 11.1. Encourage efforts to decrease the energy required to transport people, goods and services.
- 11.2. Encourage efforts to reduce energy use in the community wherever possible.
- 11.3. Use local renewable sources of energy and diversify our energy sources where possible.
- 11.4. Support efforts to investigate the development of new modes of ownership and collaboration in the energy sector.

### How Are We Going To Get There?

We will encourage developers and local residents to build new buildings and complete renovations using standards that require high levels of energy efficiency such as Energy Star and LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design).

We will encourage the development of local renewable energy and will investigate the development of new modes of ownership and collaboration in the energy sector including cooperatives and joint ventures, new partnership models, resource management and increasing community capacity.

## Theme 12: Water

Water is an important resource and yet most Canadians generally take it for granted. Although we have a significant quantity of water available to us there are increasing pressures on our watersheds that we must take into account as we plan for the future. In this plan water includes waste water and storm water collection and treatment as well as the quality of drinking water and the water in our local lakes, rivers and streams.

### Where Are We Now?

Water was identified as the greatest environmental asset in Lanark County by 28 percent of residents who responded to our questionnaire. Water levels in the Mississippi Valley and Rideau Valley were below 100 percent in 2011 and water conservation was recommended.

### Where Do We Want To Be?

We want to protect local source water in conjunction with our local conservation authorities.

We want to reduce our water consumption on a per resident basis in order to minimize demand on local water infrastructure and to save money.

We want to reduce the risk of contamination to our local water systems from hazardous materials and septic systems.

### Theme Statement:

*Our community protects and improves local water quality.*

### How Are We Going To Get There?

We will work together with local conservation authorities, Mississippi-Rideau Source Water Protection and community partners to protect local watersheds and support regional efforts to preserve water quality. Following the lead of local conservation authorities we will focus on source water protection and promote the benefits of eliminating the use of hazardous materials and regularly inspecting and maintaining septic systems.

We will encourage developers and residents to incorporate water conservation measures into new construction and renovation and to exceed the Ontario Building Code where feasible and cost-effective.

We will also encourage innovative approaches such as storm water

capture, gray water use, installation of rain barrels and the widespread installation or retrofitting of water fountains to allow the use of re-usable containers.

### Strategic Objectives

- 12.1.Reduce the amount of storm water entering into surface water bodies.
- 12.2.Eliminate or decrease the use of hazardous materials that can enter into our water system.
- 12.3.Reduce the sales of bottled water.
- 12.4.Encourage the reduction of water use in all buildings (new, existing and those being renovated)
- 12.5.Encourage efforts to inspect septic systems and support well maintenance and proper decommissioning.
- 12.6.Recognize the role of healthy water bodies and wetland ecosystems in protecting local water resources.
- 12.7.Protect local shorelines.

### Theme 13: Waste

There is no waste in nature as materials are re-absorbed, broken down and converted into new living things. This inspirational model serves as a starting point for waste management in Canada as we seek to find solutions for all of our waste streams.

#### Where Are We Now?

Recycling and waste disposal services are handled by the local municipalities. They offer residential recycling of paper, metals, glass and most plastics; regular waste disposal; and large item disposal. Some operate landfill sites and hazardous waste services. Only the Town of Perth offers composting of organic materials.

Institutional, commercial and industrial waste is handled under contract by private collectors.

Over 13 percent of residents who responded to our questionnaire indicated that if they could improve one thing for future generations it would be reducing or diverting waste, recycling or composting.

#### Where Do We Want To Be?

We want to divert organic materials from landfill.

We expect manufacturers and local suppliers to work with regulators to reduce the amount of packaging associated with everyday purchases.

We want to see leadership within the Industrial, Commercial and Institutional community on waste diversion. We would like to support businesses and

**Theme Statement:**

*Our community maximizes waste diversion through the application of the 3Rs (reduce, reuse and recycling).*

organizations that do their best to reduce waste.

#### How Are We Going To Get There?

We will encourage local municipalities to work with residents and businesses to determine the feasibility of community compost or other methods of organic conversion.

**Strategic Objectives**

- 13.1. Encourage the composting of organic materials by residents, businesses and organizations.
- 13.2. Encourage the reduction of hazardous waste generation.
- 13.3. Encourage the use of best practices to manage septage and sewage sludge.
- 13.4. Encourage the use of durable goods that can be economically repaired.
- 13.5. Encourage local businesses and organizations to reduce commercial waste and take back non-recyclable packaging.

We will encourage community partners to work together to reduce hazardous waste generation and to safely manage septic and sewage sludge.

We will work with partners to raise awareness within the community of how residents can increase waste diversion. We will also encourage educational efforts focused on addressing issues of consumption to help people to find ways to purchase fewer products or to select those that have been shown to be

more durable or to last longer.



## Theme 14: Housing

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing has indicated that safe and affordable housing is fundamental for Ontarians striving to build a strong future for their families and their communities. Housing is often a significant financial asset for most families as well as a significant component of our ecological footprint.

### Where Are We Now?

Lanark County is expected to experience modest growth in the next 20 years with an increase in population of about 12,000 based on a medium growth scenario.

It is estimated that 70 percent or more of development takes place in designated settlement areas. This provides for a healthy distribution of residential and non-residential growth between urbanized areas and rural and waterfront communities.

### Where Do We Want To Be?

We want new residential development to take advantage of innovations in energy and water conservation to reduce long term environmental impacts and to provide financial savings to residents.

We want to have access to mixed residential and commercial developments to allow us to live a healthy and active lifestyle.

### Theme Statement:

*All people have access to safe, affordable, appropriate, efficient housing in a supportive community.*

We want age in place where possible and we want to eliminate rural homelessness.

### How Are We Going To Get There?

We will work with community partners to promote programs that homeowners can implement to reduce energy and water consumption and save money.

We will work with local developers to encourage the construction of homes that are equivalent to LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standards for new homes and new construction. We will also promote and support the creation of developments that are affordable, well-built, well-designed and secure and promote walkability.

We will continue to work with community partners to address rural poverty and support the creation of affordable housing.

### Strategic Objectives

- 14.1. Support the upgrade of the existing housing stock to increase resource efficiency (energy, water).
- 14.2. Encourage efforts to build houses and residential buildings that are equivalent to or achieve LEED Silver for New Homes or New Construction.
- 14.3. Support efforts to provide for the development of a range of housing types including mixed residential and commercial developments that promote walkability and are affordable, well-built, well-designed and secure.
- 14.4. Educate residents about how the design of homes and residences can accommodate a range of mobility and aging in place.
- 14.5. Support efforts to develop affordable housing.
- 14.6. Work together as a community to alleviate rural homelessness.

## Theme 15: Age Friendly Communities

The concept of “age friendly communities” originated with the World Health Organization and it provides a positive framework for community building. While much of the work has focused on addressing the needs of senior citizens, in our work we have extended the concept to cover residents of all ages and abilities.

### Where Are We Now?

People aged 65 and over made up almost 14 percent of Canada’s population in 2006, up from just under 10 percent in 1981 and the growth rate in the number of seniors was more than double the rate of overall population increase (StatsCan).

Our local communities have several programs for seniors including Tay-Clyde Seniors and the Rosedale Forget-me-not Club. Carleton Place has a Recreation and Culture directory that covers activities for participants of all age groups.

### Where Do We Want To Be?

We want to ensure that residents of all ages have access to recreation and leisure opportunities. This includes senior citizens, young families and our youth.

### Theme Statement:

*Our community engages, celebrates and supports people of all ages and abilities.*

We want to maximize the utility of all public buildings so that we can use them for a range of community activities from learning to recreation.

### Strategic Objectives

- 15.1. Support efforts to provide recreation and leisure opportunities for residents of all ages.
- 15.2. Encourage efforts to promote the design public buildings and community facilities that can double as educational facilities.
- 15.3. Support efforts to provide affordable, accessible child care.
- 15.4. Work with other funders to find reliable, sustainable funding to be invested in youth centres and senior centres.
- 15.5. Treat youth and older residents with respect and include them in our civic life.
- 15.6. Promote opportunities for employment and volunteerism that cater to the interests and abilities of youth, students and older residents.

We want families to have access to affordable and reliable daycare.

We want to be socially inclusive and in particular focus on creating volunteer opportunities that cater to the interests and abilities of youth, students and older residents.

### How Are We Going To Get There?

We need to work with a variety of community partners to better understand our recreation and leisure needs and to look for creative ways to work

together to provide for these needs and to cross promote the many activities that are already available.

We need to work with developers, all levels of government and our educational partners to build great public buildings that can have many uses. We need to embed in the design flexibility so that these buildings are accessible and available from early in the morning until later at night.

We need to work together with other levels of government and other funding organizations to invest in youth centres and senior centres as agents of community development.

## Theme 16: Transportation

Transportation uses a significant amount of energy and is a major component of our ecological footprint. In addition many people either do not have access to personal vehicles or they are not able to drive. Smart growth principles and many other sustainability methodologies focus on building communities to reduce the need for personal vehicles and provide many options for mobility including active transportation cycling, and various forms of public transportation.

### Where Are We Now?

In the 2005 Lanark County Strategic Plan transportation was identified as an important issue with emphasis placed: on improving the local road system; working towards a county-wide, accessible and environmentally friendly transportation alternative; and reducing the environmental impact of transportation.

### Where Do We Want To Be?

We want to reduce the environmental footprint of transportation to and from the County and within the County.

We want to be creative in the ways in which we get around using programs including carpooling and vehicle sharing where possible and taking advantage of active transportation options.

We want public transportation suitable for our County. It would need to include transportation within the County to allow people to go to and from doctor's appointments and other reporting important

### Theme Statement:

*Our community provides people with access to a variety of safe and affordable transportation options with an emphasis on active transportation and the use of efficient, emissions free vehicles.*

meetings and would need to facilitate commuting to and from neighboring communities.

### How Are We Going To Get There?

We will work with partners to develop active transportation plans to focus both on safe pathways for cycling and walking in the desert communities that allow people to do their errands without a car. We will continue to support Lanark County Transit.

We will work with community partners to promote the use of private bus lines, carpooling and vehicle sharing programs that meet the needs of local residents.

We will investigate options to develop public transportation options that will meet our needs.

### Strategic Objectives

- 16.1. Encourage efforts to decrease the use of single occupancy motor vehicles and reduce motor vehicle trips.
- 16.2. Encourage efforts to develop a transportation system that is affordable, multi-modal, accessible and interconnected.
- 16.3. Promote and encourage the use of carpooling and vehicle sharing programs.

## Theme 17: Healthy Communities

Ontario’s Provincial Policy Statement (PPS), notes that long-term prosperity, environmental health and social well-being depend on wisely managing change and promoting efficient land use and development patterns. Efficient land use and development patterns support strong, liveable and healthy communities, protect the environment and public health and safety, and facilitate economic growth.

In addition, strong policies emphasizing health and well-being build healthy communities.

### Where Are We Now?

The 2005 Lanark County Strategic Plan includes a core strategy for quality-of-life that focuses on raising a family; healthy living and adequate health care services for all; and the provision of services that will provide for a healthy community.

Over 61% of residents responding to our questionnaire indicated that Lanark County’s greatest social asset was its small-town feel, good community, good neighbors and community groups. Over 13% cited good access to healthcare.

### Where Do We Want To Be?

We want to improve community health by promoting physical activity or access to programs, providing access to nutritious, affordable food, and by helping people.

#### Strategic Objectives

- 17.1. Support efforts to increase physical activity by all residents by providing access to excellent programs and facilities.
- 17.2. Support efforts to provide access to nutritious, affordable food.
- 17.3. Support efforts to create smoke-free indoor and outdoor spaces to protect health and air quality where people play, live and congregate.
- 17.4. Support efforts to prevent alcohol and substance misuse.
- 17.5. Foster positive mental health.
- 17.6. Support efforts to provide public spaces and green spaces that are clean, secure and physically accessible, for residents to meet and congregate.

## How Are We Going To Get There?

Efficient land use and development patterns will be promoted through the use of the SCOP. This will allow us to develop communities that are better designed to promote health and well-being.

We will continue to work with the local Health Unit and Health Centres to make the public aware of resources and we will promote programs by all possible means and particularly with social media.

We can address our strategic objectives by working with partners. Together as community we can provide access to nutritious and affordable food, create smoke-free environments, help residents battling substance abuse issues and foster positive mental health.

**Theme Statement:**

*Our community has a supportive, inclusive environment that protects and promotes health and well-being.*

## Theme 18. Safety

Safety and security are fundamental components of a sustainable community. Establishing safety as a priority is beneficial as it helps to reduce risks associated with transportation, it helps protect our most vulnerable populations and it can assist in the creation of better plans for land use and development.

### Where Are We Now?

Each community has its own method of providing safety and security. Local OPP detachments are exceptionally responsive to the needs of the local communities who rely on their services.

The local municipalities are proactive in maintaining infrastructure and in dealing with the safety and security of residents.

### Where Do We Want To Be?

We want our communities – towns, villages, hamlets, waterfront properties and rural areas – to be designed in such a way that they are safe for all residents.

We want our roads to be designed and engineered so that they are safe not only for vehicle passengers but for cyclists and pedestrians. We want our pathways to be accessible and designed for a range of mobility – from toddlers in strollers to motorized wheelchairs and scooters.

We want to provide safe shelter for residents seeking protection from violence or looking for a way to recover from substance abuse.

### Theme Statement:

*Our community provides residents with a safe environment free from harm and abuse, protected and secure from crime, where risk to the individual is minimized.*

### How Are We Going To Get There?

We will use the SCOP to help us improve the design of our built environment to ensure the safety and accessibility are incorporated into our roadways, pathways and buildings.

We will work with community partners to provide shelters and treatment centres for vulnerable populations.

### Strategic Objectives

- 18.1. Make our communities safe for residents of all ages.
- 18.2. Design roads to ensure the safety of all users.
- 18.3. Support the development of drug treatment programs and shelters for community members suffering from abuse.

## Theme 19. Diversity

Canada is a land where newcomers have arrived with various waves of immigration to establish a new home. Recently we have come to understand the benefits of embracing our cultural diversity while still recognizing the important bonds that connect us as Canadians.

### Where Are We Now?

Over 90 percent of County residents have lived here for over 10 years with 6.4 percent of residents being foreign born, 1.5 percent First Nation and less than one percent visible minorities. Provincially, almost 20 percent of residents are visible minorities.

However, the County is starting to become more diverse and hopes to tap into the resources provided by the Smiths Falls Immigration Portal.

### Where Do We Want To Be?

We want to welcome newcomers and make it easy for them to fit into our communities and find the services they need.

We want to remove barriers to participation in education, recreation, health promotion, arts and culture.

We want to promote the benefits of our local quality-of-life so that we can attract new families and young professionals who we will need in the future to help us maintain our quality of life.

### Theme Statement:

*Our community provides a welcoming and open environment for newcomers as well as long-time residents.*

We want to raise awareness about other cultures and we want to make our communities attractive to youth.

### How Are We Going To Get There?

We will work with community partners to address the needs of newcomers, to remove barriers to promote ways to get involved.

We will look for innovative ways to embrace cultural diversity and share experiences including hosting new festivals and promoting food, celebrations and other traditions.

We work with community partners to meet the needs of youth and to make our community more attractive and interesting to them.

### Strategic Objectives

- 19.1. Welcome new residents by making our communities open to their families, removing barriers and promoting ways to get involved.
- 19.2. Promote local quality of life to attract young professionals to our community.
- 19.3. Embrace and promote diversity in food, experiences and culture and create opportunities for cultural networking.
- 19.4. Actively work with young people to understand their needs and shape our community so that they are comfortable staying.



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## APPENDIX A – IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX



**SUSTAINABILITY**  
one step at a time

**GRANT CONSULTING**



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## Draft Themes, Goals and Strategic Objectives for the Lanark County Sustainability Plan

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### Overview

The draft themes, goals and strategic objectives that appear in the document below were developed by four Task Forces – one for each sustainability pillar. They have also been reviewed by the project team to determine the degree to which they can be addressed within the Lanark County Sustainable Communities Official Plan (SCOP).

In the matrix below, each strategic objective is listed and the team has indicated how it will be implemented. There are three options:

- **Supported by the SCOP:** There are numerous instances where the SCOP can help with the direct implementation of identified strategies and other cases where the SCOP can provide indirect support through the inclusion of policies which community partners can use as a building block in the development of successful implementation strategies. In such cases a reference to the relevant section of the County SCOP is provided with an explanatory note.
- **Requires Community Partner:** There are situations where the strategic objective can only be achieved if several partners come together to work on the implementation. For example where a strategic objectives involves economic development local EcDev organizations need to assist in order to achieve successful implementation.

In the matrix we have noted the implementation option that we think is the best fit for each strategic objective. We have also included notes on implementation where appropriate.

## Cultural Pillar

<b>Theme 1: Arts</b>				
<b>Goal Statement (Where will we be in 20 years?)</b>				
We encourage artistic expression and have a diverse and growing group of artists and artisans throughout our community.				
#	Draft Strategic Objective	Supported by SCOP	Requires Community Partner	Notes
1.1	Connect visitors to our local artists and artisans.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local municipalities and tourism organizations.
1.2	Preserve traditional crafts like weaving, pottery, the development of stick furniture and maple syrup production.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with crafts tourism partners and local entrepreneurs.
1.3	Encourage the provision of affordable arts space.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local municipalities, Ministry of Culture, Heritage Canada, local artists and local developers.
1.4	Encourage the development of innovative ways to invest in and support public art and murals.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with Local municipalities, local businesses and developers are all possible partners.

<b>Theme 2: Places and Events</b>				
<b>Goal Statement (Where will we be in 20 years?)</b>				
Our community has great public spaces, festivals and events and we cooperate with each other to promote our region's places and events.				
#	Draft Strategic Objective	Supported by SCOP	Requires Community Partner	Notes
2.1	Encourage the creation of more physical places to gather for social and cultural events especially in rural areas.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with business entrepreneurs, non-profits, service clubs, and local municipalities.
2.2	Ensure that we have sufficient hotels, restaurants and transportation for visitors.	2.3.1.5, 4.3	Yes	Needs to be led by business community and tourism partners. Local municipalities can provide letters of support. The SCOP seeks to ensure that future development will include appropriate commercial uses and also provides for efficient transportation infrastructures.
2.3	Encourage the design and building of cultural spaces such as studios, galleries, museums, cafes, restaurants and libraries.		Yes	Needs to be led by local entrepreneurs and cultural groups. Approvals are a local municipal responsibility.

2.4	Encourage the development of new events.		Yes	Needs to be led by sports and cultural groups. Local municipality provides approvals and could provide non-financial support.
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Theme 3: History and Heritage				
<b>Goal Statement (Where will we be in 20 years?)</b>				
Our community acknowledges, appreciates and shares the rich history and heritage of our region.				
#	Draft Strategic Objective	Supported by SCOP	Requires Community Partner	Notes
3.1	Continue to protect, share and celebrate our history and heritage including our natural, built and archaeological sites that contribute to Lanark's unique identity and character.	8.2.11	Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with tourism partners, entrepreneurs and other levels of government. The SCOP requires the protection and conservation of heritage and archaeological resources.
3.2	Continue to elevate the awareness of residents and visitors about local history and heritage.		Yes	Would be a combined effort of the County, local municipalities, tourism partners and heritage groups.
3.3	Recognize and build on the link between economic benefits and the celebration of our history and heritage.		Yes	Needs to be led by EcDev groups, tourism groups, and local businesses.
3.4	Seek opportunities for intergenerational engagement where our youth can learn from our elders.		Yes	Needs to be led by schools, heritage groups, veteran's associations and museums.
3.5	Recognize and document history and heritage.		Yes	Needs to be a combined effort by local municipalities, Lanark County archives, public libraries, Algonquin College and local First Nations.
3.6	Support efforts to understand and celebrate recognize our water heritage.		Yes	Needs to be a combined effort by local municipalities, Lanark County archives, public libraries, Algonquin College and local First Nations and local conservation authorities.

## Economic Pillar

### Theme 4: Tourism

#### Goal Statement (Where will we be in 20 years?)

Our community promotes our local history, heritage, and natural features and share it with visitors from Ontario, Canada and the rest of the world.

#	Draft Strategic Objective	Supported by SCOP	Requires Community Partner	Notes
4.1	Make our region distinct from our competitors.		Yes	Needs to be led by Ontario Highlands Tourism Organization (OHTO), local tourism associations and tourism businesses with support from County and local municipalities.
4.2	Work together to attract visits from the 6.5 million people who are located within 5 hours of the majority of the region.		Yes	Needs to be led by OHTO and local tourism associations with support from County and local municipalities.
4.3	Work together to build on our top five tourist activities: outdoor/sports activities; fishing; boating; museums/ art galleries; and historic sites.		Yes	Needs to be led by OHTO, local tourism associations, local entrepreneurs with support from County and local municipalities.
4.4	Work together to extend length of stay, peak season travel and shoulder season business.		Yes	Needs to be led by OHTO, local tourism associations and local tourism businesses with support from County and local municipalities.
4.5	Continue to develop tourism assets.	4.0	Yes	Needs to be led by OHTO, local tourism associations and local entrepreneurs with support from County and local municipalities. The SCOP is supportive of the on-going development of tourism infrastructure such as recreational trails and railways.
4.6	Work together to understand the needs of seasonal and cottage residents.		Yes	Needs to be led by OHTO and local tourism associations with support from County and local municipalities.

### Theme 5: Infrastructure and Quality of Life

#### Goal Statement (Where will we be in 20 years?)

Our community's quality of life is enhanced by access to excellent infrastructure.

#	Draft Strategic Objective	Supported by SCOP	Requires Community Partner	Notes
5.1	Support the development of infrastructure to support safe walking and cycling.	4.0	Yes	County roads addressed in County Transportation Master Plan.
5.2	Promote our quality infrastructure to prospective residents and new businesses.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with EcDev partners and local municipalities.



5.3	Continue to support the expansion of rural broadband.		Yes	Led by the County, the Eastern Ontario Warden's Caucus, with help from the provincial and federal governments and private sector suppliers.
5.4	Work collaboratively with other municipal, provincial, federal and private partners to focus strategically on infrastructure investments.		Yes	Led by County for County projects; for other projects, County would support these initiatives when requested by another partner.
5.5	Support the improvement of transmission lines to deliver solar power and local renewable energy and to receive power for local businesses efficiently.		Yes	Needs to be led by Ontario Power Generation (OPG).

**Theme 6: Economic Development**

**Goal Statement (Where will we be in 20 years?)**

Our community works together to support local businesses, to attract new businesses, and retain and generate jobs across sectors.

#	Draft Strategic Objective	Supported by SCOP	Requires Community Partner	Notes
6.1	Support efforts to provide small businesses and local entrepreneurs with access to information and support.		Yes	Work with and support EcDev partners.
6.2	Support efforts to identify innovative ways to take advantage of our local natural resources.		Yes	Work with and support EcDev partners.
6.3	Support efforts to take a creative economy approach and focus on opportunities for people who are paid to think.		Yes	Work with and support EcDev partners.
6.4	Encourage job creation in renewable energy, energy conservation and other green job areas.		Yes	Work with and support EcDev partners.
6.5	Support efforts to provide training in renewable energy and re-skilling for sustainable energy practices.		Yes	Work with and support educational partners (e.g. Algonquin College).
6.6	Work together to attract and support new businesses and help them to become sustainable and profitable.		Yes	Work/ with and support EcDev partners and local municipalities.

<b>Theme 7: Agriculture</b>				
<b>Goal Statement (Where will we be in 20 years?)</b>				
Our community has a thriving agricultural sector that is economically viable and produces a diverse number of products.				
#	Draft Strategic Objective	Supported by SCOP	Requires Community Partner	Notes
7.1	Preserve our rural character by supporting local agriculture.	6.0	Yes	Led by the County Agricultural Advisory Working Group with help from local municipalities and OMAFRA. The SCOP protects agricultural lands and includes policies which support agricultural capacity.
7.2	Support agricultural tourism by emphasizing value added products and experiences linked to agriculture and tourism such as maple syrup harvesting.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with EcDev partners, local tourism associations, OMAFRA and tourism entrepreneurs.
7.3	Support the rehabilitation and enhancement of agricultural land use where possible.	6.0	Yes	The SCOP protects agricultural lands and includes policies which support agricultural capacity.
7.4	Anticipate and prepare for changes in agricultural food production and economics overtime.		Yes	A collaboration with agricultural universities, local farmers and commodity groups led by Led by the County Agricultural Advisory Working Group.

## Environmental Pillar

<b>Theme 8: Local Natural Heritage Features</b>				
<b>Goal Statement (Where will we be in 20 years?)</b>				
Our community preserves, protects and enhances local natural heritage features.				
#	Draft Strategic Objective	Supported by SCOP	Requires Community Partner	Notes
8.1	Consider natural heritage features when making decisions.	5.0	Yes	The SCOP protects and conserves natural heritage areas for their economic, social and ecological benefits.
8.2	Recognize and raise awareness of the economic and environmental benefits of wetlands and forests.	5.0	Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local environmental groups, the Province and EcDev groups. The SCOP protects and conserves natural heritage areas for their economic, social and ecological benefits.
8.3	Work with partners to harmonize local natural heritage policies regulations.	5.0	Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with conservation authorities. The SCOP protects and conserves natural heritage areas for their economic, social and ecological benefits.

8.4	Recognize and protect local biodiversity in accordance with federal and provincial legislation.	5.0	Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local municipalities. The SCOP protects and conserves natural heritage areas for their economic, social and ecological benefits.
8.5	Recognize the value that agricultural lands can provide as part of a natural heritage system.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local farmers, Algonquin College and local environmental groups.

<b>Theme 9: Climate Change and Air Quality</b>				
<b>Goal Statement (Where will we be in 20 years?)</b>				
Our community minimizes the emissions of greenhouse gases and other air pollutants.				
#	Draft Strategic Objective	Supported by SCOP	Requires Community Partner	Notes
9.1	Anticipate and plan for changes in climate, the natural environment and the resulting impacts on our economic and social systems, and municipal infrastructure.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with environmental partners, local EcDev groups and local municipalities.
9.2	Work together to make the reduction of greenhouse gases and air pollutants an objective when making choices and decisions in our County.		Yes	County led initiative with support from environmental partners, local EcDev groups and local municipalities.

<b>Theme 10: Local Food</b>				
<b>Goal Statement (Where will we be in 20 years?)</b>				
Our community supports the production, availability and consumption of local food.				
#	Draft Strategic Objective	Supported by SCOP	Requires Community Partner	Notes
10.1	Buy local food and promote its values: taste, nutritional value, availability and contribution to local economic benefits.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local farmers, farmer's markets, local EcDev groups, EcoPerth and local municipalities to promote and expand Lanark Local Flavours and other existing programs.
10.2	Encourage the development of local community gardens.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with environmental groups and local municipalities.
10.3	Make regulations flexible to keep land in agricultural use and to support farmers focused on local food production.	6.0	Yes	SCOP recognizes the importance of agricultural lands and includes flexible policies depending on the type of agricultural operation
10.4	Work together to eliminate the constraints to marketing local food (example distribution, storage).		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local farmers, farmer's markets, local EcDev groups, EcoPerth and local municipalities lobby the Province and find solutions.

10.5	Encourage efforts to educate our youth about food and provide training in agriculture.		Yes	County to encourage efforts by 4-H, Youth Centres, K to 12 schools, Algonquin College.
10.6	Support the movement of local foods to restaurants and stores.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with the County Agricultural Advisory Working Group, BIAs and Chambers to promote and encourage efforts by restaurants and stores.
10.7	Support the use of sustainable agricultural practices where feasible.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with the County Agricultural Advisory Working Group, local farmers to promote what they are doing and encourage additional action.

**Theme 11: Energy**

**Goal Statement (Where will we be in 20 years?)**

Our community enhances its capacity to generate renewable energy and progressively improves its energy efficiency.

#	Draft Strategic Objective	Supported by SCOP	Requires Community Partner	Notes
11.1	Encourage efforts to decrease the energy required to transport people, goods and services.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local municipalities, local businesses to take action and promote actions by residents.
11.2	Encourage efforts to reduce energy use in the community wherever possible.	4.6	Yes	The SCOP supports renewable energy, energy efficient development and the development of alternative energy sources
11.3	Use local renewable sources of energy and diversify our energy sources where possible.	4.6	Yes	The SCOP supports renewable energy, energy efficient development and the development of alternative energy sources
11.4	Support efforts to investigate the development of new modes of ownership and collaboration in the energy sector.		Yes	Needs to be led by Algonquin College, another post-secondary institution or a local EcDev group.

**Theme 12: Water**

**Goal Statement (Where will we be in 20 years?)**

Our community protects and improves local water quality.

#	Draft Strategic Objective	Supported by SCOP	Requires Community Partner	Notes
12.1	Reduce the amount of storm water entering into surface water bodies.	4.4	Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local municipalities, property owners and developers. The SCOP includes stormwater management policies.

12.2	Eliminate or decrease the use of hazardous materials that can enter into our water system.	4.4	Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local municipalities, property owners and developers. The SCOP includes stormwater management policies.
12.3	Encourage a reduction in the sales of bottled water.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local municipalities and the local health unit.
12.4	Encourage the reduction of water use in all buildings (new, existing and those being renovated).		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local municipalities and the local health unit.
12.5	Encourage efforts to inspect septic systems and complete well maintenance and proper decommissioning.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local municipalities and conservation authorities.
12.6	Recognize the role of healthy water bodies and wetland ecosystems in protecting local water resources.	Part 2 - 5.5	Yes	The SCOP includes policies to protect and enhance all components of our natural heritage.
12.7	Protect local shorelines.	5.5	Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with Conservation Authorities. The SCOP includes policies to protect and enhance all components of our natural heritage.

**Theme 13: Waste**

**Goal Statement (Where will we be in 20 years?)**

Our community maximizes waste diversion through the application of the 3Rs (reduce, reuse and recycling).

#	Draft Strategic Objective	Supported by SCOP	Requires Community Partner	Notes
13.1	Encourage the composting of organic materials by residents, businesses and organizations.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local municipalities, environmental groups, BIAs and Chambers of Commerce.
13.2	Encourage the reduction of hazardous waste generation.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local municipalities, environmental groups, BIAs and Chambers of Commerce.
13.3	Encourage the use of best practices to manage septage and sewage sludge.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local municipalities, environmental groups, BIAs and Chambers of Commerce.
13.4	Encourage the use of durable goods that can be economically repaired.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local municipalities, environmental groups, BIAs and Chambers of Commerce.
13.5	Encourage local businesses and organizations to reduce commercial waste and take back non-recyclable packaging.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local municipalities, environmental groups, BIAs and Chambers of Commerce.

## Social Pillar

<b>Theme 14: Housing</b>				
<b>Goal Statement (Where will we be in 20 years?)</b>				
All people have access to safe, affordable, appropriate, efficient housing in a supportive community.				
#	Draft Strategic Objective	Supported by SCOP	Requires Community Partner	Notes
14.1	Support the upgrade of the existing housing stock to increase resource efficiency (energy, water).		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local municipalities.
14.2	Encourage efforts to build houses and residential buildings that are equivalent to or achieve LEED Silver for New Homes or New Construction.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local municipalities.
14.3	Support efforts to provide for the development of a range of housing types including mixed residential and commercial developments that promote walkability and are affordable, well-built, well-designed and secure.	2.5	Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local municipalities. The SCOP encourages mixed use diversified communities.
14.4	Educate residents about how the design of homes and residences can accommodate a range of mobility and aging in place.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local municipalities and the County Accessibility Advisory Committee.
14.5	Support efforts to develop affordable housing.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local developers, MAH and local municipalities.
14.6	Work together as a community to alleviate rural homelessness.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local developers, the LCHC, MAH and local municipalities.

<b>Theme 15: Age Friendly Communities</b>				
<b>Goal Statement (Where will we be in 20 years?)</b>				
Our community engages, celebrates and supports people of all ages and abilities.				
#	Draft Strategic Objective	Supported by SCOP	Requires Community Partner	Notes
15.1	Support efforts to provide recreation and leisure opportunities for residents of all ages.	2.5	Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with the County Municipal Trail Corporation, local municipalities, seniors groups, youth groups and other levels of government. The SCOP encourages mixed use diversified communities.

15.2	Encourage efforts to promote the design of public buildings and community facilities that can double as educational facilities.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local municipalities, seniors groups, youth groups, developers and other levels of government.
15.3	Support efforts to provide affordable, accessible child care.		Yes	Should be led by the Province and other partners.
15.4	Work with other funders to find reliable, sustainable funding to be invested in youth centres and senior centres.		Yes	Work with all potential funders to coordinate support.
15.5	Treat youth and older residents with respect and include them in our civic life.		Yes	Adapt County and local municipality engagement efforts to reach all audiences.
15.6	Promote opportunities for employment and volunteerism that cater to the interests and abilities of youth, students and older residents.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local municipalities, seniors groups, youth groups and local volunteer organizations.

**Theme 16: Transportation**

**Goal Statement (Where will we be in 20 years?)**

Our community provides people with access to a variety of safe and affordable transportation options with an emphasis on active transportation and the use of efficient, emissions free vehicles.

#	Draft Strategic Objective	Supported by SCOP	Requires Community Partner	Notes
16.1	Encourage efforts to decrease the use of single occupancy motor vehicles and reduce motor vehicle trips.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local municipalities and environmental groups.
16.2	Encourage efforts to develop a transportation system that is affordable, multi-modal, accessible and interconnected.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local municipalities, local environmental groups and other levels of government.
16.3	Promote and encourage carpooling and vehicle sharing programs.		Yes	Needs to be led by local municipalities.

**Theme 17: Healthy Communities**

**Goal Statement (Where will we be in 20 years?)**

Our community has a supportive, inclusive environment that protects and promotes health and well-being.

#	Draft Strategic Objective	Supported by SCOP	Requires Community Partner	Notes
17.1	Support efforts to increase physical activity by all residents by providing access to excellent programs and facilities.		Yes	Needs to be led by Leeds & Grenville Healthy Communities Partnership with support from other partners.

17.2	Support efforts to provide access to nutritious, affordable food.		Yes	Needs to be led by Leeds & Grenville Healthy Communities Partnership or Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit with support from other partners.
17.3	Support efforts to create smoke-free indoor and outdoor spaces to protect health and air quality where people play, live and congregate.		Yes	Needs to be led by Leeds & Grenville Healthy Communities Partnership or Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit with support from other partners.
17.4	Support efforts to prevent alcohol and substance misuse.		Yes	Needs to be led by Leeds & Grenville Healthy Communities Partnership or Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit with support from other partners.
17.5	Foster positive mental health.		Yes	Needs to be led by Leeds & Grenville Healthy Communities Partnership or Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit with support from other partners.
17.6	Support efforts to provide public spaces and green spaces that are clean, secure and physically accessible, for residents to meet and congregate.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with local municipalities.

**Theme 18: Safety**

**Goal Statement (Where will we be in 20 years?)**

Our community provides residents with a safe environment free from harm and abuse, protected and secure from crime, where risk to the individual is minimized.

#	Draft Strategic Objective	Supported by SCOP	Requires Community Partner	Notes
18.1	Work together to make our communities safe for residents of all ages.		Yes	Needs to be led by local police and OPP.
18.2	Design roads to ensure the safety of all users.	4.3	Yes	County for County roads, other partners for other roads (e.g. MTO, local municipalities). The SCOP includes policies on safe roads.
18.3	Support the development of drug treatment programs and shelters for community members suffering from abuse.		Yes	Needs to be led by Leeds & Grenville Healthy Communities Partnership, Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit with support from the Enhanced Employment Supports – Addictions Services and other community partners, e.g. MCSS.



<b>Theme 19: Diversity</b>				
<b>Goal Statement (Where will we be in 20 years?)</b>				
Our community provides a welcoming and open environment for newcomers as well as long-time residents.				
<b>#</b>	<b>Draft Strategic Objective</b>	<b>Supported by SCOP</b>	<b>Requires Community Partner</b>	<b>Notes</b>
19.1	Welcome new residents by making our communities open to their families, removing barriers and promoting ways to get involved.		Yes	Promote existing programs like Partnership Project (Immigration Portal) and provide support where possible.
19.2	Promote local quality of life to attract young professionals to our community.		Yes	Coordinate with EcDev groups to promote the County.
19.3	Embrace and promote diversity in food, experiences and culture and create opportunities for cultural networking.		Yes	Promote existing programs and work with local municipalities and other partners.
19.4	Actively work with young people to understand their needs and shape our community so that they are comfortable staying.		Yes	Opportunity to collaborate with youth groups, K-12 schools, Algonquin College and local municipalities.

Adopted

June 27, 2012

Sustainable Lanark

**APPENDIX B – SUMMARY OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS**



**SUSTAINABILITY**  
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## Summary of Questionnaire Results – Sustainable Lanark

From September 1, 2011 until November 8, 2011 a questionnaire on sustainability was made available to residents of Lanark County and this is a summary of the results. Approximately 40% of responses were collected during intercept engagements (farmers markets, landfill sites/waste events, hockey arenas) and 60% were collected through the project web site.

The total number of questionnaires started = 255; total participants = 236; total not completed = 19. Only residents were asked questions about the specific sustainability pillars. Open ended responses were coded and included where there were 2 or more similar responses.

### Summary of Residence

<b>Are you a permanent resident or seasonal resident of Lanark County?</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response %</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Permanent Resident	76.7%	181
Seasonal Resident	6.8%	16
Not a resident	16.5%	39
<b><i>answered question</i></b>		<b>236</b>

<b>What do you like most about Lanark County? (Non-Residents Only)</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response %</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Nature related (landscape, water, beautiful country, etc.)	44.7%	17
Proximity to where I live	10.5%	4
The people, the sense of community, the friendliness	7.9%	3
Agricultural fairs	5.3%	2
<i>Other (single answers)</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>12</i>
<b><i>answered question</i></b>		<b>38</b>

<b>Which municipality? (If two, say for home and for a cottage, select both but it is where they live and pay taxes not where they work)</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response %</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Beckwith	5.1%	10
Carleton Place	10.3%	20
Drummond/North Elmsley	12.8%	25
Lanark Highlands	21.0%	41
Mississippi Mills	13.8%	27
Montague	9.7%	19
Perth	14.9%	29
Tay Valley	12.3%	24
<b><i>answered question</i></b>		<b>195</b>

### Environmental Pillar

<b>Thinking about the environmental pillar what would you say is your greatest asset in Lanark County?</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response %</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Water	28.0%	53
Natural Areas	25.4%	48
Land	15.9%	30
Local Food	8.5%	16
Air	6.3%	12
Don't know or no answer	3.2%	6
All of the above	3.2%	6
Reuse centre, recycling	2.6%	5
People	1.1%	2
<i>Other (single answers)</i>	5.8%	11
<b>answered question</b>		<b>189</b>

<b>Thinking about the environmental pillar, if you could change one thing for the next generation what would that be?</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response %</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Protect natural areas	16.9%	32
Address water issues	13.2%	25
Reduce or divert waste, recycle or compost	13.2%	25
Address climate change	12.2%	23
Conserve resources (energy, water, materials)	10.6%	20
Invent/install clean energy	5.8%	11
Don't know or no answer	4.8%	9
Address population growth	3.2%	6
Stop business/industrial pollution	3.2%	6
Protect farmland	2.1%	4
Support local food	1.6%	3
Reduce pesticide use	1.6%	3
Better public transportation	1.6%	3
All of the above	1.1%	2
<i>Other (single answers)</i>	9.0%	17
<b>answered question</b>		<b>189</b>

**Economic Pillar**

<b>Thinking about the economic pillar what would you say is your greatest asset in Lanark County?</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response %</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Lots of small businesses, interesting range of businesses	34.4%	65
Tourism	33.3%	63
Don't know or no answer	14.8%	28
Good economic development plan	3.7%	7
Diversity of Jobs	2.6%	5
Natural resources	2.6%	5
Good job training programs	1.1%	2
Connection to environment	1.1%	2
Agriculture	1.1%	2
Quality of life/sense of community	1.1%	2
<i>Other (single answers)</i>	4.2%	8
<b><i>answered question</i></b>		<b>189</b>

<b>Thinking about the economic pillar, if you could change one thing for the next generation what would that be?</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response %</b>	<b>Responses</b>
More jobs, Better job choice	30.2%	57
Support local economy, sustainability	14.3%	27
Better infrastructure (high speed, business parks, access to supplies)	13.8%	26
More diversity, better opportunities, more demand	9.0%	17
Financial support (loans, start-up programs)	5.8%	11
Personal support or training (education, skills training)	4.8%	9
Don't know or no answer	4.2%	8
Small business support (mentoring, information, coaching)	3.7%	7
Increase farms, preserve farmland	2.1%	4
Keep small town feel	1.6%	3
Cut taxes, government spending	1.6%	3
Stop big box stores	1.1%	2
<i>Other (single answers)</i>	7.9%	15
<b><i>answered question</i></b>		<b>189</b>

### Social Pillar

<b>Thinking about the social pillar what would you say is your greatest asset in Lanark County?</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response %</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Small town feel, good community, good neighbours, community groups	61.4%	116
Good access to health care (hospitals, clinics, doctors, etc.)	13.2%	25
Recreation (facilities, trails, parks)	6.9%	13
Don't know or no answer	6.3%	12
All of the above	2.6%	5
Housing (choice, value, beauty)	2.1%	4
Education (schools, training programs, self-improvement)	1.6%	3
Social support (organizations, help groups)	1.6%	3
Local food	1.1%	2
Sports or other activities	1.1%	2
<i>Other (single answers)</i>	<i>2.1%</i>	<i>4</i>
<b><i>answered question</i></b>		<b>189</b>

<b>Thinking about the social pillar, if you could change one thing for the next generation what would that be?</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response %</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Don't know or no answer	14.3%	27
Better, friendlier community, know your neighbours better, more community groups	12.7%	24
Recreation (facilities, trails, parks)	12.7%	24
Education (schools, training programs, self-improvement)	11.6%	22
Better access to health care (hospitals, clinics, doctors, etc.)	10.1%	19
Social support (organizations, help groups)	8.5%	16
Housing (choice, value, beauty)	5.8%	11
More programs for youth	3.7%	7
Sports or other activities	1.6%	3
Housing, support for seniors	1.6%	3
More local services	1.1%	2
<i>Other (single answers)</i>	<i>16.4%</i>	<i>31</i>
<b><i>answered question</i></b>		<b>189</b>

**Cultural Pillar**

<b>Thinking about the cultural pillar what would you say is your greatest asset in Lanark County?</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response %</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Creative places (studios, galleries, museums, dance, visual arts, cafes, restaurants, libraries)	23.8%	45
Festivals (e.g. Garlic Festival, music festival, agricultural fairs)	22.8%	43
Historic buildings, architecture, historic recognition	18.0%	34
Good arts community	14.8%	28
Don't know or no answer	13.8%	26
Diversity	2.6%	5
All of the above	2.6%	5
<i>Other (single answer)</i>	<i>1.6%</i>	<i>3</i>
<b><i>answered question</i></b>		<b>189</b>

<b>Thinking about the cultural pillar, if you could change one thing for the next generation what would that be?</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response %</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Promote local history or heritage	21.7%	41
Increase diversity of the people	19.6%	37
Don't know no answer	18.0%	34
Add creative spaces (studios, galleries, museums, dance, visual arts, cafes, restaurants, libraries)	13.8%	26
Develop arts community	9.5%	18
More festivals or events	5.8%	11
Link to youth issues	2.1%	4
Keep up the good work	1.6%	3
Secure more funds	1.1%	2
<i>Other (single answers)</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>13</i>
<b><i>answered question</i></b>		<b>189</b>



## Lanark County – Investment Plans

Do you have plans to invest in your home, cottage or business in the next five years?		
Answer Options	Response %	Responses
Yes	63.5%	120
No	29.1%	55
I would prefer not to respond	5.8%	11
No answer	1.6%	3
<b><i>answered question</i></b>		<b>189</b>

If yes, are you planning to: (select all that apply)		
Answer Options	Response %	Responses
Renovate my home or cottage	56.2%	77
Expand or renovate my store or business	8.8%	12
I would prefer not to answer	8.0%	11
Build an addition to my home or cottage	6.6%	9
Build a new home or cottage on vacant land	5.8%	8
Create a new lot from my existing land holdings	4.4%	6
Rent new space for my business	2.9%	4
Build eco-community, improve environment	2.2%	3
Enlarge or add barn	1.5%	2
Purchase new home	1.5%	2
Landscaping, green up common space	1.5%	2
None of the above	0.7%	1
<b><i>Total selected</i></b>		<b>137</b>

**Overall Comments**

<b>If you have any other comments please enter them below.</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response %</b>	<b>Responses</b>
No additional comments	82.0%	182
Concern with questionnaire (format, choices)	3.6%	8
Happy with questionnaire - thank you	1.4%	3
Would like more focus on economic development/issues	1.4%	3
Would like more focus on youth issues	1.4%	3
Would like more focus on local renewable energy	1.4%	3
Improve waste diversion	1.4%	3
Concern about taxes, increase tax base	1.4%	3
<i>Other (single answers)</i>	6.3%	14
<b>Total responses</b>		<b>222</b>



**APPENDIX C – ICSP FRAMEWORK  
FOR SUSTAINABLE LANARK**



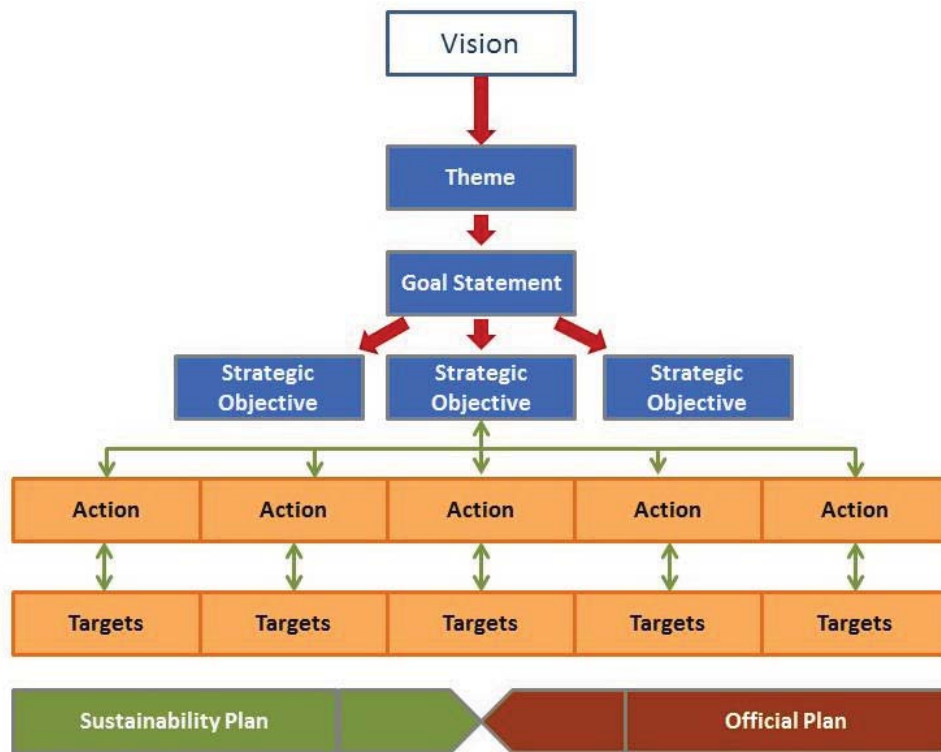
**Sustainability Framework for Lanark County**

The components of the sustainability framework used for Lanark County are described below and **Figure 1** depicts the structure of the framework and its layers.

**Vision:** This is the overall vision for community sustainability. All actions taken in the future should move Lanark County closer to its vision.

**Themes:** A theme is a specific focus area within the plan that supports achievement of the overall vision. Examples include energy, water and agriculture. Themes are nominally organized into four pillars of sustainability – economic, environmental, social and cultural – but there is considerable overlap between pillars in many cases. Developing a sustainable building would touch on energy, water, waste, transportation and land use planning for example.

**Figure 1: Lanark County's Draft Sustainability Framework**



**Goal Statement:** A goal describes what each theme would look like if the vision were achieved. An example would be the goal for Energy in Bancroft which is:

*Our community is a net generator of clean, renewable energy with a minimal and ever shrinking carbon footprint.*

The goal should describe what success will look like in a sustainable future for this theme, aligned with your vision and your principles. It generally takes the form of a statement of the highest aspirations and purpose for the community system.

**Strategic Objectives:** Strategic objectives are high level objectives that are intended to provide strategic guidance on moving from the current reality to the theme goal. These should be results-based rather than prescriptive. For example, “our community’s energy system is fossil fuel free” (results-based) is preferable to “our community’s energy system will include solar panels” (prescriptive).

**Potential Initiatives:** Potential initiatives (PIs) are ideas for programs, projects or activities that might help to move Lanark County from our current reality to the achievement of one or more goals. Potential initiatives also need to be aligned with one or more strategic objectives. To become an action, an organization or an individual must become an action lead and commit to implementing the potential initiative.

**Actions:** Actions are specific initiatives that are either ongoing or planned and are usually called projects or programs. Organizations, institutions, businesses, and citizens should be encouraged to undertake actions that will help to move Lanark County towards its vision of sustainability. Actions need an action lead and a target to go from being a potential initiative to an action.

**Action Lead:** The action lead is an individual or an organization that has accepted responsibility and accountability for implementing an action. Action leads will generally confer with other organizations willing to assist in the implementation and will develop and execute an implementation plan. Action leads are also responsible for reporting on progress against targets.

**Target:** Every action requires at least one target that is SMART - specific, measurable, accountable (i.e. has an action lead), realistic and time bound.

**APPENDIX D – GLOSSARY AND ACRONYM LIST**



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## Glossary and Acronym List

Term or Acronym	Definition or Long Name
Action	For definition see <b>Appendix C ICSP Framework</b> .
Action Lead	For definition see <b>Appendix C ICSP Framework</b> .
Community Ownership	Community ownership is a governance model that places a community board of directors or volunteer committee in a position of oversight over an ICSP or similar document. Direction flows from the community with the municipality as a partner rather than directly from the municipality.
Community Partners	Businesses, municipalities, institutions or other organizations that agree to participate in the long term implementation of Sustainable Lanark.
Current Reality	For definition see <b>Appendix C ICSP Framework</b> .
energy efficient	This is a measure of energy use by a product or a structure. For example an energy efficient refrigerator is a single product that uses less energy whereas an energy efficient building is a structure that through a combination of choices uses less energy.
fuel efficient	This is a measure of fuel use by a product. It is typically associated with vehicles.
ICSP	Integrated Community Sustainability Plan ( <i>see definition</i> )
Integrated Community Sustainability Plan	A plan that meets the sustainability planning requirements associated with the Federal Gas Tax transfer program. This program is administered differently in all provinces and territories.
low impact	Low impact describes the level of environmental impact of a particular product, service, business or initiative. It is not an absolute measure nor is it a regulated term. It is a general modifier like 'green'.
Potential Initiative	For definition see <b>Appendix C ICSP Framework</b> .
PPS	The Government of Ontario's Provincial Policy Statement, 2005 on land use planning.
resource efficient	This is a description of an approach, product or structure that includes energy, fuel and water efficiency.
SCOP	Sustainable Community Official Plan
Strategic Objective	For definition see <b>Appendix C ICSP Framework</b> .
Target	For definition see <b>Appendix C ICSP Framework</b> .
Theme Statement	For definition see <b>Appendix C ICSP Framework</b> .
Themes	For definition see <b>Appendix C ICSP Framework</b> .
Values	For definition see <b>Appendix C ICSP Framework</b> .
Vision	For definition see <b>Appendix C ICSP Framework</b> .
water efficient	This is a measure of water use by a product or a structure. For example a water efficient toilet is a single product that uses less water whereas a water efficient facility is a structure that through a combination of choices uses less water.



**APPENDIX 2 - Historical and Projected Population By Municipality**

<b>Historical and Projected Population By Municipality</b>								
<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Base Year</b>	<b>% share of growth</b>	<b>Projected Population</b>					
				<b>2011*</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2031</b>
<b>Beckwith</b>	6,387	11.9	<b>Low</b>	6,553	6,707	6,922	7,160	7,362
			<b>Medium</b>	6,757	7,127	7,497	7,867	8,245
			<b>High</b>	7,440	8,493	9,545	10,598	11,651
<b>Carleton Place</b>	9,453	20.5	<b>Low</b>	9,738	10,005	10,374	10,784	11,132
			<b>Medium</b>	9,964	10,476	10,987	11,498	12,010
			<b>High</b>	10,162	10,924	11,743	12,624	13,571
<b>Drummond North Elmsley</b>	7,118	13.4	<b>Low</b>	7,305	7,479	7,720	7,988	8,216
			<b>Medium</b>	7,570	8,021	8,473	8,924	9,376
			<b>High</b>	7,773	8,428	9,083	9,738	10,393
<b>Lanark Highlands</b>	5,180	7.6	<b>Low</b>	5,286	5,385	5,521	5,673	5,803
			<b>Medium</b>	5,509	5,839	6,168	6,497	6,827
			<b>High</b>	5,607	6,034	6,462	6,889	7,316
<b>Mississippi Mills</b>	11,734	24.4	<b>Low</b>	12,074	12,391	12,830	13,318	13,733
			<b>Medium</b>	12,421	13,107	13,794	14,480	15,167
			<b>High</b>	13,426	15,117	16,809	18,500	20,192
<b>Montague</b>	3,595	3.9	<b>Low</b>	3,649	3,700	3,770	3,848	3,914
			<b>Medium</b>	3,680	3,766	3,851	3,937	4,022
			<b>High</b>	3,815	4,036	4,256	4,477	4,697
<b>Perth</b>	5,907	8.2	<b>Low</b>	6,021	6,128	6,275	6,439	6,579
			<b>Medium</b>	6,079	6,251	6,423	6,595	6,767
			<b>High</b>	6,249	6,590	6,932	7,274	7,615
<b>Tay Valley</b>	5,634	10.1	<b>Low</b>	5,775	5,906	6,088	6,290	6,461
			<b>Medium</b>	6,111	6,589	7,066	7,543	8,020
			<b>High</b>	6,229	6,824	7,419	8,014	8,609
<b>Lanark County</b>	55,008	100	<b>Low</b>	56,400	57,700	59,500	61,500	63,200
			<b>Medium</b>	58,092	61,175	64,259	67,343	70,434
			<b>High</b>	60,701	66,446	72,249	78,114	84,044

\*Please note that these projections were developed prior to the release of the 2011 Census population data.