



community-based strategic plan

Lake of Bays Strategic Plan Taking Shape

**Press Release
August 25, 2009**

Over 150 people attended three public meetings in July to share their vision for the future of Lake of Bays Township. At the same time, 180 people chose to share their ideas in a questionnaire that was available on the Township's web site and at area libraries.

On August 6th, volunteers from the public meetings met along with Advisory Group volunteers, 4 staff members and 3 Councilors to review all the ideas and suggestions received. They looked at the ideas describing peoples' vision for the future, their perceived obstacles and contradictions, and their recommendations for action. Ideas were sorted and then examined for patterns that could be summarized into a *community-based strategic plan*.

Based on the trends and themes that emerged from the input, participants made suggestions for tweaking the existing Vision statement and Values. As well, they identified seven strategies that capture the essence of what people feel needs to happen in order for the shared vision to become reality.

Everyone is invited to read the detailed notes from the August 6th planning session on the Township's website at www.lakeofbays.ca. These notes contain some first draft ideas about strategies. Soon you will be able to provide more feedback on a second draft of strategies and vision changes by clicking on a new link that will be added to the Township's website.

Once Council formally accepts a strategic plan in the fall, Township staff will develop business plans that support the strategies and guide operational activities. As well, community volunteers will be invited to meet later in the fall to create action plans for implementing the strategies. Through regular reports made to Council and to the community, everyone in the Township should be able to point to examples of real change that are helping to make the Lake of Bays Vision a reality.

General inquiries about the strategic planning process can be made to Stefan Szczerbak at the Lake of Bays Township offices, at 635-2722, and at planner@lakeofbays.on.ca