



Thinking regionally,
...acting locally.

Vision for the Future of the Calgary Region

CALGARY
REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

Fall 2002

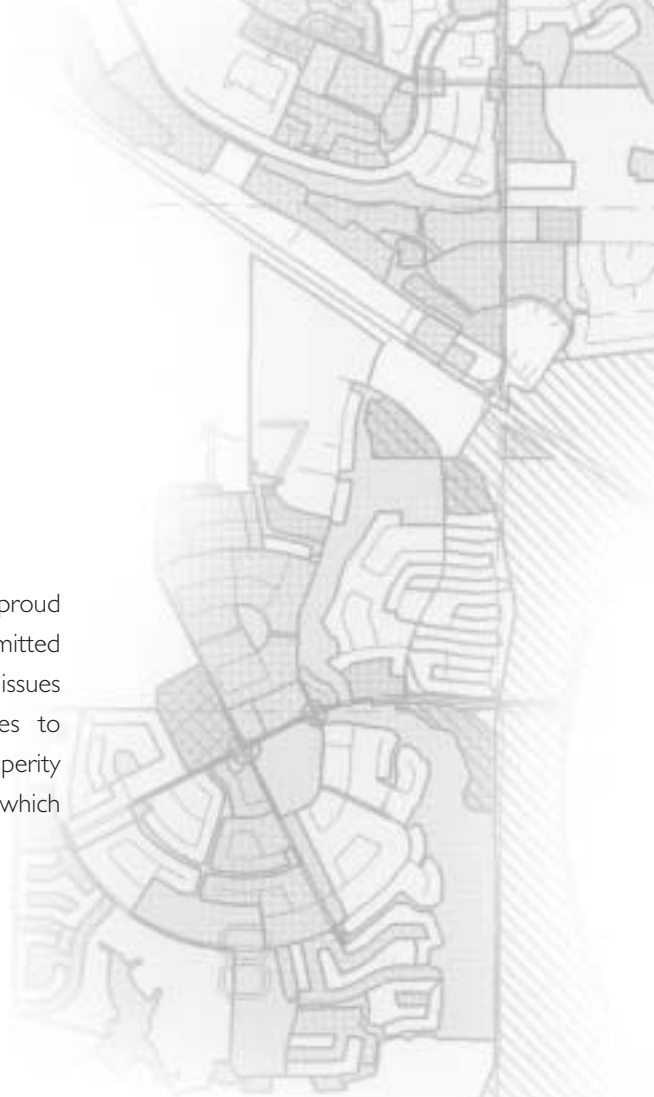


Vision

As a community of unique municipalities and jurisdictions, the Calgary region leads the nation in economic opportunity. The region is recognized as an outstanding place to live and do business and is acclaimed for its social, economic and environmental sustainability. Residents enjoy an exceptional quality of life in a healthy natural environment.

Mission

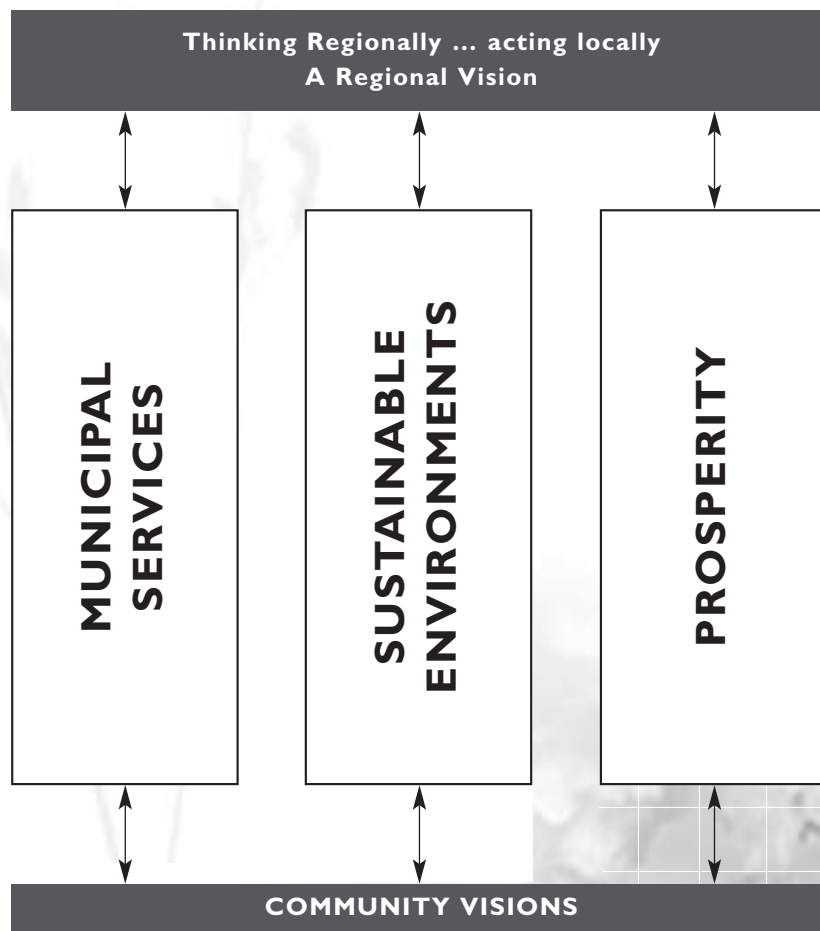
Diverse municipalities and jurisdictions, each proud of their respective unique identities, have committed to work in cooperative partnerships on common issues to improve the delivery of municipal services to residents and businesses, enhance regional prosperity and protect the natural environments upon which we depend.



A Regional Vision

The Calgary Regional Partnership's Vision for the region is based on three sustainable cornerstones that link it to the community visions approved by each of the municipalities and jurisdictions in the region.

The regional vision supports local autonomy while emphasizing that local goals can often best be facilitated through regional cooperative approaches. The vision encourages regional thinking within the context of local decision-making.



Municipal Services Vision

Municipalities and jurisdictions in the region provide high quality community and social services to residents, businesses and visitors. Surveys show high levels of citizen and customer satisfaction. Local governments continue to pursue new ways to deliver services in the most efficient and effective manner possible.

Municipal Services

Our Partnership's Role

Our Partnership provides a forum that encourages regional municipalities and jurisdictions to discuss regional or inter-municipal service delivery initiatives.

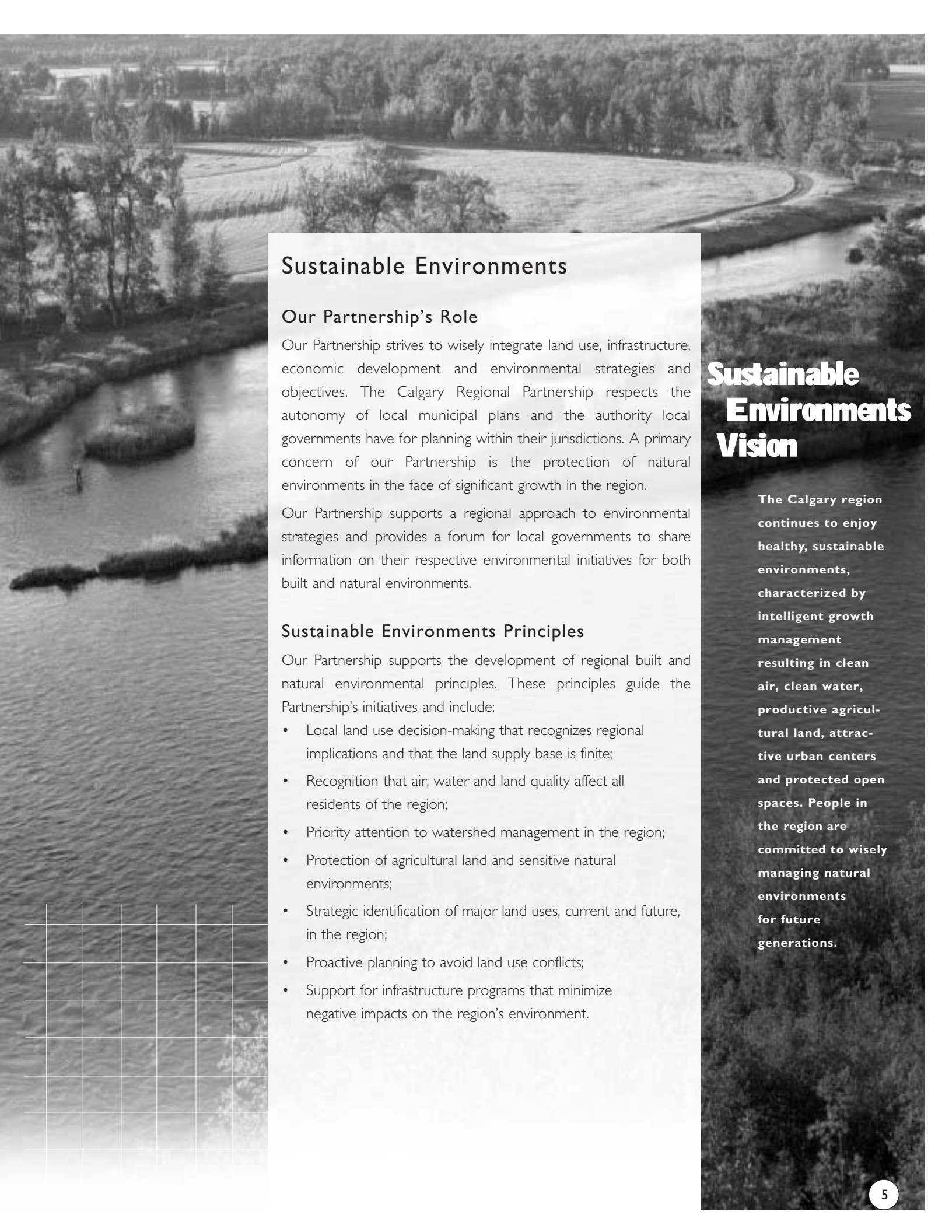
Our Partnership examines opportunities to reduce costs and improve services through regional and sub-regional service delivery mechanisms and encourages local governments to enter into shared service agreements where appropriate.

Municipal Services Principles

Regional municipalities and jurisdictions will work to develop regional municipal services based on the following principles:

- Delivery of local government services in the most efficient, effective and responsive manner possible;
- Sensitivity to local needs and preferences;
- Avoidance of overlapping and unnecessary competition and duplication of services;
- Optimization of the use of existing infrastructure;
- Protection of the current investment in infrastructure within the region;
- Encouragement of local governments to coordinated infrastructure planning;
- Work with federal and provincial governments to establish ongoing, predictable infrastructure programs;
- Integration of infrastructure and economic development objectives;
- Coordinate regional delivery of social services to those in need.





Sustainable Environments

Our Partnership's Role

Our Partnership strives to wisely integrate land use, infrastructure, economic development and environmental strategies and objectives. The Calgary Regional Partnership respects the autonomy of local municipal plans and the authority local governments have for planning within their jurisdictions. A primary concern of our Partnership is the protection of natural environments in the face of significant growth in the region.

Our Partnership supports a regional approach to environmental strategies and provides a forum for local governments to share information on their respective environmental initiatives for both built and natural environments.

Sustainable Environments Principles

Our Partnership supports the development of regional built and natural environmental principles. These principles guide the Partnership's initiatives and include:

- Local land use decision-making that recognizes regional implications and that the land supply base is finite;
- Recognition that air, water and land quality affect all residents of the region;
- Priority attention to watershed management in the region;
- Protection of agricultural land and sensitive natural environments;
- Strategic identification of major land uses, current and future, in the region;
- Proactive planning to avoid land use conflicts;
- Support for infrastructure programs that minimize negative impacts on the region's environment.

Sustainable Environments Vision

The Calgary region continues to enjoy healthy, sustainable environments, characterized by intelligent growth management resulting in clean air, clean water, productive agricultural land, attractive urban centers and protected open spaces. People in the region are committed to wisely managing natural environments for future generations.



Prosperity Vision

The Calgary region is made up of diverse and viable urban and rural economies. The region's economy is diversified, sustainable and globally competitive. Municipalities have economic development strategies that are integrated with each other. Economic development complements the region's quality of life and natural environment. The region has a highly skilled and educated workforce.

Prosperity

Our Partnership's Role

Our Partnership recognizes and respects regional municipalities' and jurisdictions' economic development strategies and plans. It emphasizes that there are significant benefits associated with integrating local strategies within a regional context and provides a forum for area municipalities and jurisdictions to develop and implement regional approaches to economic development.

Our Partnership provides a vehicle for local governments to partner with economic development stakeholders thereby providing the region with a strategic advantage over regions that have yet to pursue economic development from a cooperative perspective.

Prosperity Principles

Our Partnership believes that regional economic development initiatives should be based on the following principles:

- The economic strength of area municipalities and jurisdictions is substantially enhanced by a cooperative approach to regional economic development;
- Economic development models that bring government, business and community leaders together to work on common issues and to pursue mutual goals should be supported;
- Development of a market targeted economic identity will provide the region with a competitive advantage.



And we do this through building relationships.

Our Partnership provides the opportunity for regional municipalities and jurisdictions to discuss and work on issues that cross their respective boundaries. It supports a flexible approach that recognizes that different issues may involve different stakeholders and different regional processes.

The Calgary Regional Partnership is supportive of the many regional and inter-municipal initiatives that currently exist in the Calgary region. It recognizes and supports the autonomy of local governments to develop and implement inter-municipal agreements. The Partnership also recognizes local government autonomy to deal with other governments and stakeholders directly.



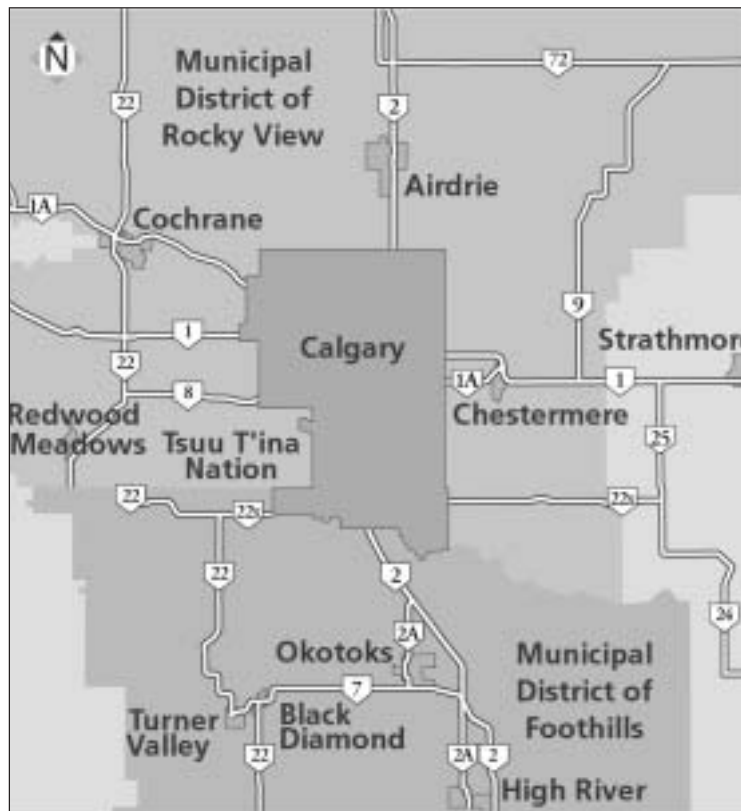
The Calgary Regional Partnership's is committed to:

- Effective intermunicipal communications;
- Involvement of citizens, businesses and not-for-profit organizations in regional thinking and decision-making;
- A "collective voice" to the provincial and federal governments on significant regional issues.

HIERARCHY OF RELATIONSHIPS



Participating partners as of 2002



CALGARY REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

For further information on the Calgary Regional Partnership, contact:
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