

1.0 PLAN CONCEPT

1.1 MISSION

The Municipal Plan is intended to help create the best community possible in which the citizens of Fredericton can live, work, raise families and play. The Plan provides direction for the community to ensure that a high quality physical environment is created so that citizens can carry out their social and economic activities in a sustainable manner.

1.2 A FUTURE VISION FOR FREDERICTON

The Capital City Municipal Plan must address the question: “What do the citizens of Fredericton want this City to be and to become?”

Citizens of Fredericton are appreciative of the City’s physical beauty, scale of development, quality of life and stable economy. As such, one of the challenges for the future will be to wisely manage the existing resources of the City. At the same time, opportunities exist to further improve the City and to ensure that its growth and development is well planned.

The following vision statement sets standards that will be challenging to achieve. Nonetheless, it provides a positive reference point to structure the Plan’s goals, objectives, policies, and proposals so that the City can look toward the future with a purpose.

In the future, Fredericton will continue to be a vibrant, prosperous, and smart City. This will be accomplished in a truly sustainable fashion where growth and development will be balanced by respect for the natural environment and its resources.

The City will continue to be the centre of the province’s knowledge industry. The City will proudly project its role as the capital of New Brunswick and the centre of higher education in the province. It will be a growing City, a City that works, and a City that affords its citizens a high quality of life.

Fredericton will be a liveable City with a small town ambiance. This will continue to be one of its most cherished qualities. Growth and development will have occurred at a human scale and in a manner compatible with the City’s rich heritage and natural attributes. The main focus of the City will be the downtown, the centre of business, government, social and cultural activity.

Future population growth will be moderate. The City’s growing economy and superior quality of life will keep Fredericton as the destination of choice in New Brunswick for new residents from elsewhere in the province, Canada, and the world. The population will also continue to age as the baby boom generation moves through the life cycle affecting the composition of households and the demand for housing. In addition, the delivery of services and the provision of recreation opportunities will have to respond to the changing needs of City residents.

Fredericton’s most important physical feature will continue to be the Saint John River. Flowing through the centre of the City, the river will be lined on both riverbanks by open spaces providing scenic vistas and accessibility to the water. More intensive public and private facilities will be developed in carefully selected and planned areas of the riverfront to take advantage of this valuable natural resource.

Fredericton's older residential areas will continue to retain their valued charm. Designated heritage areas will showcase the City's past and provide a focus for much of its tourism appeal. Fredericton will also continue to be New Brunswick's cultural capital providing residents and visitors with opportunities to experience the arts.

Inner City areas will continue to predominantly include low density, high quality housing. At the same time, medium and high density housing will occur in carefully planned locations within walking distance of the City centre and where disruption to lower density residential areas can be minimized.

Moving into the new areas of the City, new streets will be built and existing ones upgraded to facilitate good access to all parts of the City. New developments will be carefully planned and logically integrated with one another. The City's master planning process will ensure that the City's natural and human environments co-exist with each other. Local streets will be designed for the safe and efficient movement of vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists with provision for public transit. Parks and community facilities will be centrally located, visible and fully accessible to the populations they serve.

Fredericton will be the major retail centre for western New Brunswick. The City's commercial areas will be well defined and vibrant. The downtown will continue to be a culturally rich environment that is a people place with a thriving retail sector, flourishing restaurants and nightlife, and a growing resident population. Streetscapes will be aesthetically pleasing and inviting to the pedestrian. Public squares and gathering places will provide for winter and summertime outdoor enjoyment.

Main Street will be the north side's busiest commercial area. Traffic and streetscape improvements, in combination with the continued infilling, conversions, and redevelopment, will result in an attractive and functional centre of commercial activity. In addition, significant commercial growth in the Brookside Mall area, along St. Mary's Street and Two Nations Crossing, and in various secondary commercial nodes will provide greater shopping and employment convenience for the growing north side population.

The Runway is the City's uptown business area. The Runway will continue to be western New Brunswick's most extensive commercial and business area with its regional shopping centres, wide range of commercial services, and industrial uses. Land in the Runway will be fully serviced and landscaped for curb side appeal.

Industrial development in Fredericton will be clean and compatible with the environment. Industries once located in inner City areas will continue to relocate to more suitable peripheral locations away from residential areas.

The maintenance of a quality and healthy living environment will be a priority of the City. Environmentally sensitive areas will be protected and an abundance of recreation and open spaces provided. Linking the major recreation areas will be numerous linear open spaces that have created functional greenbelts throughout the City.

The City's transportation initiatives will include greater emphasis on public transit, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities. Accommodation for these alternative modes of transportation will be integrated with the continued growth of the City's street network. The Fredericton Airport will continue serve as a vital component

in the City's transportation infrastructure and its economic development.

And so, Fredericton will be a progressive and modern City, a City with unique charm and character and a City for people.

1.3 GROWTH STRATEGY GOALS

NATIONAL CONTEXT

A Smart City

1. To strengthen Fredericton's position as a nationally significant centre of the knowledge industry including life sciences, consulting engineering and information technology.

Research and Development

2. To encourage the further development of national research institutions in Fredericton.

PROVINCIAL CONTEXT

Centre of Government and Higher Education

3. To strengthen the City's role and image as provincial capital and New Brunswick's primary centre for higher education.

Economic Leader

4. To enhance Fredericton's position as an economic leader and an important centre for commerce, industry, technology, the service sector and tourism in Atlantic Canada.

Cultural Centre

5. To develop Fredericton's heritage and cultural resources to reflect its role as provincial capital and the province's most significant cultural centre.

REGIONAL CONTEXT

City as the Focus

6. To strengthen Fredericton's role as the focus of economic, social, recreation, and cultural activity for western New Brunswick.

Greater Population Growth Inside the City

7. To attract a greater percentage of regional population growth within the City.

Beneficial Regional Development Pattern

8. To achieve a regional pattern of development which is environmentally sound, economically efficient and logically integrated with and beneficial to the City.

CITY CONTEXT - PHYSICAL

Protect Natural Environment

9. To protect and enhance the integrity of the natural environment.

Balance of Old and New Development

10. To provide for new growth and development in the City while, at the same time, complementing and enhancing the City's existing physical character where appropriate.

Orderly Development

11. To ensure that physical development and redevelopment is efficient, logically staged and properly integrated with existing and future developments.

City Centre Focus

12. To recognize the City Centre as the City's primary centre of business, government, social and cultural activity while also providing for suitable nodes of economic and community activity in dispersed locations of the City.

Sufficient Supply of Land

13. To encourage and ensure a sufficient supply of land for all required land uses over the planning period.

High Quality Living Environment

14. To ensure a quality living environment by maintaining high standards of community planning and urban design and by maintaining and providing for stable residential neighborhoods.

Housing Mix

15. To provide for a residential housing mix reflective of the diversity of needs, income levels, and lifestyle choices of the community.

Adequate Municipal Services

16. To provide adequate municipal services and associated utilities in order to sustain existing development and facilitate future development.

Transportation Systems

17. To provide for safe, effective and integrated transportation systems.

CITY CONTEXT - ECONOMIC

Diversification

18. To facilitate sustainable growth of the City through the continued diversification of the City's economy.

Fiscal Management

19. To allocate the fiscal resources of the City in a manner, which addresses the goals of the Municipal Plan.

CITY CONTEXT - SOCIAL

Quality of Life

20. To create a living environment, which fosters a good quality of life for the citizens of Fredericton.

Community Services

21. To maintain and encourage a high standard of community services.

Recreation

22. To provide quality and varied forms of recreation for the citizens of Fredericton.