

YUKON
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ON THE
ECONOMY
AND THE
ENVIRONMENT



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Introduction

There are three clear fields in which we can already begin to perceive the direction in which our planetary policies have to go. They match the three separate, powerful and divisive thrusts—of science, of markets, of nations—which have brought us with such tremendous force to our present predicament. And they point in the opposite direction—to a deeper and more widely shared knowledge of environmental unity, to a new sense of partnership and sharing in our sovereign economies and politics, to a wider loyalty which transcends the traditional limited allegiance of tribes and peoples. There are already pointers to these necessities. We have now to make them the new drives and imperatives of our planetary existence.

Barbara Wood and Rene Dubos
*Only One Earth: The Care and Maintenance
of a Small Planet (1972)*

Concern about the survival of our planet and the human race is not new, nor is the idea that we cannot continue to consume, pollute and generally wreak havoc on the biosphere indefinitely. We have long known, or at least have suspected, that many of our activities are not sustainable. The 1980s brought overwhelming affirmation that our suspicions were correct.

However, what we now refer to as “sustainable development” has been part of the popular lexicon for only a few years. The term was first publicized in the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development chaired by Gro Harlem Brundtland, the Prime Minister of Norway. The tone of that report, *Our Common Future*, echoes other studies on the environment and the effects of industrial development. The commission defined sustainable development as “a process of change in which the exploitation of resources, the direction of investments, the orientation of technological development, and institutional change are all in harmony and enhance both current and

future potential to meet human needs and aspirations.” [p.46]

To get to this point

we need to develop new methods of thinking, to elaborate new moral and value criteria, and, no doubt, new patterns of behavior.

Mankind is on the threshold of a new stage in its development.... We need new social, moral, scientific, and ecological concepts, which should be determined by new conditions in the life of mankind today and in the future. [p.39]

This implies that more attention will be paid to ways of increasing participation

for those people who are the objects of development. Their basic needs include the right to preserve their cultural identity, and their right not to be alienated from their own society, and their own community... [W]e cannot discuss environment or development without discussing political development. And you cannot eradicate poverty, at least not only by redistributing wealth or income, but there must be more redistribution of power. [p.31]

New thinking. New relationships with the environment. New relationships with each other. These are all elements of sustainable development. But the application—certainly the interpretation—of these ideas varies with geography, culture and, in many cases, economic interests.

The Brundtland report popularized the concept of sustainable development just as the world was beginning to learn other terms: global warming, ozone destruction, greenhouse effect, rainforest depletion. Many of these problems have existed for years. But in the last decade there has been overwhelming evidence that something is out of control. The ideas in the Brundtland report fell on fertile ground.

In many ways sustainable development has become a “government issue”, just as environmental protection has been taken up by industry, partly as an answer to consumer concerns about waste and pollution, and partly as a marketing strategy. Among the new patterns of behavior referred to above is an increasingly sophisticated consciousness about the effects of personal consumption habits on the environment. Thus the last few years have seen an explosion in demand for “environmentally friendly” products. Recycling has become the rage in many communities, and shoppers look for the recycled product logo on everything from writing paper to garbage bags. Individual choice is seen as the starting point to collective change in consumer habits, and the success of various green products bears this out. Thus for many industries, sustainability is being equated with marketing

changes that either anticipate shifting consumer demand, or strategies which enhance environmentally benign corporate images.

These strategies are finding widespread acceptance in the marketplace, but sustainable development is more than recycling or buying unbleached coffee filters, and it is more than governments attempting to gauge public opinion on the environment before designing policies (although it certainly encompasses these things).

Changing established ways of thinking and acting is a difficult and long-term task. Sustainable development will not be created overnight—human beings will not wake up one morning to find everything has been “fixed”. The idea that there are no quick fixes was articulated in the Brundtland report, and it has been repeated in numerous Yukon government initiatives on the economy and environment over the last few years.

This implies actions that are taken now will lead to, but not necessarily create, sustainable development. But what actions? That was what delegates were to grapple with at the Yukon Council on the Economy and Environment second annual review conference in September 1990. The conference theme was “Sustainable Development: Yukon’s Challenge of Implementation; What We Intend to Do!” Note the title dealt with the *challenge* of implementation, not “How we intend to implement sustainable development”. The difference is not just semantic: a great deal of time was spent working out goals by which sustainable development could be measured. To this end the conference was to review the Yukon Economic Strategy and the Yukon Conservation Strategy.

Delegates came from many fields and areas of expertise. They were divided into nine sectoral workshops for their discussions—agriculture, Indian economy, mining, small business, tourism, forestry, wildlife industries, public sector/infrastructure and energy, and public sector/non-profit organizations.

Each workshop dealt with three questions:

1. Where are we now?
2. Where do we want to go?
3. How do we get there?

The 1989 conference examined the concept of sustainable development in considerable detail. The idea this year was to limit the discussion about what constitutes sustainable development and concentrate as much as possible on how it might be achieved. But it shouldn’t be surprising to learn that considerable time was spent in workshops hammering out definitions. Despite the frustration some delegates expressed at this, concrete proposals did emerge from the two-day conference. This report will attempt to put this year’s conference into perspective with other discussions on the economy and environment that have taken place in the Yukon.

Sustainable Development: The Yukon Context

The Yukon's economy has witnessed many dramatic peaks and troughs—the Gold Rush, construction of the Alaska Highway, speculation about northern oil and gas development in the 1970s, and the collapse of the mining industry in the early 1980s. Control of the economy has been, for the most part, out of the hands of Yukoners. It has rested in southern corporate boardrooms or with volatile metal markets in other parts of the world. And just as most economic development was controlled from the outside, so too the fate of the environment was decided by outside forces. In many instances, the price of this development was economic degradation. Environmental protection and conservation were not part of the territorial consciousness, and even if they had been there were few regulatory controls in place to protect it. In this respect the Yukon was similar to other parts of the country.

In the last decade the message of conservation has found a more receptive audience—in the Yukon and around the world. Development and conservation are now seen as interdependent. As Gro Harlem Brundtland wrote in *Our Common Future*, “the ‘environment’ is where we all live; and ‘development’ is what we all do in attempting to improve our lot within that abode. The two are inseparable.”

This philosophy began to be articulated through the Yukon 2000 process and underlies both the Yukon Economic Strategy and the Yukon Conservation Strategy.* This link between development and the environment—this new way of thinking—led to the formation of the Yukon Council on the Economy and the Environment in 1989. The council's job is to bring together Yukoners from all walks of life to address economic and environmental issues, and to find ways to ensure conservation of our natural resources and economic prosperity. On it are representatives from the Association of Yukon Communities, the Council for Yukon Indians, the Yukon Chamber of Mines, the Yukon Chamber of Commerce, the Tourism Industry Association, Yukon Status of Women, the Yukon Federation of Labour, the Yukon Building and Trades Association, and the Yukon Conservation Society among others. One of the council's roles is to sponsor an annual review of the economic and conservation strategies.

The Yukon government has made its position on sustainable development clear through Yukon 2000 and the economic and conservation strategies that came from it. The Council, in addition to reviewing its government's progress in implementing the economic and conservation strategies, is encouraging the private sector and non-government organizations to undertake actions towards achieving sustainable development in the Yukon. The intent lay behind the program design for the 1990 review conference.

* “At stake here is a common interest in maintaining a level of environmental quality that allows people to enjoy the country in which they live, a desire for stable economic growth from the development of our non-renewable resources, and a desire to see our renewable resources used in a sustainable manner.” Yukon 2000, *The Things That Matter: A Report of Yukoners' Views on the Future of their Economy and Their Society* (1987) p. 2-13

Much of the agenda was geared to giving these sectors the forum to lay out their own action programs. The point of the conference was not to come up with complete solutions but, as Council chair Lindsay Staples put it, to offer "a new point of departure."

Workshop Summaries

This section of the report will look at the themes of the three conference workshops and provide a brief summary of how they were addressed by each sector. The themes relate to the three questions stated above.

Although each sector examined the same questions, recommendations differed widely. Most sectors discussed sustainable development in a context of balancing economic interests with environmental protection; there was little integration of social or cultural concerns—or what some participants referred to as "human elements"—into the equation. Industry tended to equate its "bottom line" to profitability or survival; non-industrial sectors tended to pay more attention to environmental concerns. The lack of overall consensus reflects a continuing struggle with the concept of sustainable development as all sectors try to integrate it into their thinking and methods of operation.

A number of themes appeared throughout the workshops and reflected discussions that have taken place in other fora, including Yukon 2000 and the conservation strategy. While one intent of the 1990 conference was to try to turn thinking away from what government could or should do to what individual sectors might accomplish, many of the recommendations dealt with the role government should play in achieving sustainable development. With this went a concern that regulations not be onerous and should be designed in a way to allow the maximum latitude for business operation. Encouraging behavioral change,

Education was also a key concern. Consumers, business owners, whole industries and government officials must be educated about sustainable development. They must understand the effects of their behavior on the environment, but they must also understand the importance of different sectors—mining, small business, etc.—to the Yukon economy. Communication between sectors is necessary for making informed decisions.**

One of the major purposes of the Yukon Economic Strategy has been the "decolonization" of the territorial economy. Since the Gold Rush most of the important economic decisions have been made in distant corporate boardrooms or through the fluctuations of international metal markets.

Yukoners have also made it clear that they wish to participate in the managing and shaping of the economy... Yukoners believe that greater participation in decision-making—at the individual, community and territorial

** The lack of public knowledge about sustainable development was a key point in a plenary speech by Tom Wright of the Angus Reid Group polling company. See Appendix I.

levels—will mean increased flexibility and diversity within all aspects of the economy.***

Conference participants talked about controlling just these kinds of decisions. Almost every sector referred to local control in decision-making as a prerequisite for sustainable development.

WORKSHOP #1: Where are we now?

This is where participants were asked what sustainable development means for their particular sector and why it is important. They also looked at whether or not the sectors were operating on a sustainable basis, and some of the problems or successes it had encountered in this area.

MINING

- * For mining, sustainable development means research, exploration and development that permits the integration of environmental and economic concerns. In practical terms this means there is a recognized need for abandonment plans and ways of dealing with acid mine drainage. For the placer industry it means finding ways to work and protect fish and wildlife habitat.
- * A key point in sustainable development is a mutual understanding of all stakeholder interests, and cooperation that will allow reasonable goals to be achieved. This echoes similar comments made at the 1989 conference.
- * The Canadian mining industry is seen as a world leader in environmentally sensitive operations. Locally, the Placer Mining Implementation Committee is an example of the kind of cooperation necessary to promote sustainable development.
- * Industry representatives have stated previously that they want to participate in—and influence—any assessment process designed by government. That opinion was repeated at this conference.

TOURISM

- * For tourism, sustainable development means many things, including preserving the wilderness as an attraction and at the same time finding ways to monitor the effects this will have on the environment.
- * The cultural and historical resources of the territory have to be preserved and the effect of other industries on the sector have to be taken into account. This competition for resources, with its implied need for planning, was also a key concern in the 1989 workshop.

*** *The Things That Matter: A Report of Yukoners' Views on the Future of Their Economy and Their Society* (1987) p. 2-15. (The conservation strategy has a similar philosophical intent.)

- * Among the successes participants listed the development of regional tourism strategies, the development of winter tourism and the Whitehorse fish ladder. However, the deleterious effects of tourism on the Yukon were also pointed out—garbage spoiling the wilderness, the effect of non-resident control and ownership of the industry, and the fact that many Yukoners take the wilderness for granted.

FORESTRY

- * This workshop looked at the ways the forest is being used and tried to determine whether or not competing interests could be accommodated. Everyone recognized that forests are not static—the discussion about sustainable development is influenced by the way that resource changes over time.
- * In 1989, the forestry workshop stated that to create a sustainable industry in the Yukon logging companies need to use sound harvesting techniques, including selective cutting and replanting programs. This year, inadequate forest management planning and a lack of reforestation were among the problems singled out.
- * There is a basic lack of information about the resource, including changes in wildlife habitat and water quality. Sustainable development is also hampered by a lack of cooperation and consultation between stakeholders.

WILDLIFE INDUSTRIES

- * When sustainable development in the wildlife sector has been discussed in the past, a couple of key points have emerged: the need to educate people about the importance of the industry to the Yukon economy, and desire for people involved in the industry to have a say in how it is managed. Not surprisingly, these points came up again in the 1990 YCEE conference workshop.
- * It is inappropriate for short-term residents, usually found in the echelons of government middle management, to make all the decisions that affect wildlife. The resource users should be the managers because they have a stake in sustaining it. Local and regional management boards were seen as a way to meet this need. Wildlife harvesting was seen as an environmentally friendly activity which people have “a moral right” to control.
- * While there were different ideas about what sustainable development means for the sector, there was a feeling that it cannot be met all the time. Perhaps, it was suggested, “development” isn’t the right term to use. There was also a difference of opinion with the view, enunciated in the mining workshop, that non-renewable resource industries should be called “sustainable”.

PUBLIC SECTOR/PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE & ENERGY

- * Government has a special role to play in creating sustainable development—it must attempt to be a “model citizen”. It should set the agenda. (This was an interesting comment since one focus of the conference was to turn attention from government to other sectors of society.)
- * Government has to take the lead in environmental and economic planning, choose priorities for the use of resources, and do the allocating. But this need to take a leading role is balanced by the danger of moving too quickly without sufficient planning and guidelines.

PUBLIC SECTOR/NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

Earlier, this report provided a definition of sustainable development which pointed to the need for “new thinking”. Decisions are no longer black and white; it's not the economy versus the environment. This workshop took a similar approach in arguing that development must be “wholistic”. It is more than a link between the economy and the environment—cultural and other human needs must be met as well. The measurement must be of quality, not just quantity.

- * There was a concern that by emphasizing the economy and the environment, other basic human needs are being ignored. In order to give all people the opportunity to address environmental issues, there must first be a way to deal with social inequities. Moves to protect the environment may actually create hardships for some segments of society (for example, recycling involves time that working single parents may not have; recycling jobs themselves tend to be low paying). As well, user or environmental tax schemes are unfair to people with low incomes.
- * Sustainable development is important to this sector because the groups involved represent a lot of Yukoners. Non-profit sector programs could be a means of introducing the concept of sustainable development (i.e., teaching people to read using recycled paper).

SMALL BUSINESS

- * The health of Yukon small businesses depends on the health of the mining industry. If the public perceives mining to be harmful to the environment small business will be affected as well.
- * Some of the long-term costs of cleaning up the environment will have to be passed on by business to the consumer. There was a feeling that government has a major role to play in encouraging industries and businesses to clean up through regulations that ensure “green” products are actually green. Government can also offer tax credits for phased-in clean up programs.

- * Success is perhaps easier to measure in this sector than in some others. Recycled computer ribbons and paper are available in the Yukon, as are environmentally friendly household cleaners. Aluminum can recycling and programs to encourage energy efficient homes are two other examples of business-based steps being taken towards sustainable development in the Yukon.

INDIAN ECONOMY

- * The Indian economy has traditional and non-traditional components. Among the former are hunting, fishing, trading, gathering foods and medicines. There is an important spiritual and cultural element to the traditional economy (although it is partly incorporated in the wage sector as well).
- * Non-traditional activities include businesses that are based on the traditional elements, but which are supported by new institutions such as the Yukon Indian Development Corporation.
- * A major problem faced by this sector is that it is "invisible". There is a lack of awareness about how it works and many non-natives don't even consider it to be an economy. Other problems include the erosion of the land and resource base, increasing government regulations, competition with other resource users, and a lack of skills and training necessary to sustain it.

AGRICULTURE

- * A major element of sustainability in agriculture is self-sufficiency and self-reliance (one workshop participant pointed out that 1000 acres of land around Dawson once supported 30,000 people; now Yukoners spend \$50 million a year importing food).
- * Different climatic conditions in the Yukon require different growing techniques and there is a reliance on local plants and animals. Participants talked about "Made in Yukon" agriculture being equivalent to sustainability. Many people felt success equals sustainability.
- * Successes include market garden programs, and small scale livestock and poultry raising. Community composting, forage and seed production, greenhouses and fish farming are other examples of successful agriculture in the Yukon.
- * The sector is hampered by a number of problems, including a lack of industry involvement in government policy making. There are also competing interests for land, the soil base is limited and a lot of the land that could be used for agriculture is used for residential purposes.

WORKSHOP #2: Where do we want to go?

In this workshop, participants were asked how their sector could be made more sustainable in its day-to-day practices. They were also asked to set objectives to achieve sustainable development, and how far they were willing to go to in their commitment (i.e., what's the "bottom line"?). Finally, they looked at benchmarks by which progress could be measured.

MINING

- * For mining to become more sustainable, it was felt the industry could encourage or sponsor a round table where stakeholders from all sectors could try to understand each other's problems and their mining-related interests. At the same time, it is important to create a stable regulatory regime where everyone would know the rules.
- * The industry has to develop "environmentally sensitive mining practices." A Code of Ethics or Practices would provide a framework for this, and it was recommended that one be developed.
- * The "bottom line" meant, among other things, the right to acquire a claim, the right to take minerals from that claim, legislative and regulatory certainty, and the ability to make a profit.

TOURISM

- * The tourism workshop touched upon the importance of aboriginal culture and history to the industry. There was also a call to increase the say of local operators in the sector, which echoed comments made in a similar workshop at the 1989 review conference. This year's participants wanted to increase aboriginal involvement in the industry and promote native culture as a tourist attraction. They also wanted to see more local control over decision making.
- * "Most valued" wilderness areas should be set aside for preservation and the establishment of parks. Like the mining workshop, participants felt this industry should develop and environmental code of ethics.

FORESTRY

- * This workshop felt very strongly that political will and legislative changes are needed to encourage sustainable development. Timber harvesting agreements are not strong enough.
- * Sustainable development can also be achieved through forest restocking after harvesting. Logs should only be exported if there is a surplus to local needs. Recycling has to be encouraged to curtail demand for trees and the industry should make better use of waste products.

- * Stumpage fees (paid to government for timber harvested on Crown land) should be used to help smaller companies do research and get the information they need in order to do plan properly. Funds should be set up to encourage forest renewal and innovative methods of forest management, such as using small woodlots, are needed.
- * The points about planning, research, and local manufacturing were raised at the 1989 conference as well.

WILDLIFE

- * Like forestry, there was concern in the wildlife workshop about supplying the local market first—Yukon residents should get priority. Participants also thought it important to fight the anti-fur lobby. Educational programs about the importance of wildlife to the economy are needed and should be encouraged as part of the school curriculum.
- * Interpretations varied about what constitutes a “bottom line”. For some it meant the environment should not be sacrificed in order to have economic development; others felt there is room for compromise depending on the circumstances. Others were unsure where the bottom line was for wildlife industries. There was a suggestion that a comprehensive study be carried out in order to assess the full value of fish and wildlife populations in the Yukon.

PUBLIC SECTOR/PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENERGY

- * As a bottom line, this workshop recommended that governments need to have policies to take the environment into account in all decision-making, and bring other organizations into that decision-making process.
- * Government can do some very concrete things to demonstrate sustainability in day-to-day practices, such as choosing the most efficient fluorescent lighting tubes available, or installing toilets that conserve water in new facilities.
- * Since government has obligations to deliver services, it must come up with a strategy that is economical and protects the environment. It must set guidelines for service delivery which ensure minimal environmental impact.

PUBLIC SECTOR/NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

- * Besides saving paper and using environmentally friendly products, this sector can become more sustainable by ensuring social values are included in environmental and economic initiatives. (This reflects a definition of sustainable development as activities which incorporate social and culture needs.)
- * Specific objectives include an education system that incorporates the ethics and values implied by new thinking. Benchmarks to measure success would include statistics on non-profit sector work, especially women in the home, subsistence workers and volun-

teers. Progress could also be measured by examining what kinds of government legislation is in place to encourage sustainable development.

- * There should be either minimal or no cuts in services, people's basic needs have to be met first, and there should be wider access to decision-making.

SMALL BUSINESS

- * This workshop viewed education as a key tool in making small business more sustainable. If business people keep informed about changing tastes and consumer demands—or can anticipate them—they will be able to provide more environmentally sound products. Businesses also can be careful in choosing suppliers.
- * These points have a lot to do with profitability. But participants in this workshop saw the issue as one of survival for small businesses. While individual businesses might be sensitive to the environment, they cannot be expected to shoulder the entire cost of cleaning it up.
- * There needs to be some way to measure any benchmarks that are set. One suggestion was for a comprehensive survey of small businesses to see what they are doing, and what effect education and legislation have over time.

INDIAN ECONOMY

- * Sustainable development does not mean unlimited economic growth. This workshop, like the non-profit sector, felt certain criteria have to be met: development must not only be economically feasible and environmentally sound, it must also be socially acceptable. In the North that means respecting and incorporating indigenous knowledge.
- * To make the Indian economy more sustainable there must be more community control over business development. These projects should not have to depend on government funding; but at the same time any government funding that is provided must allow for community values and needs. There is a lot of evidence to show that what communities say they need and what bureaucrats determine a community needs are often two different things.
- * The Indian economy cannot be sustainable without communities being able to provide the training necessary to allow people to work.

AGRICULTURE

- * A number of things can be done to make agriculture more sustainable in the Yukon. The list includes an improved method of dealing with land applications; improving loan assistance but also monitoring to prevent abuse. There is also a need to identify potential markets, both locally and outside the territory. Local knowledge should be

“nurtured” and used in any studies that are carried out. Government policies need to be improved in a number of areas as well.

- * The workshop came up with several benchmarks, including the establishment of an agricultural lobby group with participation from the entire industry. The Yukon government should set up a Department of Agriculture, and farmers should be better represented on the YCEE.
- * Other suggestions included soil enhancement programs using organic waste; a library of agricultural information; locally grown seed and feed; and pesticide regulation and licensing.

WORKSHOP #3: How do we get there?

This workshop was designed to come up with specific recommendations for action. Participants were asked to list priorities for industry, government, non-governmental organizations and others in society, and to suggest what the priorities for action. The Council also asked who should work with it to develop detailed action plans for each sector. Finally, delegates were asked what commitments could be made to participate on working groups, and how soon could action plans be ready?

MINING

Not all the questions were answered by this workshop, but the specific recommendations were quite detailed.

- * Industry should participate in and support roundtables involving all stakeholders. The community should be consulted on the effects of specific developments. Industry should develop and review a Code of Practice. Exploration should be environmentally responsible.
- * Government should also take part in a stakeholders' roundtable and needs to create a climate that will encourage environmentally responsible exploration. Ways of doing this include reducing legislative duplication, streamlining the regulatory process and providing tax incentives. There should be effective consultation with other stakeholders. The Yukon government should have a Department of Mining and it should take over the federal government's Mineral Program.
- * Non-profit organizations should take part in the roundtables mentioned above and become more informed about the mining industry. In this way they can be effective watchdogs. They should support research and conduct independent analyses of the industry and its effects on the Yukon.
- * Local government and the public must get into metal recycling and be sure to communicate their concerns to government and the industry.

TOURISM

The tourism workshop produced a list of 20 objectives, all of which participants felt would help make it the most sustainable industry in the Yukon. (For a complete list of recommendations see full notes in Appendix III.)

- * The tourism season should be expanded beyond the traditional June to August period. To do this, conventions should be promoted in what is now the off season in places other than Whitehorse. Emphasis needs to be put on adventure travelling and wildlife viewing during the "shoulder seasons".
- * More awareness is needed of how important tourism is to the local economy. This can be created through public education in the media and in the schools. There were suggestions as well for standardized training of tourism workers and the creation of a Tourism Institute.
- * Education about the importance of local nature, history and culture needs to be improved. The focus for education here could be the Anniversaries Commission. Museums could also be important in advancing this kind of education.
- * Increase native involvement in the industry and promote native culture as a tourism attraction. To ensure more native involvement, it is necessary to improve education and training opportunities. An "expeditious" land claim settlement is desirable in order to give Indian communities the resources to do the necessary training. Participants also advocated an affirmative action program for the industry. To promote Indian culture as an attraction it is necessary that it be protected and interpreted. This means more research and an emphasis on marketing.
- * Increase local control in decision making. There must be mechanisms which allow communities to have some say in how tourist ventures are operated in their areas.

FORESTRY

Priorities in this workshop were listed as proper forest management, a ban on the export of logs, public education, development of a means of measuring the health of forests, an annual seed collection and forest inventory.

- * Industry should cooperate with seed collection, seedbed preparation, and harvest studies. It should take part in joint ventures and encourage experimental projects. It should develop a Code of Ethics. Cutting permits should not be renewed if wood is wasted.
- * Government needs proper legislation and the will to enforce it. Responsibility for forestry needs to be devolved to the Yukon government.
- * Non-governmental organizations should cooperate with forestry education projects and make sure industry success stories are communicated.

WILDLIFE

Recommendations from this workshop included:

- * Government should establish local wildlife management boards in each community.****
- * Industry and government should identify all opportunities for renewable resource based economic development projects, within the limits of sustainable yields. The input of local boards should be sought in this.
- * Local boards should also have a say in everything from drafting legislation to where biologists can work.

PUBLIC SECTOR/INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENERGY

This workshop felt "there is a need to change our way of thinking." YCEE should challenge all levels of government to implement programs that will encourage the wise use of water, energy, paper, glass and other things. This can be done by:

- * Developing baseline information as a means of tracking and evaluating the programs' efficacy.
- * Develop "meaningful and understandable" public education and communications programs to explain the need—and the ways—to use resources in a sustainable manner.
- * Governments should set targets for themselves to improve the efficiency of resource use.

PUBLIC SECTOR/NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

This workshop felt the scope of the discussion was too narrow. Clearly other "human elements" besides the economy and environment have to be taken into account in decision making. "The success of any community action for sustainable development depends fundamentally on equity within and among all three of these areas."

Nevertheless, there were suggestions that followed the outline above.

- * Industry should endorse other businesses that are environmentally friendly through advertising and patronage. It should be more global in its thinking about goals and concerns.
- * Government needs to put measures in place so all people, especially those with low incomes, can afford to care about issues other than simple survival. By ensuring a basic standard of living, these people, too, could become actively involved in sustainable development issues.
- * Non-governmental groups can endorse products and suppliers and help identify actions that should be taken.

**** Local Renewable Resources Councils are to be set up under the Yukon Indian Land Claim *Umbrella Final Agreement*.

SMALL BUSINESS

Education is crucial in raising the community's environmental consciousness. Business attitudes will change as consumers are educated.

A number of objectives were outlined for the various sectors, including:

- * Industry needs to address its own information needs—chambers of commerce can act as promoters for sustainable development. Staff need to be educated about environmentally friendly products and companies should set policies to reduce waste and recycle.
- * Government should provide more money to industry and other groups for education. Government programs involving business should have tax incentives for companies that clean up. There has to be more cooperation from industry, government and the public when dealing with projects that will affect the environment.
- * YCEE should do more promotional work with other organizations and broaden its base by involving more groups on its working committees. A number of delegates said they would make an effort to expand the contacts of their particular organization with other bodies in order to spread information about, and hold discussions on, sustainable development.

INDIAN ECONOMY

Participants in this workshop suggested holding a separate conference on the Indian economy and inviting more Indian people to attend.

One of the most crucial points for this sector, and key to its sustainability, was to have government address Indian people's needs for more land and control over resources. The Indian economy was seen as being more sustainable than wage labour, but people need proper training to take advantage of it. Communities must have the chance to tackle social problems like alcoholism and welfare dependence. Education is vital—schools have to emphasize building self-esteem in Indian children—and government can strengthen efforts to involve communities in curriculum development.

Among the specific recommendations for action were:

- * In its application and review of comprehensive claims policy the federal government should recognize the essential relationship between First Nation control of land and renewable resources and the sustainability of the Indian economy.
- * Sustainable development should be understood to mean development that incorporates community and individual well-being.

AGRICULTURE

This workshop saw education and pilot agricultural projects (also a form of education) as being the most important objectives. In order to expand education about agriculture

- * Industry should establish college courses and set up a circumpolar data base.
- * Government should establish an agricultural research position.
- * Non-governmental organizations need to do everything from setting up 4-H Clubs to encouraging family gardens.
- * There was also a suggestion that R.O.T.S. (the Recycle Organics Together Society which has been conducting a community composting project near the Whitehorse Airport) should tour the territory to educate people about soil enhancement.

Conclusion

At the beginning of this report there was a short discussion which described sustainable development as a new way of thinking that integrates economy, environment, social, cultural and other concerns into decision making. During the last decade we began to realize there has to be a way to have development that does not destroy the environment or reduce human life to a mere variable in a larger economic equation. But identifying the problems is not nearly as difficult as working out solutions.

The 1990 Yukon Council on the Economy and the Environment conference was a first effort at finding ways to achieve sustainable development in the Yukon. Many solutions were offered. A large number were based on the interests and perceptions of a single sector of the economy; most of those dealt primarily with economic and environmental concerns. A few, such as the Indian Economy and Non-profit sector workshops, attempted to integrate social, cultural and other factors.

One purpose of the conference was to look beyond government for solutions. Some of the overriding themes of the workshops do just that—local control of decision making, public education and communication between sectors were identified as key elements of sustainable development. They imply that individuals, businesses and other organizations and groups are going to be responsible for taking action. Nevertheless, there was a strong feeling that government still has a major, if not lead, role to play. This view was heard in many sectors, especially mining and small business where government was called upon to create a climate that will encourage sustainable development through simplified regulations, tax incentives and other measures. At the same time, the mining sector called for an industry code of practices and ethics that would govern operations.

All of these points echo concerns that were heard at the 1989 conference on sustainable development and in Yukon 2000 and the Yukon Conservation Strategy. As John Wright of the Angus Reid Group pointed out in his talk, there is a difference between what people say they are going to do and what they actually do. He was referring to findings in a national poll his company did on the environmental consciousness of Canadians.

Three points from that study permeate the debate about sustainable development in

the Yukon, and they came up in all sectoral workshops at the conference:

- * "One size does not fit all"—applications and definitions of sustainable development are going to vary with interest and location;
- * Like other Canadians, Yukoners are "thinking globally, and acting locally" through recycling and other activities;
- * The environment has become a strategy, not a tactic. The opponents of environmental destruction in the name of economic growth are no longer a small minority but have seen their concerns adopted by industry, government and other sectors of society looking for answers to complex problems.

Participants at the 1990 YCEE conference demonstrated a lot of agreement on these and other points. And they agreed that solutions to Yukon problems must be found in the Yukon. It will remain for a future conference to determine if actions measure up to words.

APPENDIX I

A Summary of Comments by Plenary Speakers

John Wright
Senior Vice President
Public & Environmental Affairs
Angus Reid Group

John Wright outlined a comprehensive survey recently carried out by his company called "Canadian Public Opinion and the Environment in 1990: Sustaining and Developing". It found there is a vast difference between what people say they are going to do and what they actually do.

Mr. Wright said guilt is a major motivation behind an unfocused environmental consciousness.

50% of Canadians have their own definition of recycling. And 70% had never heard of sustainable development. Of those who had, *only* 2% understood what it meant.

Nevertheless, the survey also found that environmental concern is not going to go away during tough economic times.

Among the other findings, Mr. Wright noted people felt sustainable development remains an "elite" concept which can be interpreted in a number of ways.

Personal advocacy is on the rise (and offending products like aerosol spray cans are being "targeted") but real lifestyle changes won't come for another decade.

There are increasing demands on government to do more than articulate policies—people expect to see some action. Likewise there is a demand on the private sector to change its ways and look for solutions.

Mr. Wright said the North had not been included in this survey but there are plans to examine the region soon.

Bill Wilson
Chairperson
B.C. First Nations Congress

Bill Wilson is a member of the Musgamagw Tribal Council on northern Vancouver Island. He has been involved in the struggle for aboriginal rights for many years and recently has been involved in setting the terms for land claims negotiations with the B.C. government.

Mr. Wilson painted a picture of the destruction of a sustainable subsistence economy by telling delegates about what has happened to the Musgamagw people since colonization.

Sixty years ago, he said, the Native and non-native economies existed side-by-side. The Musgamagw men fished or logged by selecting trees they needed rather than clear cutting. The women worked in small canneries which set up at river mouths where the Indians came back each year to fish for salmon.

"It was a very harmonious relationship. Realistically, my people only worked three months of the year, but they had more than enough money to live as kings for the other nine months of the year."

Forty years ago, things began to change. Cooperation gave way conflict; small canneries were swallowed by large centralized operations that didn't need Indian workers.

The alienation of Musgamagw resources continued and government funding was substituted. A bureaucracy was set up to look after Indian people's "needs" because, Mr. Wilson said, white society knew what was best for Indians.

"There are higher principles up to which we must all live... in order to ensure that the relationship between ourselves and the land continues to take place."

Mr. Wilson's description of what happened to his people is familiar to Yukon Indians—a sustainable lifestyle rendered inoperative by outside interference and domination in the name of industrial and cultural interests.

Derek Stephenson

Resources Integration Systems Ltd.

Mr. Stephenson has been involved with recycling since the 1970s. He was instrumental in organizing the "blue box" recycling campaign in Canada.

The Yukon faces the same kind of situation that other modern developing societies face, he said, and that is the crisis in waste management. Everywhere on the continent communities are running out of places to put waste, disposal costs are rising rapidly, and no one is providing the leadership needed to get out of this mess.

"The result of that is we're seeing all across North America... a patchwork of solutions."

Mr. Stephenson talked about methods used to control waste—deposit systems on things other than beverage containers, for appliance batteries, etc.

Litter taxes are being tried in some parts of the United States. These taxes put a levy on the makers of disposable wrappers and containers.

He pointed out how 25 per cent of the American population now lives under a mandatory recycling law. Some states have banned certain materials from disposal sites "forcing the system to back up and take responsibility for that material."

There is now a law in Manitoba, Mr. Stephenson said, that requires businesses to agree to a waste reduction target. A bond is posted and if the target is not achieved, the money is forfeited and goes back into municipal coffers for waste management.

He also talked about packaging taxes, but said it is important to ensure that governments put the money into the environment and not other things, like paving roads.

Mr. Stephenson said the point is to make it in the interests of everyone—businesses, consumers and government—to find alternatives to old methods of handling waste.

“We have to be conscious in the decisions we make about what happens after we use a product, as fundamentally all environmental problems are waste problems.”

APPENDIX II

Workshop Participants and Affiliation

Indian Economy

Kevin Adamson	Kwanlin Dun Band
Elaine Ash	Partner in Yukon tourism/trapping business
Sandy Johnston	Fisheries and Oceans
Tim McTiernan	Yukon Executive Council Office
Stephen Mills	Yukon Indian Development Corp.
Viola Mullet	YCEE and Little Salmon Band
Elsie Netro	Yukon Dept. of Education
John Pattimore	Taiga Consultants
Ken Pawlyna	Industry, Science and Technology Canada
Sheila Rose	Yukon Dept. of Education
Thom Stubbs	Yukon Dept. of Economic Development
Dietmar Tramm	Council for Yukon Indians

Facilitator:	Stephan Fuller
Resource Person:	Bill Wilson
Rapporteur:	Jennifer Trapnell

Mining

Dennis Bergen	Canamax Resources Inc.
Dr. Doug Craig	
Lois Craig	DIAND
Al Doherty	Yukon Chamber of Mines
Tony Hodge	Consultant
Al Kapty	Klondike Placer Miners Assn.
John Kowalchuk	Placer Dome Exploration Ltd.
Dawne Mitchell	Heavy equipment operator—small placer mining operations
Dan Odin	Deputy Minister, YTG Dept. of Economic Development
Cam Ogilvy	DIAND - Minerals
Bruce Patnode	YCEE, Yukon Prospectors' Assn.
Skeeter Verlaine-Wright	Yukon Conservation Society

Facilitator:	Bob Holmes
Resource Person:	Rob McIntyre
Rapporteur:	Angela Wheelock

Small Business

Terry Bergen Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce
Fred Berger Business owner
Brian Elder Federal Business Development Bank
Joanne Lewis Consultant
Wayne Sippola Yukon Homebuilders Association
Ray Wells YCEE/Yukon Chamber of Commerce
Alex Raider Yukon Development Corporation

Facilitator: Tyrone Larkin
Rapporteur: Guy Cocquyt

Wildlife

Gwyn Butler Yukon Outfitters Association
Edna Hardie Yukon Outfitters Association
Nelly Dale TAIGA Resource Consulting
George Darbyshire Yukon Trappers Association
Art Johns
Larry Leigh Yukon Fish & Game Association
Carol Pettigrew Ostashek Outfitting
Renee Frost Vuntut Gwitchin Band
Dale Eftoda Ducks Unlimited
Karl Dittmar Yukon College Student Council

Facilitator: Louise Profiet-LeBlanc
Rapporteur: Gail Birckel
Resource Person: John Bailey

Forestry

Christine Boyd Forest Management, DIAND
John Desrosier Frontier Lumber Co.
Gord Milne
Angela Whakely Student, F.H. Collins

Facilitator: Remy Rodden
Resource Person: Harry Holmquist
Rapporteur: Rick McDougall

Agriculture

Joan Craig Recycling Organics Together Society
Tim Gregory Northern Splendor Reindeer Farm
Dan Lang MLA, Agriculture Critic
Val Loewen Yukon Conservation Society
Lorrina Mitchell Yukon Council on
the Economy and the Environment
Graham McDonald Executive Assistant,
Minister of Renewable Resources/Tourism
Steve Mills Dawson Indian Band
Danny Nowlan Yukon Game Farm
Stella Pidborochynski Northern Splendor Reindeer Farm
Ingrid Taggart

Facilitator: Bob Kuiper
Resource Person: Randy Lewis
Rapporteur: Barbara Bergman

Tourism

Pam Boyde Executive Assistant,
Minister of Education/Economic Development
Rick Cocks Village of Mayo
Chris Dray Sasparilla Sisters
Jim Gilpin Wilderness guide
Laurie Henderson YCEE, Status of Women
Dayle MacDonald YCEE, Council for Yukon Indians
Renee Mayes Klondike Visitors Association
Cathryn Paish YTG Tourism
Doug Phillips MLA, Tourism Critic
Ron Pond Yukon Anniversaries Commission
Barry Ravenhill Mayor, Town of Watson Lake
Klaus Roth YTG, Tourism
Brent Scott Tourism Industry Association of the Yukon
Peter Upton Kluane Country Visitors Association
Art Webster YCEE, Minister of Tourism

Facilitator: Conrad Boyce
Resource Person: Bernie Perlman
Rapporteur: Robert Clark

Public Sector: Physical Infrastructure/Energy

Jim Beebe Executive Council Office
Jim Hawkings Yukon Science Institute
Janne Hicklin Recycling Centre, Yukon Conservation Society
Ernie Lawton Yukon Department of Education
Norman Marcy Yukon Department of Finance
Brian McLaughlin Consultant
Terry Sewell Yukon Department of Economic Development
Bill Woolverton Yukon Conservation Society

Facilitator: Lynda Ehrlich
Resource Person: Art Dell
Rapporteur: Robert Collins

Public Sector: Non-profit Organizations

Mark Evans-Ehricht Yukon Development Education Centre
Carl Evers Association for Community Living
JonLeah Hopkins Yukon Status of Women Council
Liz Lane Canadian Research Institute
for the Advancement of Women
Janeane MacGillivray Canadian Congress for
Learning Opportunities for Women
Layne Marshall Yukon College
Duncan Sinclair Arts Canada North

Facilitator: Mike Ivens
Rapporteur: Beth Theriault

APPENDIX III

The Yukon Council on the Economy and the Environment (YCEE)

Terms of Reference

1. Act as a forum for economic issues in the Yukon, reviewing major policy, strategic, legislative and program initiatives and providing advice to governments.
2. Take a leadership role in working with various sectors towards stable and, in the case of the renewable resources sector, sustainable development, particularly through identifying significant opportunities for advancing economic development activities that are environmentally sound.
3. Function as the central advisory group on the Yukon Economic Strategy and monitor progress on the implementation of actions outlined in the strategy and evaluate their success in guiding environmentally sound economic development and diversification in the Yukon.
4. Function as a central advisory group on the Yukon Conservation Strategy and monitor progress on the implementation of actions outlines in the strategy and evaluate their success in guiding sustainable development of the renewable resources sector and environmentally sound and stable economic development of the non-renewable resource sector in the Yukon.
5. Encourage the development by industry, government, labour, and aboriginal and non-governmental organizations of projects that demonstrate environmentally sound economic development.
6. At the call of the responsible ministers, arrange public symposia on major economic and environmental issues.
7. Promote, in cooperation with the Government of the Yukon, public awareness and understanding of the linkages between the environment and economy and the importance of of environment-economy integration and sustainable development.
8. Recommend research that may, as appropriate, be funded by government to further understanding of the Yukon's economy and environment and environment-economy linkages.
9. Review and comment on any reports that address the state of the Yukon's economy, environment and resources.

APPENDIX IV

YCEE Conference on the Economy and the Environment Rapporteurs Notes from the Workshops

AGRICULTURAL WORKSHOPS

Workshop #1: WHERE ARE WE NOW?

Brief statement by the expert witness on the history of agriculture in the Yukon

- * Agriculture is both a young and old industry in the Yukon.
- * The Yukon has approximately 1.5 million acres of land capable of being used for agricultural purposes, with an additional several million acres capable of being used for grazing. (150,000 acres of class 3 & 4 soils, 1.5 million acres of class 5 soil)
- * Agriculture had a good start in the Yukon, 100 years ago around Dawson, 1000 acres of land produced many of the fresh vegetables that fed 30,000 people. Now food is one of the largest drains on the Yukon economy. 50 million dollars per year is spent purchasing food from the south.
- * The focus should be away from conflicts over land and into cooperation.

1.1 What does sustainable development mean for your sector? What are its essential components?

1.2 How is sustainable development important to your sector?

(These two questions were answered together)

Major points:

1. focus on plants and animals that grow with minimal enhancement
2. longevity of industry, sustainability
3. soil enhancement
4. something that is economically competitive/has long term capability/viability
5. development and promotion of existing local plants and animals.
6. maintaining healthy animal and plant populations through disease and pest control

Examples and minor points:

- a good soil base
- backyard gardens
- cultivation
- don't harm the soil

- a good soil base
- backyard gardens
- cultivation
- don't harm the soil
- use waste - ROTS program (Recycle Organics Together Society)
- get away from fertilizers
- do things differently than down south, smaller scale, more local
- balance energy for what is put in as to what comes out i.e. trucking oranges
- "made in Yukon" agriculture
- stay away from exotic breeds
- give relief from administrative hassles and costs ie farm license plates to go to Alberta to purchase fertilizer/supplies
- contain game farm animals/ control contact with wild & domestic animals
- farm both wild and domestic animals
- land management needs to be improved
- education, education, education

1.3 Is your sector currently operating on a sustainable basis? What are some of the successes, and problems?

Many people felt success equalled sustainability.

SUCCESESSES

- market gardening has been shown to be viable
- small poultry and livestock production
 - rabbits
 - goats
- recycling waste material
 - ROTS
- forage production
- seed production is a growing industry and shows promise for future
- greenhousing
- aquaculture (fish farming)
- game farming has become a viable export industry for live breeding stock, but has not yet developed into a stable meat source for local markets

PROBLEMS

- no slaughterhouse in the Yukon to support the local livestock industry
- transportation costs
- no assistance or protection re: pesticides
- importation of diseases & pests
- lack of industry involvement in government policy
- soil base is limited
- soil erosion
- some farms are located on unsuitable land for what they wish to produce
- guidelines for how land is to be developed often detrimental to soil base, i.e. requirements for clearing land
- overgrazing
- arable land used for rural residential, not for farming
- poor financial planning sometimes leads to farm failure
- publicized farm failures do nothing to enhance the industry's image
- competing interests on the land and resource base
 - mining
 - trapping
 - wilderness
- severe climate limitations on the growing season

Workshop #2: WHERE DO WE WANT TO GO?

2.1 How can your sector be made more sustainable in its day to day practices?

SUGGESTIONS

- change requirements for clearing land, work more with existing vegetation communities
- develop local technology suited to Yukon conditions
- market development
- land use planning to resolve potential conflicts
- develop more game farming, especially of indigenous species
- work within our resources and limitations
- projects need to be economically viable
- recycle more organics
- learn from history
- use more knowledge from experienced local people, set up educational forums to exchange local information

2.2 What specific objectives can be set to help achieve sustainable development in your sector? How far are you willing to go in your commitment? What is your bottom line?

2.3 What benchmarks could be set to measure progress towards achieving these objectives?

Due to time constraints, these questions were not fully addressed.

OBJECTIVES

Land Applications

- new policies that will address the problem
- improved land availability
- agricultural land offered below rural-residential value

(The new agriculture policy does attempt to address some of these concerns)

Loans Assistance

- these should be improved
- recipient must prove economic viability
- some strings should be attached to prevent abuse
- they should be one time only
- there should be clear eligibility criteria

Market Identification

- to identify viable industries
- support the development of both local and export markets

Local Expertise

- nurture it
- use it in market studies
- use local consultants
- use fewer consultants
- use local knowledge base

More Support for Game Farming

- slaughter house
- inspections

- reasonable regulations
- better market development and support for export markets

Land Disposition Policies

- should better accommodate Game Farming

Improved Government Policies Required

- should be flexible
- communicable animal diseases
- slaughterhouse
- pesticides
- market development

SPECIFIC MILESTONES AND OBJECTIVES

- An agricultural lobby group - with participation from whole industry - to ensure that Agriculture Minister seeks good markets and supply sources, both local and outside the territory.
- Soil enhancement program utilizing community organic wastes
- Special farm license plates for farmers to transport products throughout Canada
- Research on growing food in containers
- Improve small interest loans to farmers
- YCEE should have better representation of farmers
- YCEE conference should be an open forum
- Educational programs incorporating agricultural engineering
- Create a 'library' of agricultural information
- Locally grown feed for
 - rabbits
 - chickens
 - dogs
- Locally grown seeds and forage plants
- Agricultural research
- Higher priority to game farming
- Pesticide regulations and licensing
- Create a Department of Agriculture within government
- Seeds Act
- Domestic livestock disease control

Workshop #3: HOW DO WE GET THERE?

3.1 What specific actions should be taken to help accomplish the objectives identified in Workshop #2?

- a. by the industry?
- b. by the government?
- c. by non-governmental organizations?
- d. by others?

3.2 What are the priorities for actions?

There are many priority areas, they are:

- * education to improve agricultural knowledge and skills
- * support for groups to develop pilot projects
- * improve land clearing policies
- * improve farm management plans for the industry
- * soil enhancement programs
- * domestic livestock disease research and control
- * improve loans to farmers

Actions needed to accomplish education in its fullest terms:

a. by industry:

- establish college courses
- give seminars
- establish a circumpolar database
- applied research

b. by government:

- establish an agricultural research position

c. by non-governmental organizations:

- establish children's programs, i.e. 4-H clubs
- encourage family gardening
- offer farm tours

d. by others:

- ROTS - travel throughout the Yukon to educate people about soil enhancement

Actions needed to accomplish support for groups to develop pilot projects:

a. by industry:

- promote "Yukon Grown" as a marketing strategy

expand Farmer's Market, locate a permanent place
farm gate sales

b. by government:

core funding

abattoir

marketing assistance

c. by non-govt. organizations:

Dawson Band intends to invest in the agricultural industry around Dawson, they will be establishing a business plan

3.3 Who should be involved in working with YCEE towards developing detailed action plans for each sector?

* representatives from each agricultural sector

* non-agricultural people

Suggestions for remote communities

greenhousing with waste energy

hydroponics

market locally

participation as a community

There is a great need for more coordination and communication between agricultural sectors.

3.4 What commitments can be made among conference delegates to participate on working groups to complete detailed action plans?

Danny Nolan

Randy Lewis

Lorrina Mitchell

Joan Craig

YCEE Conference on the Economy and the Environment Rapporteurs Notes from the Workshops

ENERGY AND WASTE MANAGEMENT WORKSHOPS

Participants were asked to consider two questions: (1) What is sustainable development for the public sector? (seen as the different levels of government and the general public); and (2) How can it be applied?.

Main Opinions:

1. To conduct government affairs in such a manner that the quality of life of future generations is not compromised. Must include the concept of integrating the economy and the environment. There is no correct definition of sustainable development; includes environmentally friendly products and practices, but is broader in that it must also include cost factors. It is a balance between environmental and financial costs. Principles include: Maintaining local and planetary life support systems; protecting species and ecosystems; conservation of non-renewable resources and using renewable resources at a rate that the environment can support; provide for the needs of people by distributing wealth.
2. Government should try to be a model citizen; create framework for the rest of society; the need to do more with what we already have - demand versus supply management; set agenda in a wider sense than to create a framework; through careful planning make sure that intrusions upon the environment to supply the needs of society create a minimal footprint; need to choose priorities for the allocation of limited resources, and the reallocation of existing resources, e.g. trees, fish, budgets.

An opinion was expressed that there is a danger in the government moving too quickly without sufficient planning and guidelines. Discussion concerning the model for sustainable development and how can government know it is doing the right thing. There are tradeoffs, e.g. on a personal basis, is it better to use the car to take pop cans to the recycling depot or to throw them away - where to draw the line, and what criteria to use for evaluating. (More a minority opinion - the group largely felt that there are places where the tradeoffs are largely in favour of taking steps and to leave the iffy measures for further evaluation.)

Discussion of carrot vs stick approach - regulation versus incentive

Telecommunications sites on the Dempster used as an example of the need for a holistic approach to government infrastructure development. What impact does one development have on other developments? Do you have visible communications sites right along the highway, or do you make the sites invisible from the highway necessitating roads with their concomitant impacts? Or do you look for an innovative approach that may eliminate the disadvantages of either system? How to contain the impacts of development rather than to compound one development impact upon another.

Many projects (pipelines, telecommunications) are built by private sector within the framework of a regulated environment.

Recommendation - governments need to have policies to take the environment into account in all decision-making, and to bring other organizations into the decision-making process.

A minority concern was expressed whether government is capable of making the specific decisions needed to set the role model for society to follow. An example of the need for caution is the changing attitude toward nuclear energy, which seems to be growing in acceptability. It was felt by the majority of the group that the government can and must develop the model through consultation with science agencies, public, etc. There is consensus that the government can start doing some of the things that make immanent sense, e.g. to choose the most efficient fluorescent lighting tubes available, or to install low water use toilets in new facilities, and set a few examples while consulting with experts and the general public to formulate further plans. Environmental concerns were not forced upon the public by the government but vice versa.

There is little strategic sense of sustainable development in the public's mind, but there is a great deal of public interest in specific areas, e.g. air quality regulations.

Government is under an obligation to deliver a certain infrastructure - with a strategy of delivering it at the least possible dollar and environmental cost. It is under an obligation to set guidelines of how to provide the needed services at a minimal overall impact.

A key role of government is to provide the public with the necessary information and options to act appropriately, e.g. recycling.

There is fairly broad public support for targeted environmental taxes to be used toward solving specific problems, as opposed to general taxes.

The need to move incrementally toward sustainable development rather than to wait until the plan is completely developed.

Government obligation to create opportunities through the creation of an infrastructure to fit the needs of society at a reasonable cost and to provide a critical mass

(economies of scale), and direction to the private sector, e.g. wood chip production through use of same at government facilities, paper recycling, Argon filled windows.

Government's role as steward of resources - aid to minimize the costs, including environmental costs, while considering the costs of NOT acting. The need to consider economic costs in the broader sense of the word, to mean all valued resources, including environment, and to draw the economic boundary around an appropriately sized area - e.g. the cost of a recycling program is offset by credits in waste disposal, provided both are considered within the same economic boundary.

GROUP CONSENSUS

There is a need to change our way of thinking. YCEE should challenge all levels of government to implement management programs to encourage the wise use of water, energy, and imported resources including paper, glass, etc, by:

- (a) developing baseline information as a means of tracking and evaluating the programs' efficacy;
- (b) developing meaningful and understandable public education and communications to explain the need, and the means, to use resources in a sustainable manner; and
- (c) to set targets for themselves for improvements in the efficiency of resource use.

Sunday Workshop

The same participants all attended, and were joined by Diane Griffin of the National Round Table and Island Trust???

The workshop agreed to discuss primarily the practical action steps that the various levels of government could take to support sustainable development, primarily purchasing and disposal options.

Omissions of Saturday's workshop were the mentions of:

- (a) taxation options available to governments to both discourage the use of energy forms or other products that do not contribute to sustainable development, e.g. single use containers, and to raise money to be used for specific purposes, e.g. proper disposal of those containers;
- (b) the need to address the issue of transportation;
- (c) the special problem of how to achieve sustainable development in the face of projected population increases due primarily to immigration, and a finite resource base.

Examples mentioned:

- (a) The B.C. government has instructed its fleet to use only recycled oil. The vehicle manufacturers, formerly reluctant to honour engine warranties if recycled oil was used are now doing so, given the large incentive created by the B.C. fleet.
- (b) In California water utilities' demand side management programs offer financial incentives to replace lawns with dry gardens, indigenous vegetation that does not require watering;
- (c) A municipality in Oregon rents garbage containers in three sizes. Homeowners and businesses are charged in accordance with the volume of garbage that they generate.

Governments are encouraged to consider the the hierarchy of the four R's (Reduce, reuse, recycle, and recover) in that order. A fifth R - rethink, was suggested as a tool to achieve efficient use of resources.

Art Dell updated the participants on the progress of the Special Waste Management program. A committee has been established to advise the minister on the choice of an appropriate site for the special waste storage facility, and the special waste advisory committee is establishing the relationship between special and solid wastes. A discussion paper on how to handle solid waste is forthcoming. A report has been prepared by Monenco on waste management options for the Kluane region, and the municipality of Haines Junction has taken a number of initiatives including collection of used oil, and separation of garbage.

The City of Whitehorse has privatized dump operations. When the City ran the dump approximately 5 families made a living salvaging copper, aluminum, and still useful goods from the dump, but several councillors became nervous about the potential liability if someone were to be injured while salvaging. A large percentage of the volume of solid waste at the Whitehorse dump is trees and lumber, which could be composted or used as fuel. Education was considered key to changing public attitudes and actions from wasteful to conserving practices. Governments need to take a leadership role in providing communications and education. Other opportunities to be examined include composting of solid and liquid wastes, which could be of benefit to a fledgling agricultural industry. While the responsibility to take action rests with the municipality, there is a need to first raise consciousness. Three levels of government are already involved in this process.

Diane Green reported on progress that has been made in Prince Edward Island. Schools have been inundated with requests to raise consciousness among the students about waste management issues, indicating a need to market the concepts to teachers rather than simply to dump brochures upon them. Brochures are commonly produced but seldom well marketed, or their targets identified. Open line shows can be an effective way

to communicate with the public. The National Round Tables??? have been working with Participaction to increase environmental orientation.

The municipality of Peterborough, under the direction of Mayor Sylvia Sutherland, has set up a municipal round table. The National Round Table has developed a kit to help municipalities to establish round tables. There is a need to involve all levels of government.

A session on waste management with Derek Stevenson or another nationally recognized expert was suggested. The waste management committee of the National Round Table (Ottawa office, via Lindsay Staples) can provide further information.

Janne Hicklin reported on the progress of the Recycling Centre in Whitehorse. The Centre is processing approximately 20% of the Yukon's aluminum cans (5 million per annum), or twice the anticipated return. A ten cent surcharge (disposal fee) on wine and spirit bottles will enable the Centre to process and send glass outside for recycling. Once the Centre is functioning smoothly with returned liquor bottles it will accept other forms of glass from the general public. The Centre is also exploring other options to reuse and recycle some glass locally, for specific purposes, such as pavement reinforcement or glass beads for painting highway signs.

Other opportunities mentioned included insulation from fire-treated newspaper, and recycling or energy recovery from used lubricating oil. A barrier to efficient collection of wastes for reuse and recycling is the mentality that a dump must be available 24 hour per day, which would necessitate excessive operating costs. Proper supervision is considered key to successful collection of wastes for reuse/recycling.

Don Branigan made three opportunities to reduce energy use and waste of resources:

(a) electric cars which could be plugged in at night when power demands are lower.

According to Branigan, models are available at \$12 to \$14 thousand that can travel 170 miles (270 km) on a three hour charge;

(b) retrofit units on vehicles to eliminate the need for oil changes;

(c) a unit mentioned at a Toronto consumer health conference that decreases gasoline consumption and pollution by 25% (called a revitalizer), and available at a cost of about \$250.

Branigan agreed that there was a need to have some experimentation with new technologies to avoid consumer ripoffs.

Art Dell reported on efforts to provide containers for garbage pickup at MacPherson - apparently the residents rejected the idea of providing more than one container to allow sorting, on the basis that sorting would not be done and that there would be more nuisance from this arrangement. Residents now take their own garbage to the dump. When the idea was tried many did not separate, and the system was abused.

Full cost accounting was discussed - the concept of participation of the private sector - and not just taxes but user fees included (e.g. deposits on containers, tipping fees at

dumps) could be a step toward fairness. There is some concern among wholesalers about bootlegging (importing containers from an area where no deposit was charged.) Although it is known that this practice does occur, it is generally within acceptable limits. Most felt that it was not acceptable to rely on volunteer efforts to achieve efficient waste management - but rather that society should accept the cost of paying a fair wage. There was also a general feeling that the public is ahead of the government in its readiness to take steps toward more efficient use of resources.

Diane Griffin reported that the sale of beer and pop in aluminum cans is not allowed in P.E.I. Neither is the sale of coolers in plastic bottles. For twenty years a roadside cleanup day, initiated by the Women's Institute, mostly farm wives, has been carried out, with the education of children as a major goal.

There are opportunities for user pay fee structuring in the areas of sewer, water, garbage pickup. There are opportunities for recycling that should be examined and exploited, incentives for sorting of garbage into its usable components, and opportunities for targeted fees to be used for proper waste management, despite the recognition that governments are reluctant to use targeted taxes for specific purposes.

Some participants felt strongly that there was a need for a pilot program to demonstrate comprehensive household waste management in one community or subdivision, involving three levels of government, and the input of members of the National Round Table with that specific expertise. The project should include a major education component, both within the demonstration group, and outside that group. And that the project should include separation of wastes by the homeowner, community composting, reuse and recycling of other valuable components of the waste stream. And that the demonstration project should begin before March 31, 1991. There was not a general consensus on the demonstration project: others felt that the opportunities for individual waste management were already in place (community composting, aluminum and glass recycling, community groups such as Salvation Army and Mary House to accept usable clothing, etc) and that such efforts should receive more visible support from government.

FORESTRY WORKSHOPS

- Need to define "Forestry". Are we discussing timber, forest, or forestry in relation to sustainable development? Only timber values or a broader range of values including water resources, wildlife, etc.?

All - Agreed to discuss forestry with the understanding that it includes a broad range of values.

Workshop #1: WHERE ARE WE NOW?

1.1 What does sustainable development mean for your sector?

What are its essential components?

- Reviewed the Yukon Conservation Strategy definition of sustainable development.
- Suggested substitution of "natural resources" with "forest resources."

All - Agreed.

- Discussion of value of forest resources to tourism.
- Brainstorm resulted in following list of components and classification (resource, use or issue):

Resources: timber, wildlife, aesthetics, water, and unique local and global ecosystems

Uses: logging, tourism, hiking, cultural value to aboriginal peoples, trapping/hunting,

Issues: fire management, mining impacts (on forest resource), agricultural impacts, sewage treatment, access roads, reforestation

1.2 How is sustainable development important to your sector?

- Globally important, challenge is developing forest resource while keeping in mind all other resource values.
- Other values are not necessarily secondary. Need to discuss how we measure sustainable development. By discussing criteria for measurement we can define it.
- Is it possible to integrate uses or do we need to segregate uses?
- Issue is timing of uses, use and resource will change over time.
- Much of the resource is now over-mature and will fall down soon.

All - Recognized the forest resource as dynamic or changing over time.

- Economic diversity and biological diversity.
- Forest resource is an important economic base, but should not be harvested too much so that we exceed ability of forest to support economy.

All - Agree that forests should be used

- Noted lack of development of our forests relative to other provinces and expressed concern about clear-cut issue. Development needs to be appropriately controlled.
- Outlined current forest practices. Maximum cut is 40 hectares.
- Almost all logging has been on small alluvial sites, e.g. ox bows.
- Discussion of difference between high-grading and selective cutting. Selective logging works in a wood-lot situation; however, selecting biggest trees from a natural stand may leave genetically inferior trees.

1.3. Is your sector currently operating on a sustainable basis? What are some of the successes, and problems?

All agreed that forestry is not currently operating on a sustainable basis.

Problems

- inadequate forest legislation and forest management planning
- inadequate cooperation between stakeholders
- lack of knowledge and research on forest resources
- no active forest management, no reforestation.
- lack of information needed to determine whether economic diversity, wildlife habitat and water quality are changing
- a lack of seed to reforest
- naturally occurring changes in environment, such as changing river channels (beyond control of sector)
- lack of integrated resource management plans, but could be achieved with lots of consultation
- agriculture is encroaching on good forest sites. Forest land needs to be retained and not turned over to agriculture
- "you can grow moose and trees and lots of other things together, but not hay and trees together."

[All Consensus with above]

- access roads can create problems. However, legislation exists to deal with problems adequately. Issue is really one of enforcement. Access is only a problem for wildlife, also damage to roads by improper use.
- exporting jobs
- "stagnant pine stands," not harvesting any pine, could be thinned or replanted to allow release

Successes

- spruce seed was collected this year (45 hectolitres of cones) with EDA money.
- moose are coming back because really good habitat is growing in old sites.

2.1 How can your sector be made more sustainable in its day to day practices?

- ensure adequate restocking after harvesting. Stumpage fees of \$4/cubic metre are too high, fees of \$2/m³ could be managed.
- use best available data and be conservative in our estimates.
- stop log exports, although logs can be exported if they are surplus to current local needs, e.g. Nisling River where it is a very valuable resource for wildlife, house logs, etc.
- legislation needs to have utilization standards
- scale of forest operations needs to be considered, i.e. is a proposal like Makin's pulp chip export proposal sustainable.
- emphasize recycling to curtail demand for trees.
- industry should make use of waste products, e.g. for energy, pressed logs, etc.
- Need for value added specialty products.
- Emphasis should be on silviculture. Timber harvesting agreements are not strong enough. Need legislation and political will. (CONSENSUS)
- Need to reforest with least amount of disturbance to land.
- "It does not matter how many trees we plant, it is how many forests that we regenerate that is important."
- better data/information on forest resource
- smaller companies need assistance with information and planning, etc.
- stumpage fees need to pay for this.
- establish special funds such as forest renewal fund.
- logging with bulldozer helps to break up the soil for natural regeneration.
- expressed concern about clear-cut practices in the south.
- stumpage should generate funds to allow inventory and to regenerate forest to a natural state
- education of foresters to include ecology; in Scandinavia skidder operators must take course in ecology

- "How are we measuring the health of the forest?", species diversity before and after harvest, soil quality (compaction and erosion) and water quality
- pre and post harvest monitoring
- maintain soil productivity; the productivity of some forest sites in B.C. has decreased 20% each time they go in to harvest or treat stands. Need to counteract this with proper forest harvest practices.
- value-added products should be manufactured from pine, and government should look at the feasibility of these types of products
- Yukon needs to look at innovative methods of forest management in the Yukon, e.g. small woodlots

2.3. Benchmarks

- for timber: determining and implementing regeneration rate,

Workshop #3: HOW DO WE GET THERE?

3.1 What Specific Actions Should be taken?

By Industry:

- cooperate with seed collection, scarification, studies on pre and post harvest
- experimental projects - joint ventures
- development a code of ethics
- cutting permits should not be renewed if waste wood is left by operators

By Government:

- need legislation and political will to enforce it
- devolution needs to happen
- feasibility study in partnership with industry

By Non-government organizations:

- cooperate on forestry projects, e.g. education
- form an industry association code of ethics
- communication of success stories

3.2 Priorities

1. Proper forest management (planning, inventory, silviculture to ensure regeneration, spruce and pine)
2. Log export ban
3. Public education on forestry
4. Develop criteria for measuring health of the forest
5. Annual seed collection cooperative
6. Forest inventory

3.3 Who should be involved in working with the YCEE towards developing detailed action plans for each sector?

- There should be someone from the forest sector on the YCEE.
- YCEE should work with:
 - Government forester
 - Small-scale operators representing different regions
 - Government/nongovernment interests for fish and wildlife and tourism, Yukon Conservation Society, etc.
 - native associations and First Nations
 - Departments of Economic Development and Renewable Resources

3.4 Commitments

- Renewable Resources (Policy and Planning)
- DIAND, Forest Resources
- Angela Walkley

INDIAN ECONOMY WORKSHOPS

DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

The discussion focused on three main areas:

- 1) A definition of the term "Indian economy"
- 2) Where are we now in terms of the problems facing this sector;
- 3) Where do we want to go - what are the needs of this sector ?

1) What is the Indian economy?

- * it has traditional and non-traditional components
- * traditional components include hunting, fishing, trading, gathering foods and medicines: "our own wealth"
- * relies on wage economy in part
- * has spiritual significance and important social returns
- * supports low-income households - "It's what is keeping many families alive"
- * non-traditional components includes businesses based on traditional components; supported by new institutions such as YIDC, Dana Naye Ventures
- * dependent on new individual and collective initiatives
- * CYI prefers term "traditional" over "subsistence" because of non-native connotations

2) Where are we now? What are the problems?

- * "invisibility" of traditional economy
 - lack of non-native awareness and understanding of traditional Indian economy and culture
 - considered "non-economic" by non-natives
 - social and cultural significance is undervalued
- * erosion of land and resource base
- * loss of control through increased regulation of resource use (eg.fisheries)
- * increasing population - both native and non-native - is putting new pressures upon resources
- * incompatible local and global resource use is increasing, examples given: commercial fishing (Pacific fishery);
- * resource use affected by incompatible values at home and globally: examples given, sport hunting, animal rights
- * lack of infrastructure and support services, especially in small communities; new ventures face intense scrutiny

- * some ventures do not have foundation in the values of their community
- * need for more skills and training, development of those with the aptitude for business/entrepreneurship

2.0 Can we be more sustainable? What is sustainable development?

- * criteria: economically feasible, environmentally sound, socially acceptable
- * in the North, must be: ecologically sensitive; incorporate/respect indigenous knowledge; subsidize the traditional harvest; community empowerment; innovative
- * does not mean unlimited growth
- * rural native communities such as Old Crow are more sustainable than urban, non-Indian centres such as Whitehorse where resource use should be modified;
- * government should consider are the costs of sustainable development are; is government willing to subsidize the traditional harvest ?

What will help make the Indian economy sustainable?

- * business development should be reflective of community values/ be community controlled
- * federal funding criteria and objectives should take account of community values and needs; that way projects will be more successful and sustainable: "success" and "wealth" may be defined differently by bureaucrats
- * should not be dependent on federal funding;
- * human resources are the most important resources integrate training with community development;
- * Sustainable development is what Indian people have been saying and doing: save resources for future generations; respect and use resources wisely

3) Where do we want to go?

- * develop community "tools" for human resource development, pre-business planning
- * gain more access to and control of land and resource base and capital, partly through land claims and the choices it provides; increase enhancement of resources
- * is mining sustainable?
 - if supported by the community and environmentally safe
 - may be in the future with more environmentally friendly techniques
 - some questioned the economic benefits to the community
 - like trapping, it is market dependent

- * use science and technology, research and development to help support sustainable traditional and non-traditional components

How do we get there?

- * have a separate conference on the Indian economy and invite more Indian people (CYI)
- * government must address Indian people's demand for more control resources, land management, as a result of Sparrow decision; land claims/courts are options to achieve control
- * resolve outstanding issue in land claims: self-government
- * build community tools/ capacity necessary to have First Nations manage/deliver programs; program design must involve Indian people
- * develop and employ Indian people as trainers and instructors
- * deal with social problems of alcoholism and welfare-dependence; elders can help with their knowledge; a return to native spirituality will help
- * address implementation needs for community programs? who will do it? Council? Corporations?

- * Education is vital; schools should emphasize building self-esteem in Indian children (a participant told of how one Indian student's proud offerings of bannock and dried fish on Culture Day were left untouched by the other students and teacher)
- * government can strengthen its efforts to involve community in curriculum development, teacher orientation
- * promote the traditional Indian economy as more environmentally sustainable than the industrial wage economy

RECOMMENDATIONS

- * there should be a conference held and/or YCEE committee formed to consider the Indian economy with YIDC/CYI participation/chair
- * annual YCEE conference should consider Indian economy in each of the sectoral workshops
- * DIA and YTG, CYI and YIDC should sit down with community organizations to ensure program objectives and delivery meet community needs
- * in its application and review of comprehensive claims policy, the federal government should recognize the essential relationship between First Nation control of land and renewable resource use and the sustainability of a strong Indian economy.

- * YCEE educational material should explicitly recognize Indian economic activity and culture
- * sustainable development should be understood to mean development in broadest terms: community/individual well-being

MINING SECTOR WORKSHOPS

Workshop #1

Discussion/Consensus Opinions

What does sustainable development mean for mining?

- * Mining is sustainable as an economic activity, and has been sustained more than a thousand years. As one participant said, "The gold in that ring you're wearing may have been mined during the time of Cleopatra." Another participant said, "Mining is one of the oldest sustainable industries in the world."
- * Sustainable development in mining means: 1) a long-term sustaining of the industry through exploration, research, and development, 2) the integration of environmental and economic concerns when planning and operating mines, engaging in exploration activities, etc.
- * The mining industry recognizes the environmental concerns associated with mining, such as need for abandonment plans, dealing with acid mine drainage. Today, environmental and abandonment costs are included in feasibility studies and mine plans.
- * A key point in sustainable development is a mutual understanding of all the stakeholders' interests, and mutual cooperation to achieve reasonable goals.
- * In the placer mining industry, the challenge is the ability to mine gold and to protect fish and wildlife habitat.
- * Some people think that the concept of sustainable development is more difficult to apply to mining than to other renewable resource based industries. As it's generally understood, it doesn't necessarily apply to the extraction industry. There must be an integration of the extraction industry with environmental concerns.
- * Metals are eminently renewable. We can use them for long periods of time and recycle them. The industry currently recycles up to 50% of metals. Old mines can also be reworked, with today's more advanced technology. Mining should be seen as a dynamic system in terms of geology. Ore is an economic, not a geological term.

- * We must deal with natural resources in such a way that their availability can be sustained into the future.
- * The mineral industry must sustain mineral reserves without threatening the sustainability of other resources. This calls for optimizing and compromise.

What are some of the successes of mining (in terms of sustainable operations)?

- * Globally the Canadian mining industry is recognized as one of the leaders in the field (in being environmentally sensitive in its operations). We can export technology, show the rest of the world the way to do things. Sudbury cited as a particularly good example in the Brundtland Report.
- * Placer Mining Implementation Committee perfect example of how mining can follow principles of sustainable development

Problems?

- * Costs of reclamation, environmentally sensitive operating practices, regulations can keep companies away. Reduces amount of employment, revenue, lifestyle of all Canadians.
- * If regulations are not well thought out, it can hurt small operators.
- * Mining activities and practices have to take into consideration the needs and concerns of other stakeholders.
- * Dealing with mines that have been abandoned and may cause harm for hundreds or even thousands of years to come.
- * Growing demands from Third World Countries

Workshop #2

The participants were asked to respond to the following question:

What initiatives can you commit to in order to achieve sustainable development in mining?

Participants reached consensus on the following recommendations, which they agreed to take back to their organizations for approval:

- * Sponsor/encourage a round table where stakeholders from all sectors can talk to each other and understand each others problems, and their interests as they relate to mining.
- * Seek a stable regulatory and tax regime in which all stakeholders can operate.
- * The industry recognizes the need to decommission and reclaim mines.
- * Develop a training program to train Yukon residents for employment in the mining industry and in the use of environmentally sensitive mining practices.
- * Develop a Code of Ethics/Practices for each sector of the mining industry - placer mining, exploration and prospecting, and large mining operations. This would be done at the association or company level.
- * Education for placer miners to learn new techniques and the need to change practices.
- * The use of less obtrusive technology, eg. backhoes in exploration rather than D-9 cats.

(In a number of instances, the industry is already pursuing these initiatives)

What is your "bottom line?"

- * Right to acquire a claim
- * Right to acquire minerals from a claim
- * Ability to access mining property
- * Legislative and regulatory certainty
- * Government data base
- * Profit (for mining companies and operations)

Other main points of discussion:

Who pays for the cost of abandonment? The industry alone, or Canadian society as well.

In a situation where local residents and local environment is effected there must be a process for working this out.

Small family operations are more sustainable.

We don't just eradicate minerals when we mine them, we are freeing them for use.

30,000 people cannot absorb the cost of reclaiming all the mines in the Yukon.

If you make a mess, you clean it up. Perhaps, all the parties that benefited from the mess have to work together to clean it up.

Larger mining companies recognize that they're going to have to clean up mine sites completely. They're putting that into cost analysis.

Workshop #3: HOW DO WE GET THERE?

What specific actions should be taken to help accomplish the objectives identified in Workshop #2?

By the Industry

- * Participate in and support round tables involving all the stakeholders
- * Environmentally responsible exploration
- * Utilize research and development in all phases of mining,
eg. acid mine drainage
- * Consultation with community on impact of specific developments
- * Develop or review Code of Practices
- * Support legislative reform
- * Recognize the need for decommissioning mine sites
- * Support for local training
- * Commitment to work with other stakeholders to develop an appropriate regulatory regime

By the Government

- * Participate in and support round table involving all stakeholders
- * Reduce legislative duplication
- * Create climate that encourages environmentally responsible exploration
- * Streamline regulatory process
- * Provide supportive legislation, eg. tax incentives
- * Effective consultation with stakeholders
- * Support research and development
- * Transfer DIAND's Mineral Program to YTG
- * Provide geological database
- * Increase mining incentive programs (YTG)
- * The establishment of a Department of Mining (YTG)

By Non-Profit Organizations

- * Participate in round tables involving all stakeholders
- * Become informed about the mining industry
- * Perform a responsible watchdog role
- * Support research, conduct independent research
- * Be aware of economic aspects of industry

Local Government/Public

- * Apply the "4 R's" of recycling to metals
- * Communicate concerns to industry and government

NON-PROFIT SECTOR WORKSHOPS

Workshop #1: WHERE ARE WE NOW?

1.1 Sustainable development means:

- minimal or no cuts in service
- holistic development encompassing human development, economy and environment
- more than a link between economy (costs) and environment (basic needs); people and cultural needs are also important
- maintaining quality of life versus quantity of life (in economic terms, money is often perceived to be more important than other objectives; therefore, there must be other ways to measure quality of life)

1.2 Sustainable development important to the sector:

- community groups, especially in the Yukon, represent consensus of the people
- a strong need to change old habits, old ways of thinking
- implementation of bridging programs to bring non-participants into sustainable development process (ie. teaching people to read using recycled paper)

1.3 Concerns

- emphasis on economy and environment ignores people's basic needs
- most affluent and least affluent have little or no interest in environmental issues; therefore must improve willingness to tackle environmental issues
- need to enhance social equity
- need to measure unpaid work, especially that done by women
- infrastructure important to get social services performed
- limited/fixed support from government community
- financial tradeoffs results in winners/losers (groups have to adapt funding tactics to current government funding policies)
- mandates to guarantee cashflow often result in loss of valid programs; direction changes; structure of organization weakens and becomes less effective
- imposing economic hardships on those who have fewest resources (ie. recycling to protect the environment involves time that working single parents do not have also, recycling jobs tend to be low paid and this perpetuates economic inequities)
- user taxes/environment taxes unfair to some sectors of the economy

Workshop #2: WHERE DO WE WANT TO GO?

2.1 sector made more sustainable in day to day practices

- resource mobilization (money, information)
- social values must be included in environmental and economic initiatives
- use of environmentally friendly products
- use of oral reports (aids illiterate, saves paper)

2.2 specific objectives

- educate people by putting ethics and values into the school/education system
- better system of access to allow contributions by minorities
- flexibility to implement both organizational and sustainable development goals
- volunteer action center to train other volunteers
- pool interest of several non-profit groups in fund raising activities
- educate the public on the benefits of co-ops
- employment equity program to ensure all people are paid fairly

2.3 (a) Benchmarks

- delegation of standards
- existence of legislation
- statistics on non-profit sector work
 - (a) women in the home
 - (b) subsistence workers
 - (c) volunteers
- expand mechanisms on costs

2.3 (b) Bottom Lines

- minimal or no cuts in services
- meet people's basic needs first
- access to decision making

Workshop #3: HOW DO WE GET THERE?

Accomplishing objectives set out in Workshop #2

3.1(a) by industry:

- consumer advocacy by endorsing environmentally friendly businesses in the groups's advertising and through patronage
- communication of common goals

- adopt a global approach to goals/concerns
- training through government services (subject to availability)
- guarantee better incomes (ie. pay for housework)

3.1 (b) by government:

- put measures in place so all people, especially low income, can afford to care about issues other than basic needs
- ensure education incorporates sustainable development concept

3.1 (c) by non governmental organizations

- identify non-profit groups to initiate actions
- endorse products/suppliers

3.3 Who should be involved with YCEE in working towards developing detailed action plans?

- inclusion of co-ops in process as they are distinct from non-profit groups

RECOMMENDATION

Separate categories for Volunteerism & Housework in the Yukon Economic Strategy because:

- they are two very distinct, and very important issues that should not be lumped together
- it is difficult to measure women's contributions in areas such as housework
- women seem to be over represented in volunteer categories

RESOLUTION

The Yukon Council on the Economy recognized after its 1989 conference that it must widen its scope to include the environment. In 1990, the new body, The Yukon Council on the Economy and the Environment, offered a workshop focusing on how environmental concerns must be factored into decisions on economic growth and development.

It is the position of the participants in the Non-Profit Sectoral discussion group that the scope is still too narrow. We maintain that the human element must be made explicit and factored into decisions surrounding economy and the environment.

The success of any community action for sustainable development depends fundamentally an equity within and among all three of these areas. Our goals, objectives, activities and assignments of responsibility reflect this position. We also feel that the Health & Social Advisory Group should be included in these Conferences as well.

FACILITATOR'S COMMENT

It is difficult for Non-profit group delegates to commit to specific activities as these organizations are usually dependent on government funding to accomplish their goals. Therefore, it is not always possible to make specific commitments of funding. This could account for the large number of actions identified for government (ie. government sets priorities through funding, therefore most effective action for non-profit groups is to influence government priorities).

Two articles on women's issues were distributed at the workshop for discussion purposes. Those articles are attached for reference.

SMALL BUSINESS WORKSHOPS

Workshop #1: WHERE ARE WE NOW?

1.1 "What does sustainable development mean to you?"

A participant offered a definition from "Brundtland Report: "sustainable development is economic development of natural resources which meets the present generation's needs without reducing or impairing future generation's opportunities to develop to meet their own needs." An even simpler definition was offered by another participant as "development which satisfies our needs and wants without destroying the earth."

An issue raised was that the small business sector in the Yukon rests upon the primary industry of mining. Given that mining is essentially non-renewable and perceived as harmful to the environment, the change in the public's and government's attitudes toward environmental issues will have a serious impact on mining and small business as well.

There was some consensus that the changes required in the mining industry and other industries (targeted as polluters) must be phased in over realistic time frames in order for these industries to absorb the costs of conversions to environmental mitigation systems.

The group did not see an all or nothing trade-off between environmental protection and economic growth. Instead economic growth was viewed as necessary in order to continue to provide our communities with services which improved our standards of living and quality of life.

Several participants believed that while statistics indicated Canadians were concerned about the environment, if they had to choose between their jobs and the environment, they would choose employment.

Economic growth is often perceived as "excessive consumption" by an affluent society. That in order to reduce pollution you have to change the current level of personal consumption.

The Yukon has been treated as a region of abundant land and resources and this has led to wasteful development and excesses in the past. The "development for the sake of development" attitude which has led to boom and bust economic projects has played havoc with long range planning for local government and particularly small business.

The group was agreed that product and service costs have not reflected the true economic and environmental costs associated with production and manufacture. If we know that certain products and industries are generating long range environmental problems, the costs of mitigating those problems have to be factored into the cost to the end users, namely the consumers.

Government was seen as having a key role in encouraging industries and businesses to clean up through the development of regulations to assure the public that "green products" are actually "green". This could help to reduce public cynicism as major companies start to market more and more new green product lines. Government can also offer industry tax credits for reducing their harmful by-products below certain established levels. As industries cannot change their direction overnight, clear phases have to be set up which will allow the cost of conversion to occur gradually.

Successes

You can now purchase recycled computer printer ribbons in the Yukon.

A local person is selling environmentally friendly household cleaning products through her home.

The Recycling Centre had collected over 500,000 aluminium soft drink cans during their first year of operation.

The R-2000 program sponsored by the Yukon Homebuilders Association was seen as another local initiative to conserve energy but the representative felt that the Yukon Government could play a larger roll in promoting this program for the housing industry.

Workshop #2: WHERE ARE WE NOW?

2.1 How can your sector be made more sustainable?

It was a difficult topic on which to stimulate discussion and some time was first needed to examine why the Indian Economy was being dealt with as a separate workshop. Several members felt that by dealing with small business along racial lines, we might be perpetuating alienation. In the end there was some consensus that the Indian Economy is based upon different value systems and goals than the non-native business community and that a separate workshop was necessary to draw out their unique character and needs. There was the view expressed that when the native business community is "ready" they would let us know but in the meanwhile the non-native business community should make every reasonable effort to extend an invitation toward them.

Education was seen as the primary area where Small Business could become more sustainable. If small business people kept informed of issues and market shifts they could anticipate the swing in consumer opinion and provide products and services which would be environmentally sound. Small business was not seen as a catalyst of change.

Education was also seen as most necessary and effective at the consumer (end-user) level. Informed consumers demanding environmentally safe products will get them because small business, wholesale suppliers, and manufacturers will have to provide them

or lose market shares.

At the individual level, small businesses could follow the three R's reduce, recycle, and reuse. A fourth R was suggested, "refuse". Businesses can begin to say no to suppliers of environmentally harmful products. This was seen as a way to have a positive effect through controlling expenses. Revenues could be improved by anticipating continued growth in the environmental movement amongst consumers and marketing "green" products and services. This opportunity would be the growth industry of the 90's.

The delegates spoke of individual and community recycling efforts at home and work which revealed a significant change in attitudes and behavior in the last several years. One participant noted long-time European recycling and waste management practices which North Americans are only now considering.

Two areas of environmental effect were seen; the production and manufacture of products which lead to harmful by-products such as dioxins from pulp mills, and at the other end, waste paper entering land fill sites. While we can recycle news print, the industry goes on polluting. The environmental costs of both production and eventual disposal have to be factored into the product cost before it goes to market.

Containers, wrapping and packaging were seen as a significant source of waste at the retail level. Suppliers use a variety of packaging to promote brand identification in marketing. Standardized containers, container handling and disposal charges, bulk purchasing and other measures to reduce "wrapping" could significantly reduce waste.

Junk mail from advertisers received through Canada Post could be returned to the Post Office or the sender with clear directions not to continue delivery. Feedback to suppliers on environmentally harmful products or requests for products or packaging which were less wasteful or environmentally harmful could lead to new desirable product lines.

Government can "level the playing field" by implementing uniform container legislation on aluminum cans and other single use containers which insures user handling fees are collected from all sources of supply, thereby avoiding competitive advantage from suppliers in jurisdictions where such surcharges do not exist.

Bottom Line

The bottom-line for small business was not just profitability, it was survival. While the small business people present are sensitive to environmental issues and are personally environmentally sensitive, the bottom line is the cost of environmental clean-up if added to business cost, may reduce company earnings to the point where small businesses fail.

Key summary remarks

- * increased consumer education
- * increased environmental awareness by small business people

- * cautious government legislation to provide environmental standards and legislation
- * all can have a positive influence on environmental impacts from economic activities.

2.3 What are the bench marks for small business?

One suggestion was a comprehensive survey of small business to see what they are doing with respect to environmental issues. Then in one year time re-survey these businesses to see whether education and(or) legislative initiatives have produced any affect on attitudes and practices.

Government can take a lead role in establishing acceptable environmental impact levels which could guide economic development. Efforts to educate and legislate small business, industry and consumers could then be measured for effectiveness.

The boom and bust effects of northern development projects have to be reduced or controlled by careful planning rather than simple reaction. The proposed pipeline is one example where all costs including environmental and social costs have to be factored into the decisions and planning. Too often these projects are promoted as having significant positive impacts when in time they leave significant negative consequences for the north.

3.1 What specific actions should be taken to help meet objectives raised in Saturday's workshops?

a. by the industry?

- * "grass roots" support needed in the business community, and that if groups like the chamber were responsible for promotion, there would be greater support and cooperation from individual businesses.
- * advertise and promote environmentally "friendly" (green) products.
- * provide more and better employee training opportunities to educate sales staff on "green" products, to enable them to provide information to consumers
- * set company policies to reduce waste, reuse, and recycle.
- * business owners and managers can model appropriate environmental sensitivity in operational practices for their staff and clients.
- * provide input to government on what jobs and skills are needed now and in the future to help them meet the environmental challenges

b. by government?

- * provide more money to industry (and industry groups) for education and promotion of environmental issues and programs

- * department of education can do more to instill environmental sensitivity and concern in students
- * government programs involving business should have some form of environmental incentives built in (eg. tax breaks for businesses which choose environmental clean-up)
- * government projects must weight benefits of economic spinoffs and environmental costs
- * get more input from industry, consumers and other interest groups on "cooperative" solutions (consensus building) on projects that will have environmental impact

c. by non-government organizations

- * business associations can provide more educational opportunities for members through workshops, seminars, guest speakers

d. others

- * YCEE can do more promotional work with other organizations in the territory and broaden its base through involving more groups and individuals on working committees.
- * Universities and colleges can provide more course material which deals directly with the environment and economy
- * Waste management sites throughout the territory should support recycling through voluntary sorting of materials for organized scavenging.

3.2 What are the priorities for action?

The main objective was consumer (public) education.

Education at the family (consumer) level was seen as critical to improving overall environmental consciousness in the community.

Change in business attitudes will change as consumer attitudes change, therefore consumer and family environmental education will have an effect on business as well.

3.3 Who should be involved in working with YCEE towards developing detailed action plans for each sector?

Several delegates indicated that current membership on the YCEE did not reflect nor represent all of the significant groups in the economic community. The YCEE delegate indicated more groups with a broader base in business, industry, education etc. could

be involved in sub-committees of YCEE where the actual work of the council was done.

3.4 What commitments can be made by conference delegates?

The YCEE delegate offered to give other groups an opportunity to make presentations to the YCEE and/or membership on sub-committees responsible for defining sustainable development, education and modelling.

YCEE can also make an effort to speak to other business and community groups not represented on the YCEE to share ideas, get input and keep them abreast of activities.

The delegate for the Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce advised that their group has an active Environmental Committee which will continue to represent the chamber on environmental issues.

A self-employed delegate who is affiliated with rotary advised she will encourage rotary to have more environmental issues placed on that groups agenda.

The delegate representing the Yukon Chamber of Mines advised his group will seek a stronger membership from Yukon mining companies to work cooperatively with small business to meet the "environmental challenge".

OTHER DISCUSSION

We see too many northern mega-projects which provide short term economic benefits and a legacy of environmental problems.

Government and international bodies will have to try to ensure fair and equitable resource extraction criteria are followed in the Third World.

Business people will resist ideas or solutions to environmental problems which had either no impact or a negative impact on their profitability.

A final note from another delegate was for government to carefully review requests from industry for infrastructure support such as electricity, roads and other services. The cost to tax payers is enormous and the life cycle of the economic project must be considered in the assessment of the costs of providing services. This note of caution was balanced with a belief that government must take calculated risks when assessing infrastructure development for large economic projects.

A great deal of debate also focussed on what government had done to date such as the Yukon Economic Strategy and the Conservation Strategy. After several years delegates were asking where is the "meat"? It was felt that there was lots of talk and little real action so far. Questions also centered on how YCEE members were chosen, how often they meet, and if the public had access to their minutes and decisions. Conferences are too infrequent and not sufficiently open to the public to get real debate going.

The recycling center and other small waste management projects sponsored by gov-

ernment locally were seen as token gestures in view of the serious nature of the environmental issues facing us.

A delegate suggested the lack of public participation and advocacy in the Yukon necessitated government involvement in creating programs to stimulate private sector involvement in the economy and the environment. However, another delegate representing Yukon businesses was worried about government programs like CDF and BDF creating problems of "equity" amongst businesses and community groups, particularly in the way in which the selection and distribution of funding was managed. Such programs could be seen as more equitable if government gave those funds over to community and business groups to administer and allocate.

TOURISM WORKSHOPS

Workshop #1: WHERE ARE WE NOW?

**What does sustainable development mean for the tourism sector?
(i.e. essential components)**

1. Promotion of the tourism industry without adversely affecting the lifestyle of Yukon residents.
2. Ensuring that the economic benefits of tourism are equally distributed throughout Yukon society through greater local control of the industry.
3. Alleviating the "boom & bust" nature of the industry by spreading out the impacts over the calendar year.
4. Preserving the Yukon wilderness as a prime attraction.
5. Reducing the adverse environmental impact of tourist activities.
6. Preserving the cultural and historical resources of the Yukon as prime attractions.
7. Monitoring the impact of other industries on tourism.
8. Promoting environmental consciousness in planning and developing attractions.
9. Determining the limits to the industry's growth.
10. Increasing the awareness of social development.

What are some of the successes and problems?

Successes

- * White Pass experiment with winter tourism
- * Recent development at the Yukon River fishway/ladder
- * Development of regional tourism strategies
- * Increased involvement of natives in the tourism industry

- * Targeted promotion "outside"

Failures

- * Evidence of garbage and litter spoiling our wilderness
- * Lack of wildlife viewing opportunities
- * Need for more services and attractions for RV visitors
- * Impact of non-resident control and ownership on the industry
- * Lack of licensing requirements for non-Yukon guides
- * Need for support and guidance to get Yukoners involved in the industry
- * Lack of public awareness of the importance of the industry
- * Lack of Yukoners' knowledge of local culture and history
- * Tendency to take the Yukon wilderness for granted

Workshop #2: WHERE DO WE WANT TO GO?

What specific objectives can be set to help achieve sustainable development in your sector?

Note: The following objectives were developed during workshop #2. The proposed objectives will be discussed and refined during workshop #3. The final objectives will be presented at a later date.

Also note that the number(s) which appears at the end of each objective relates to the stated objective to the essential components developed during workshop #1.

Objectives:

1. Expand the tourist season beyond traditional June-August period. (#3)
2. Increase local awareness of the importance of tourism to the Yukon economy. (# 4 & 6)
3. Improve local education regarding local native history and culture. (# 4 & 6)
4. Create awareness of the importance of the environment to the industry. (#4)
5. Set aside "most valued" wilderness areas for preservation, establishment of parks. (# 4 & 7)
6. Increase native involvement in the industry. (#2)
7. Promote native culture as a tourism attraction. (# 1, 2 & 6)

8. Increase local control in decision making. (#2)
9. Define the economic and environmental limits to the growth of the industry. (#9)
10. Promote socially responsible tourism. (#10)
11. Encourage marketing of the Yukon as a destination. (#3)
12. Strive to make tourism, the territory's most sustainable industry, #1. (#7)
13. Adopt an environmental code of ethics. (# 4, 6 & 8)
14. Develop a year-round, Yukon-wide, anti-litter campaign. (#7)
15. Increase input into the decision making of other economic sectors, to preserve, protect and create tourism opportunities. (#7)
16. Regularly monitor the industry's sustainable development success. (#8)
17. Promote low-impact environmentally friendly tourism. (# 5 & 8)
18. Increase opportunities for wildlife viewing while minimizing impact on wildlife. (#4)
19. Incorporate environmental concerns in tourism marketing. (# 5 & 8)
20. Encourage professionalism in the industry by tourism operators to improve our competitive situation.

Workshop #3: SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 8/90

WHAT SPECIFIC ACTIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO HELP ACCOMPLISH THE OBJECTIVES IDENTIFIED IN WORKSHOP #2

OBJECTIVES/ACTIONS

Objective #1. Strive to make tourism, the territory's most sustainable industry.

Related Actions:

- a. all of the actions presented below

Objective #2. Expand the tourist season beyond traditional June-August period.

Related Actions:

- a. promote conventions in the non-June, July, August (nJJA) season for all communities, not just Whitehorse
- b. develop and promote a network of nJJA activities, attractions and infrastructure
- c. promote nJJA adventure travel- wildlife viewing is best during the "shoulder" seasons
- d. develop more joint efforts to promote tourism year-round

Objective #3. Increase the local awareness of the importance of tourism to the Yukon economy.

Related Actions:

Education is the key-

- a. publish educational literature, and use TV spots and other media to bring the impact to a personal level
- b. develop school curricula, speakers etc. on economy for secondary and post-secondary students
- c. pursue Tourism Institute idea
- d. increase training for the industry- standardization of tourism workers
- e. offer modified Yukon Host program for students in the schools

Objective #4. Improve local education about local nature, history and culture.

Related Actions:

- a. use the Anniversaries Commission as an opportunity for this kind of focus (actions similar to obj. #3 but targeted at the public at large)
- b. develop school curricula
- c. develop public information packages for community use
- d. encourage museums to take a lead role and give them the support to do it
- e. encourage local visitor associations and local chambers of commerce to undertake the education
- f. ensure communities are aware of available resources

Objective #5. Create awareness of the importance of the environment to the industry.

Related Actions:

Similar actions to numbers 3 & 4 plus encourage TIA and other industry groups to become involved with environmental groups.

Objective #6. Establish a cooperative process for defining and preserving wilderness areas.

Related Actions:

- a. implement the parks and Outdoor Recreation Policy and Program, etc.
- b. support the land use planning process
- c. support ongoing initiatives and ensure local support and participation

Objective #7. Increase native involvement in the industry.

Related Actions:

- a. evaluate and expand education and training opportunities

- b. encourage the expeditious settlement of land claims
- c. encourage use of native guides in the wilderness sector
- d. affirmative action to use more native workers throughout the industry
- e. concentrate focus on this issue as a priority in the industry

Objective #8. Promote native culture as a tourism attraction.

Related Actions:

Awareness and Appreciation is the key

- a. continue and expand on the promotion of Yukon native culture in all marketing efforts
- b. encourage development of more attractions providing access to native culture
- c. conduct more research on native history and culture
- d. protect and interpret important native sites

Objective #9. Increase local control in decision making.

Related Actions:

Investigate mechanisms to encourage/ensure consultation by operators with local communities and groups affected - develop training and education to assist in this

Objective #10. Define the economic and environmental limits to the growth of the industry.

Related Actions:

- a. research this objective and include recommendations for action

Objective #11. Promote socially responsible tourism.

Related Actions:

- a. develop family-oriented activities, events/festivals
- b. educate Yukoners are the negative impact of socially irresponsible activities on the industry

Objective #12. Encourage marketing of the Yukon as a destination.

Related Actions:

continue and expand existing efforts

Objective #13. Adopt an environmental code of ethics.

Related Actions:

industry and TIA to do this

Objective #14. Develop a year-round, Yukon-wide anti-litter campaign.

Related Actions:

- a. initiate an "adopt a river/trail" program
- b. pursue a waste management program
- c. coordinate the efforts of the private and public sectors- promotion, regulation, legislation
- d. public education/media
- e. anti-litter program

Objective #15. Increase input into the decision making of other economic sectors and create opportunities for similar input from these sectors in our decision making.

Related Actions:

- a. continue and expand government and industry input into inter-sector resource planning and development (i.e. the land use planning)
- b. continue liaison with other sectors and jurisdictions

Objective #16. Regularly monitor the industry's sustainable development success.

Related Actions:

the industry should reflect on the process of evaluation

Objective #17. Promote low-impact, environmentally friendly tourism.

Related Actions:

apply actions associated with obj. #4

Objective #18. Increase opportunities for wildlife viewing while minimizing impact on wildlife.

Related Actions

- a. increase highway pull-offs
- b. more review of the Wildlife Viewing Strategy

Objective #19. Incorporate environmental concerns in tourism marketing.

Related Actions:

develop appropriate marketing to be used for obj. #1

Objective #20. Encourage professionalism in the industry, to improve our competitive situation.

Related Actions:

develop training and education related to actions in obj. #13

WILDLIFE WORKSHOPS

Workshop #1: WHERE ARE WE NOW?

Areas of General Agreement:

- the government should become more action oriented and quicker to protect and conserve the resource. The implementation of recommendations should occur now, with the actions being refined later. The government should take a position, instead of trying to appease all interests.
- the communication system between all parties needs to be improved. Government departments should work together and increase the amount of networking between themselves.
- better discussion in the workshops would occur if there was a cross section of interests represented in each workshop.
- wildlife is affected by increased human populations and maybe there should be some controls established. In the past wildlife was adversely affected by influxes of people to the territory.
- there must be a complete and accurate information base for informed decisions and to maintain sustainable yields. The government should compile and provide this information using members of the industry as information sources. It is important that information be provided before the resources are depleted.
- it is inappropriate for people who plan to stay in the territory a short time to make decisions affecting wildlife, yet these people are generally at the management levels of government.
- children need to be educated about the environment. Parents should educate themselves, so they can pass this information onto their children.
- users of the resource should manage their area, instead of government, since they have a stake in sustaining the resource. Local and regional management boards are a way to meet this objective, where all interests would be represented. Local residents would be accountable for the decisions made and are knowledgeable about their area.

Comments:

What does sustainable development mean for your sector?

- the representative for Ducks Unlimited was more concerned about habitat management than the management of wildlife. The Territory has good habitats now, but they are slowly being affected by other industries.
- the outfitters' representative was concerned about sustaining herds and wildlife

populations.

- a member of the public felt it was important to protect and enhance what we have now.
- a member of a rural community and a trapper felt the development of an area of land is personal, but development can be regulated by government.
- a member of the fishing industry felt that sustainable development can be equated with water quality.
- a member of the fish and game association did not like the term sustainable development. "Sustainable yield" would be a better term. There should be a limited harvest of animals and development needs to be controlled.
- a member of the trapping association felt that the wildlife populations harvested must also be maintained. Traplines need to be protected from the encroachment of other users.
- the concept of sustainable development cannot be met all the time. Sustainable development is not the right term to use, since development is misleading. In some cases there can be no development and in other cases there can be compromise. There is preference for a term that integrates both the economy and the environment. Also sustainable development does not work for non-renewable resources.
- since wildlife is a public resource, it appears to be more tied to government than other industries
- people in the wildlife industries often must deal with many government departments, and with both the federal and territorial governments
- maintain and enhance what we have now
- There is a need to prevent over harvesting of the wildlife populations. Harvesting should occur within sustainable yields.
- the wildlife industry is generally an environmentally friendly industry
- people have a moral right to take care of what they have been given
- aquaculture and game ranching businesses need to prevent their species from escaping and spreading diseases.
- it should be noted that all sectors in the wildlife industries were not represented in the workshop, including non-consumptive users, commercial wildlife harvesters, subsistence users of wildlife, and members of the commercial fishery.

Workshop #2: WHERE DO WE WANT TO GO?

Areas of General Agreement:

- programs could be prepared for use in Yukon schools, such as the one being developed by the Fur Institute or Project Wild. The government should insure such programs

become part of the curriculum.

- Yukon residents should have first use of the wildlife.
- the anti-fur lobby needs to be fought. The lobbyists often give the public misinformation. It is apparent that people living in cities do not understand northern lifestyles. All consumptive users of wildlife need to become organized, since they could potentially become the targets. The anti-fur lobbyists generally oppose any killing of animals for human purposes.
- it is difficult to determine the value of the wildlife industry, which includes the subsistence industry. The value of a clean environment is equally difficult to equate. Therefore, comparisons with other industries are difficult.

Comments:

- the wildlife industry needs to be better defined
- if the sale of wild game is considered, there must be clear controls in place since commercialization often leads to depletion of the resource.
- it is uncertain if predators should be controlled to sustain the wildlife populations. If a program were established for predator control, it would have to be based on biological information. The ecosystem would be affected by changes to the food chain.
- good management practices should be established through good legislation, which is in turn based on biological information.
- the government needs to ensure sound management of wildlife resources.
- policing should be done by local people.
- regional boards should manage wildlife populations that are nomadic.
- it would be useful for the wildlife industry to become involved in projects which the media could report upon, to increase the image of the industry.

- What is your bottom line?

- a member of the public felt that the environment is most important and should not be sacrificed for the economy.
- a representative from the outfitters' association was unsure of what their bottom line is. She felt there was still room for compromise, since people still need dollars to survive.
- a member of a rural community felt there was no bottom line since you need to look at things in a circle.
- a member of the fishing industry felt her bottom line is when she is not making money anymore.
- a representative from the Fish and Game Association was also unsure about where his bottom line is.

- a member of the trapper's association felt that some economy can be sacrificed for the environment.
- a representative of Ducks Unlimited felt that it was better not to know the bottom line. People should be willing to discuss the matter.
- wildlife populations need to be sustained over time
- individuals should become involved to influence politicians
- development needs to be controlled, otherwise there would be no wildlife industries
- traplines should be protected from encroachment from other users
- access roads to developments have opened up wildlife refuges to resource users.
- in some cases no development should occur, in other cases there can be compromise.
- the subsistence economy must be recognized.
- it would be useful to initiate a study which evaluates the full value of the fish and wildlife populations in the Yukon.

Workshop #3: HOW DO WE GET THERE?

Recommendations:

1. Government should establish Local Management Boards in each community across the territory. The Board should have representatives from all resource users, including government.
2. Industry and government should identify all opportunities for renewable resource based economic development projects, within the limits of sustainable yields, including both non consumptive and consumptive aspects of the industry. The input of local boards should be sought.
3. Regional conservation officers should make communities aware of studies in their area, by providing one-page summaries and giving presentations to communities.
4. Non-government organizations can offer their services and inform government of their activities.
5. The local board should give direction to biologists about what should be studied in their area.
6. Draft legislation should be reviewed and tailored to local areas.
7. The YCEE Board should be expanded to include a representative of the consumptive users of wildlife.
8. The relevant YCEE Board member should attend their particular sectoral workshop. Also this Board member should sit on the working group.

Comments:

- gains should be measured each time an organization gets together, but larger gains are needed.

- it should be determined what wildlife industries should be supported, since there are questions about the support of components of the wildlife industry, such as the sale of wild game. However, it is realized that it is difficult to fully define the wildlife industry, since it can be quite diverse and often changing.
- both the economics and wildlife survival must be considered before a decision is made. Local boards should be involved in the decision making.
- information could be gathered through a survey to determine if there is a market for a certain product, such as wild meat.
- the government should identify whether wildlife populations can sustain commercial harvest and establish legislation, if the local board approves the idea. The government should concentrate on providing the biological data and facilitating communication between the various parties.
- it is recognized that the industry could do some of its own research before approaching government.
- non-government organizations should make themselves available, to do some of the legwork. Also, government should be encouraged to use non-government organizations more.
- there should be more local control and input.
- the Renewable Resources Department should be more involved in the communities by meeting with local residents.
- people would accept legislation, if they were involved in developing it.
- there seem to be more members on the Yukon Council on the Economy and the Environment who have an economic rather than an environmental interest.
- there is a concern that no member of the YCEE Board attended the wildlife industries workshop.
- it wasn't clear why the YCEE Board did not know who to contact for involvement in the action plans. How was it known who should attend this workshop?