

# TOWARDS A Sustainable Region Symposium



**“What was Heard” Feedback Presentation  
Planning and Economic Development Committee**

**May 10, 2006**

**Presenter: Dawn Seetaram**

# Who Attended?

Sector	No. of Attendees	% Attendees
Elected Officials	16	10%
Human Services	17	11%
Business	32	20%
Environment	26	16%
Institutions	5	3%
Government	62	39%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>100%</b>

- Representation from various Provincial Ministries
- Members of Media (Rodgers TV, A-Channel, Toronto Star, Era Banner and others)

# Speakers Message: Having Perspective

- *A Sustainability approach makes business sense and increases productivity.*



- *The Region has a number of successful initiatives (i.e. Transit, Water for Tomorrow, Greening Strategy), but we have more work to do.*

# Speakers Message: Making the Connections

- *Focus on renewable energy, natural heritage system and a healthy environment.*
- *Public Health (obesity, lung disease) is a Planning Issue.*
- *Developing a "sense of place" identity is important for economic development.*



# Public Message: Thinking Sustainability

- Concern about amount, location and form of growth
- Become a leader in sustainability
- Take a triple bottom line approach
- Improve public consultation
- Take long-term view to GM using a sustainability lens



# Public Message: A Sustainability Lens

- Link strong economy to housing and transportation
- Culture, heritage and good design are essential
- Consider energy use and conservation in the planning process
- Reduce ecological footprint
- Be aware of value of "natural capital" and carrying-capacity



## Next Steps: Sustainable Action

- Revisions to ROP that integrate sustainability into growth management strategy
- Infrastructure Master Plans Update to employ sustainability principles, coordinate with Natural Heritage System and Land-Use Planning



# Next Steps: Sustainable Process

- Other opportunities for the Regional Sustainability Initiative:
  - Fostering Corporate Approach
  - Increasing Understanding in the Corporation and across the Region
  - Working with Stakeholders and Partners
  - Promoting triple-bottom line approach to all initiatives
  - Indicators of Sustainability