

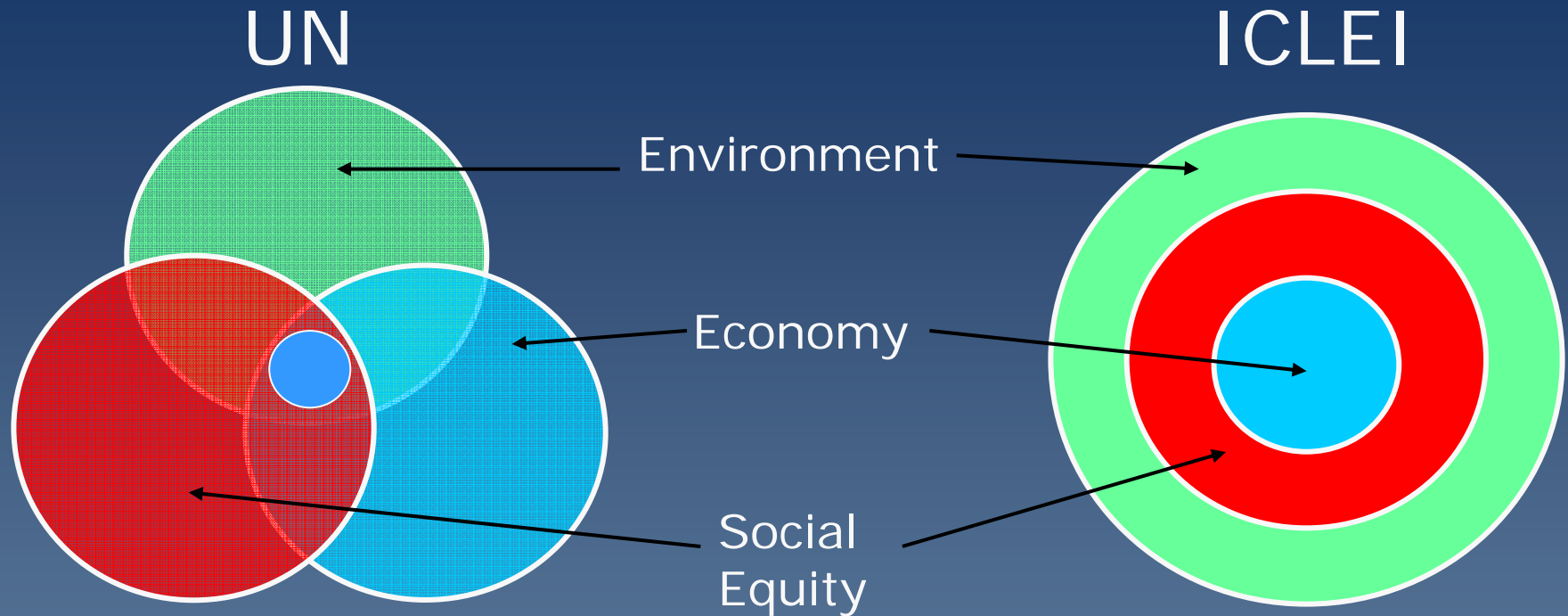
# **Sustainable Development Primer:**

**Why Sustainable Development is  
Important to York Region?**

**Planning and Economic Development  
Committee**

**October 12, 2005**

# Theoretical Models



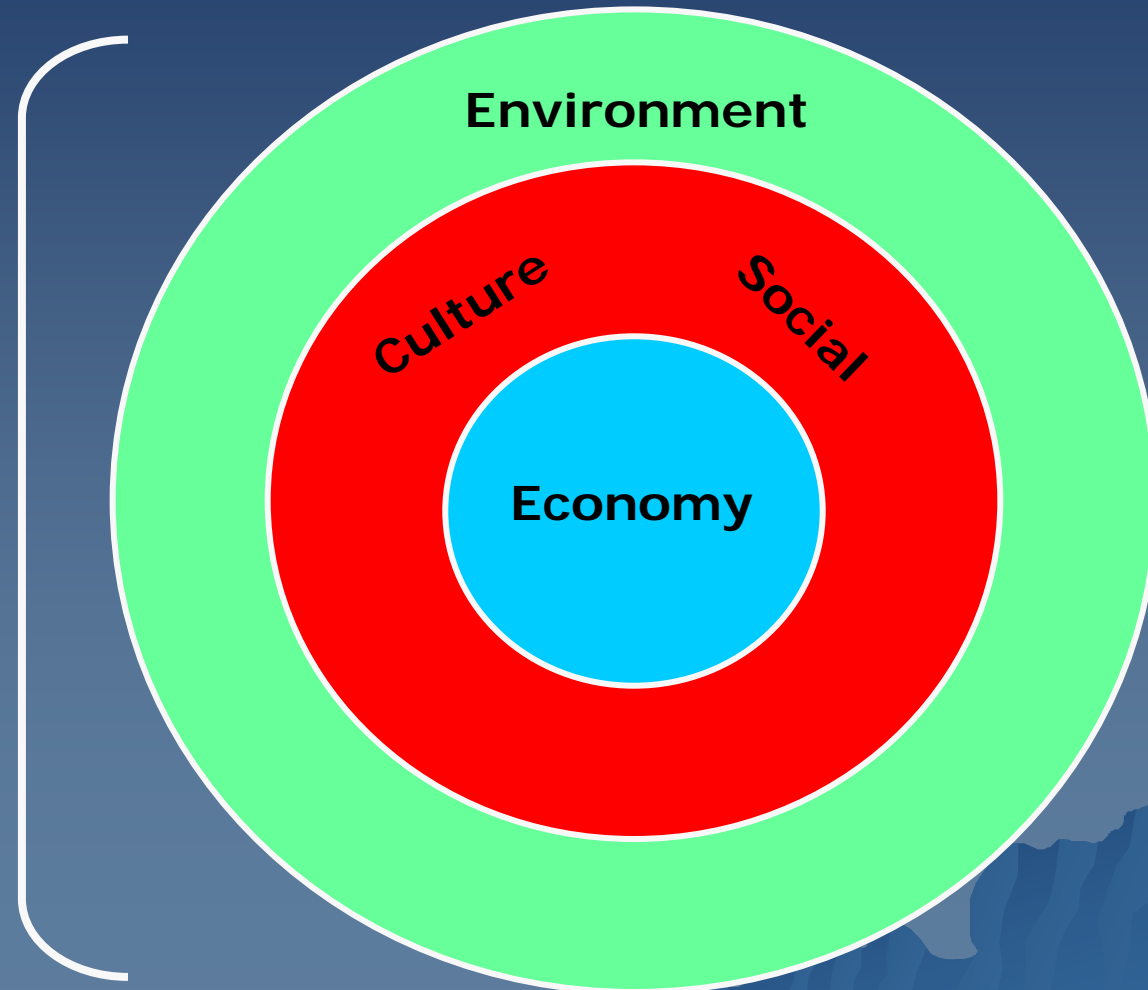
"Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own."

- Brundtland Commission, 1987

# Federal Government

## Four Pillars of Sustainability

Kyoto Protocol →



# Federal Government Sustainability Initiatives

- ☑ Green Municipal Enabling Funds
- ☑ Canada Strategic Infrastructure Fund
- ☑ Federal Gas Tax Revenues
  - Infrastructure Canada Program
  - Partners for Climate Protection

# Federal Minister's Speech

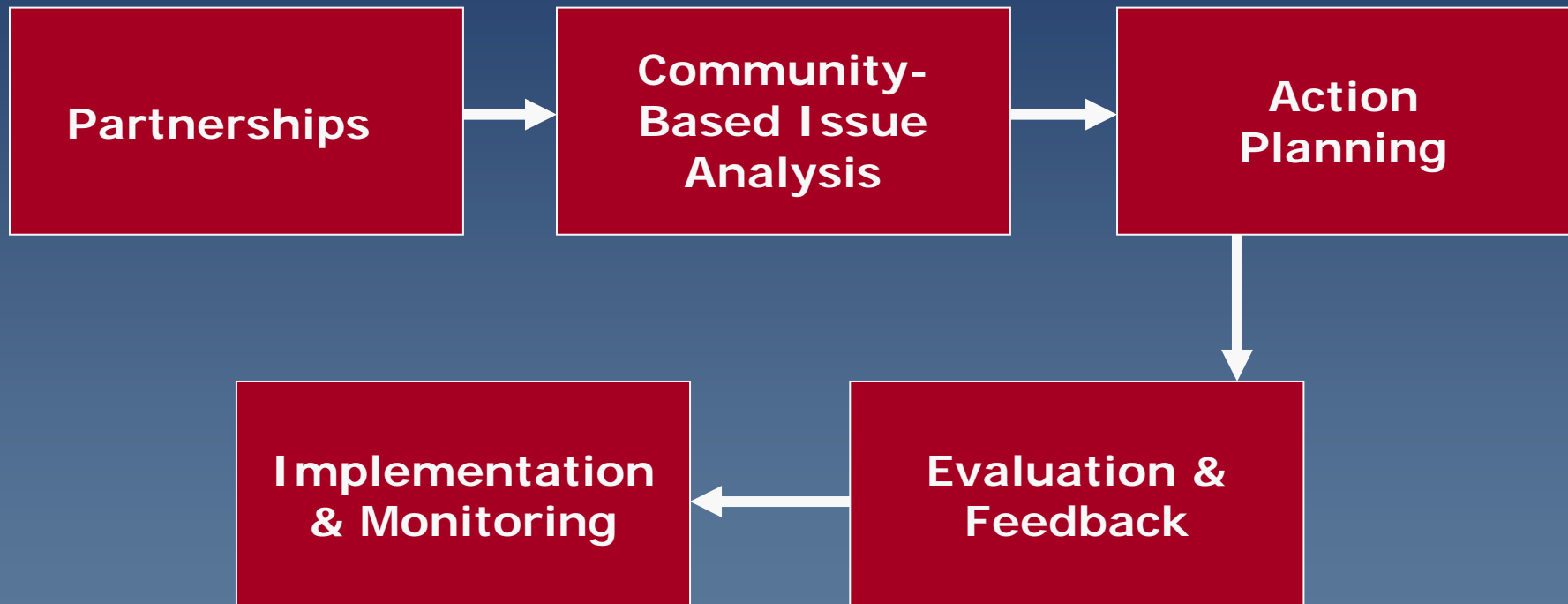
"To every municipality that gets our gas tax money:

...we want to make sure that you are spending it on...public transit, clean water, wastewater, waste management, community energy systems...

...we are asking every size community... to give us through provincial governments, through municipal associations, their **integrated sustainability plans.**"

*-John Godfrey, Minister of State, June 10*

# Sustainable Development Planning



# Sustainability Plan Examples

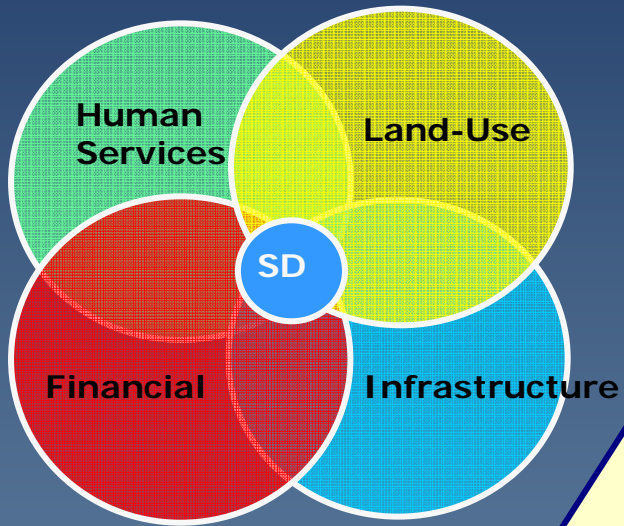
- ◆ The City of Greater Sudbury
- ◆ The City of Ottawa
- ◆ The City of Hamilton
- ◆ Greater Vancouver Regional District
- ◆ The City of Calgary
- ◆ Resort Municipality of Whistler –  
“best integrated sustainability plan in the country”  
–John Godfrey.

# Best Practice Examples

◆ Municipal Environmental Evaluation Program (MEEP)	<i>Ottawa</i>
◆ Vision 20/20 Sustainable Community Initiative	<i>Hamilton</i>
◆ Sustainable Region Initiative (SRI)	<i>GVRD</i>
◆ Baysavers Plumbing Fixture Rebate Program	<i>Santa Monica</i>
◆ Land-Use & Transportation Planning Integration	<i>Curitiba</i>

# Sustainable Regional Policy

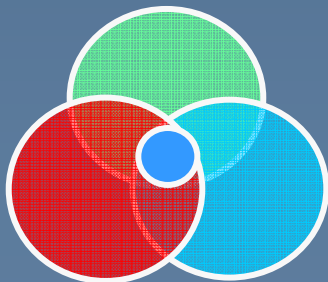
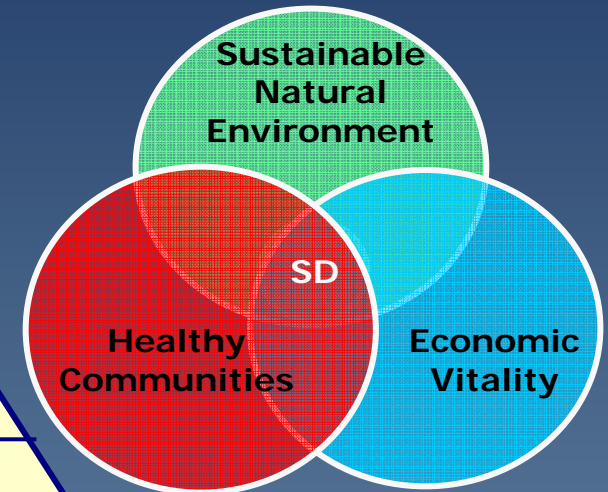
## Growth Management



## VISION 2026



## Official Plan



UN



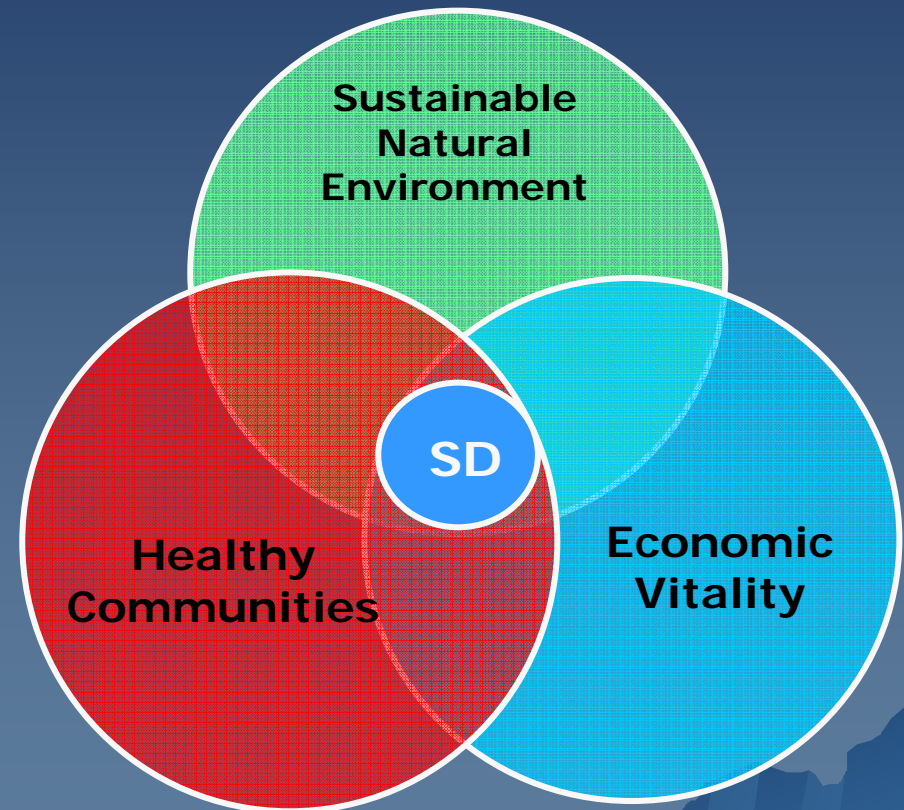
ICLEI

# Sustainable Regional Action

## Current Initiatives

- Wind Energy
  - YRT & VIVA
  - Centres & Corridors Strategy
  - Smart Commute Initiative
  - Community Rental Housing Program
  - Greening Strategy
  - ORM Legislation
  - Water for Tomorrow
  - Human Services Plan
  - Clean Air CTTC
  - SOE Report
- and more.....

## ROP Themes



# Sustainable Regional Monitoring

## ◆ Goal: Enhanced Environment

Target: 25% Forest Cover (2026)  
Indicator: 22.5% Forest Cover (2005)  
Council Initiative: Greening Strategy Land  
Securement Working Group

## ◆ Goal: A Vibrant Economy

2003: 415,000 jobs in York Region  
2004: 430,000 jobs in York Region  
Council Initiative: York Region Small Business  
Enterprise Centre

## ◆ Goal: Housing Choices for Our Residents

Long Term Care Facility waitlist reduced from 221 to 155 beds.

# Sustainable Regional Gaps ?

- ◆ Implementation
- ◆ Energy Efficiency
- ◆ Climate Change/ Air Quality
- ◆ Green Infrastructure Investment & Marketing
- ◆ Human Services Implementation
- ◆ Decision-Making Process
- ◆ Cost of Sustainable Development
- ◆ Others?

# Sustainable Regional Next Steps

## ◆ Goals: Gas Tax & Best practice example in Canada

- Report to Senior Management Group/ Regional Council
- Basis for the Growth Management Work-Plan
- Public Communication Tool
- Public Consultation and Engagement as part of the GM Workplan
- Review existing approaches
- ICLEI Partnership
- Integrate advice from the Towards Sustainability in York Region Advisory Group
- Coordinate Initiatives (Clean air, SOE, Greening Accomplishments)
- Corporate Wide Awareness Initiative