

An Overview of

The Strategic Planning Process

Desired Results

- ◆ Strategic Community Development Plan
- ◆ Economic Development Plan
- ◆ Unified Population
- ◆ Implementation Program

Key Elements of a Successful Process

Participants must:

1. be comfortable with the process (natural feel).
2. feel they have some control and freedom.
3. have good information.
4. see that their input is considered.
5. have opportunities for follow-up action.

Achieving the Key Elements.

1. Open participation.
2. Focus on tomorrow's opportunities, not yesterday's and today's problems.
3. Broad community participation.
4. Participants communicate throughout the process.
 - ▶ share ideas.
 - ▶ discuss disagreements.
5. Action can start before the plan is completed.
6. Further research needed can also start immediately.

A framework will be developed for a
Strategic Community Development Plan.

Defining the Framework.

What the Future Might Hold.

1. What will the world be like in 2000, as it relates to the future of Northwestern Ontario?
2. What should Atikokan be like in 2000, if it is to be a good place to live and work?

What History Provides Us.

3. What are Atikokan's strengths?
4. What are Atikokan's weaknesses / vulnerabilities?

Where We Are Now.

5. What do residents like about Atikokan now that they want to preserve?
6. What do residents dislike about Atikokan now that they want to be rid of?
7. What is missing from Atikokan now that residents want to put in place?

Defining the Framework.

(Concluded)

What We Must Do to Make Things Better.

8. What must be changed, eliminated or added by 2000 so that we are ready for the future when it arrives?
9. What action steps (short-, medium- and long-term) must be taken, and who volunteers to work at them?
10. What do we not know that merits further follow-up research?

Who Will Do It.

11. Am I willing to commit my time & resources to make things better in Atikokan?
12. What must be done by governments and their agencies to assist the community to achieve its desired future?

Types of Participants.

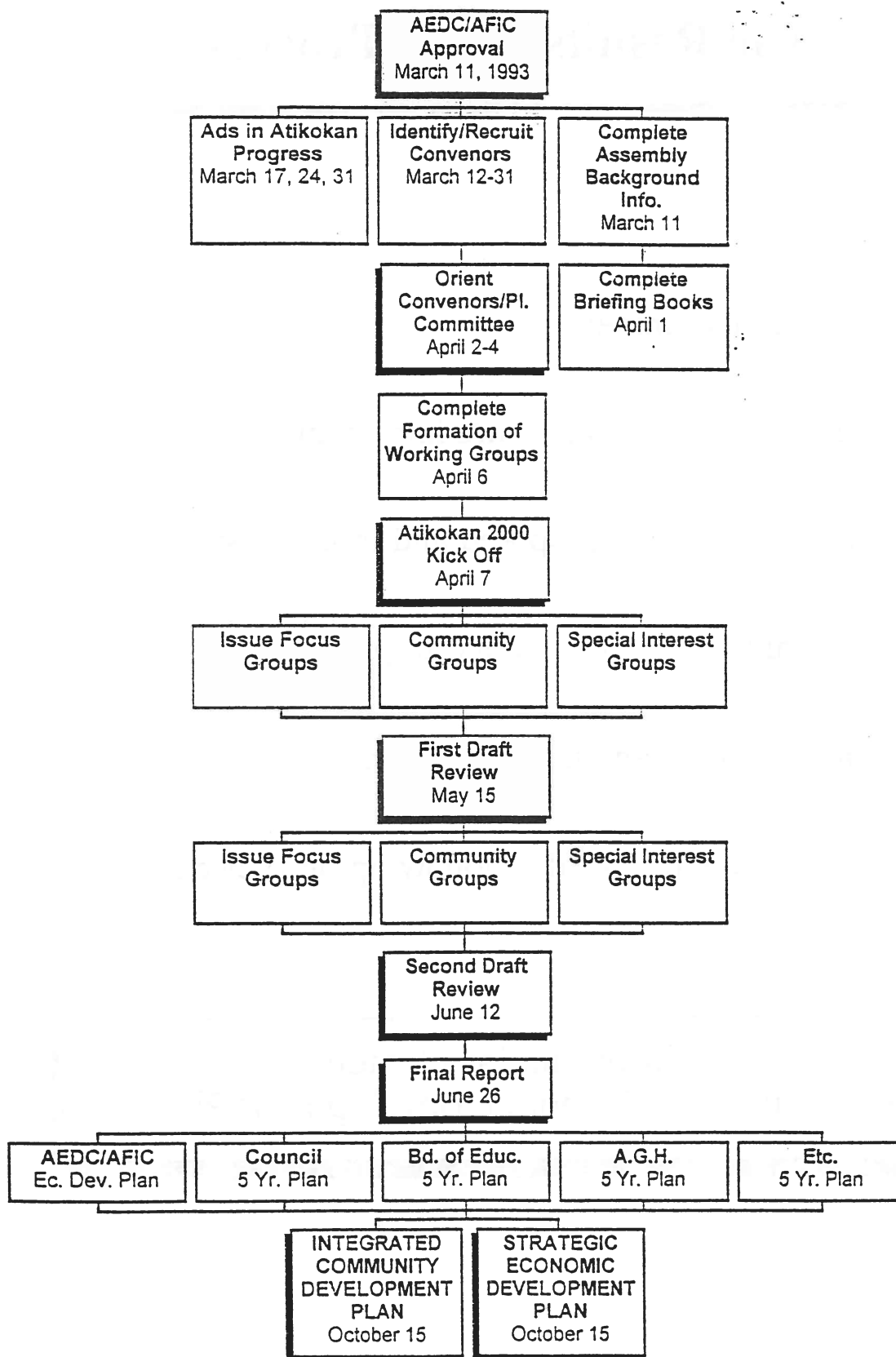
- ▶ Issue Focus Group.
- ▶ Community Group.
- ▶ Special Interest Group.

Background Information.

- ▶ The Economy.
- ▶ Education / Employment / Unemployment.
- ▶ Population.

Issue / Sector Groups.

- ▶ The Business Environment.
- ▶ Education / Employment / Unemployment.
- ▶ Tourism.
- ▶ Recreation.
- ▶ Housing.
- ▶ Health Care.
- ▶ Physical Infrastructure.
- ▶ Safety and Security.
- ▶ Local Government.



The Results of the Process.

The process will determine:

- ▶ the major themes that are important to residents.
- ▶ action steps — proposed and in progress.
- ▶ research — proposed and in progress.
- ▶ a list of outstanding disagreements.
- ▶ volunteers prepared to follow up on projects.

**These form the major elements of the
Community & Economic Development Plans.**

Writing the Plans.

Community Development Plan should involve:

- ▶ Town Council
- ▶ Board of Education
- ▶ Hospital board
- ▶ Other boards & agencies involved in the socio-economic health of Atikokan.

Economic Development Plan should involve:

- ▶ Town Council
- ▶ AFIC & AEDC
- ▶ Other boards & agencies involved in economic and employment development in Atikokan.

Writing the Plans.

(concluded)

The AEDC & AFIC will need to review their mandates to:

1. support volunteers/community groups to implement action plans.
2. encourage the required follow-up in other areas (private sector, regional/municipal agencies, special interest groups).
3. complete the necessary research.
4. assist all parties to effectively inform senior governments of our needs.