

2. POLICY FRAMEWORK

2.1 Mission Statement

To enhance the Town's natural, cultural, social and economic environments by ensuring that environmental sustainability, cultural vibrancy, economic prosperity and social well-being are incorporated into growth and *development* decisions.

2.2 Guiding Principles

2.2.1 Preserving and creating a livable community in order to:

- a) preserve, enhance, and protect the distinct *character*, cultural heritage, living environment, and sense of community of neighbourhoods;
- b) direct the majority of growth to identified locations where higher density, transit and pedestrian oriented *development* can be accommodated; and,
- c) achieve long term economic security within an environment that offers a diverse range of employment opportunities for residents.

2.2.2 Providing choice throughout the Town in order to:

- a) enable the availability and accessibility of a wide range of housing, jobs and community resources to meet the diverse needs of the community through all stages of life;
- b) provide choices for mobility by linking people and places with a sustainable transportation network consisting of roads, transit, walking and cycling trails; and,
- c) foster the Town's sense of place through excellence in building and community design.

2.2.3 Achieving sustainability in order to:

- a) minimize the Town's *ecological footprint*;
- b) preserve, enhance and protect the Town's environmental resources, natural features and areas, natural heritage systems and waterfronts; and,
- c) achieve sustainable building and community design.