



Draft Land-use Framework
Public Feedback Survey

Please return this survey in the envelope
provided by June 20, 2008.

The workbook is also available on-line at www.landuse.gov.ab.ca

Background

The challenges

Today's rapid growth in population and economic activity is placing unprecedented pressure on Alberta's landscape. Oil and gas, forestry and mining, agriculture and recreation, housing and infrastructure are all in competition to use the land—often on the same piece of land. This not only increases the number of conflicts between competing user groups, it often stresses the land itself.

Consulting with Albertans

From May 2006 to December 2007, the Alberta government conducted a comprehensive consultation process to gather input on the development of a Land-use Framework for Alberta. Participants in this process included landowners, municipal leaders and planners; members of First Nations and from Métis communities; agriculture, forestry, transportation and energy associations, conservation and environmental groups; recreational groups; and academics. The ideas and opinions of thousands of Albertans have played a vital role in developing the *Draft Land-use Framework*.

This Survey

The purpose of this survey is to gain public feedback on the *Draft Land-use Framework* for Alberta and how well it addresses the issues and priorities raised by Albertans who have provided input into the development process. You can access a copy of the draft framework at www.landuse.gov.ab.ca or by calling 310-4455.

The *Draft Land-use Framework* consists of six core strategies to improve land-use planning and decision-making in Alberta.

Strategy 1:

Develop six regional land-use plans based on six new land-use regions

- Proposed regions based on the major watersheds with boundaries aligned to best fit with existing municipal boundaries.
- Provincial policy direction guides development of regional plans.
- Regional plans set economic, environmental and social outcomes for regions.

- Regional plans articulate provincial policies; set out regional land-use objectives; provide context for land-use decision-making within the region; and reflect the uniqueness and priorities of each region.
- Integrated regional plans guide municipal and provincial planning and decision-making.
- Municipalities and provincial government departments must comply with regional plans.

Strategy 2:

Create a Cabinet Committee supported by a Land-use Secretariat and establish an Advisory Council for each region.

- A Cabinet Committee will oversee implementation of the Land-use Framework.
- The Cabinet Committee, supported by a Land-use Secretariat, will be responsible for the development of regional plans in conjunction with government departments and the Regional Advisory Councils.
- Once approved by Cabinet, regional plans will become provincial policy.
- Local decision-making authority remains with the same officials who currently exercise it.
- Local decisions need to be consistent with provincial policy guidelines in the regional plans.

Strategy 3:

Cumulative effects management will be the instrument used at the regional level to manage the impacts of development on land, water and air.

- Regional plans will adopt a cumulative effects management approach that considers the total impact of development in a region, over time, in decision-making and imposes limits on impacts rather than development.
- The Alberta government will identify appropriate thresholds and targets for air, land, water and biodiversity at the regional levels and where appropriate, at sub-regional levels.
- Land-use planning and decision-making will operate within these defined thresholds.
- This approach will balance environmental objectives with our socio-economic values.

Strategy 4:

Develop a strategy for conservation and stewardship on private and public lands.

- The Alberta government will work with the Institute of Agriculture, Forestry and the Environment, and other provincial applied research institutes to advance this strategy. The strategy will:
- Evaluate the effectiveness of programs and practices, including sustainable funding mechanisms;
- Identify and develop new best practices, tools, market-based approaches and incentives to provide ecological goods and services;
- Develop education and awareness programs;
- Develop action plans for the conservation and sustainable use of Alberta's biodiversity that can be used to support and inform development of regional plans.

Strategy 5:

Establish an information, monitoring and knowledge system to contribute to the continuous improvement of land-use planning and decision-making.

- The provincial government will create an improved Integrated Information Management System that monitors the state of the land and the status of land use in the province.
- It will build on existing information-sharing initiatives; review and improve protocols for information sharing, and incorporate scientific and traditional ecological knowledge.
- Monitoring, evaluation and reporting systems will determine if land-use policies are achieving desired outcomes. The Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Program will be a central component of this system.

Strategy 6:

Include Aboriginal Peoples in land-use planning

- The Aboriginal Peoples of Alberta have an historic connection to Alberta's land and environment. The Alberta government will:
 - strive for a meaningful balance that respects the constitutionally protected rights of aboriginal communities and the interests of all Albertans.
 - encourage First Nations and Métis communities to participate in the development of land-use plans;
 - continue to support traditional use studies to document Aboriginal uses of public lands and share information on First Nations and Métis uses of public land to inform the decision-making process; and
 - strive to protect and preserve identified sacred cultural sites for future generations.

Begin Survey

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statements by circling the appropriate number.

- 1a) Overall, the six strategies in the *Draft Land-use Framework* outline a plan that will address the land-use issues and challenges facing Alberta.

Completely agree								Completely disagree		No opinion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	?

- 1b) Please explain why.

- 2a) **Strategy 1** - The regional planning approach will integrate provincial policies at the regional level, provide the context for land-use decision-making within the region, and reflect the priorities of each region.

Completely agree								Completely disagree		No opinion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	?

- 2b) Please explain why.

- 3a) **Strategy 2** - The *Draft Land-use Framework* strikes the right balance between provincial leadership and local decision-making.

Completely agree								Completely disagree		No opinion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	?

- 3b) Please explain why.

4a) **Strategy 3** - The cumulative effects approach considers the total impact of development, over time, in decision-making. It determines the capacity of the land and the environment to support the effects of all activities and identifies thresholds for the air, land, water and biodiversity.

A cumulative effects approach will help manage the combined impacts of development on air, land, water and biodiversity.

Completely agree								Completely disagree		No opinion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	?

4b) Please explain why.

5a) **Strategy 4** - The *Draft Land-use Framework* identifies effective approaches that will encourage conservation and stewardship on public lands.

Completely agree								Completely disagree		No opinion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	?

5b) Please explain why.

6a) **Strategy 4** - The *Draft Land-use Framework* identifies effective approaches that will encourage conservation and stewardship on private lands.

Completely agree								Completely disagree		No opinion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	?

6b) Please explain why.

7a) **Strategy 5** - An integrated information system is needed to support land-use planning, decision-making and research.

Completely agree									Completely disagree	No opinion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	?

7b) Please explain why.

8a) **Strategy 6** - The intent of the *Draft Land-use Framework* is to strike a meaningful balance that respects the constitutionally protected rights of aboriginal communities and the interests of all Albertans.

Completely agree									Completely disagree	No opinion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	?

8b) Please explain why.

9a) Overall, do you feel the *Draft Land-use Framework* addresses the land-use issues facing Alberta today? Please rate the *Draft Land-use Framework* on a scale from 1 to 10 where 1 means it did not address these issues and 10 means it addressed all the issues.

Did not address the issues of concern									Addressed all the issues of concern
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

9b) What, if any, land-use issues were not addressed in the *Draft Land-use Framework*?

10a) Overall, how easy or difficult did you find the Draft Land-use Framework to understand? Please rate the *Draft Land-use Framework* on a scale from 1 to 10 where 1 means it was very difficult to understand and 10 means it was very easy to understand.

Very difficult
to understand

Very easy
to understand

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

10b) Please explain.

The information collected in this section will only be used for statistical analyses for the Land-use Framework project.

D1. What are the first three digits of your postal code?

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D2. Would you describe the community where you live as ...

- Urban
- Suburban
- Rural

D3. Do you live in a ...

- City
- Town or village
- Municipal district or county
- Other (please specify) _____

D4. Please indicate which of the following land-use activities your primary land use? **CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.**

- Agricultural landowner / tenant
- Other type of landowner (Please specify, e.g., residential, commercial, etc.) _____
- Traditional land use (Please specify) _____
- Directly employed in agriculture
- Directly employed in forestry
- Directly employed within the oil and gas industry
- Directly employed in guiding/outfitting/trapping
- Directly employed in eco-tourism/outdoor education
- Other (specify)

D5. How old are you?

- 15 to 17 years
- 18 to 24 years
- 25 to 34 years
- 35 to 44 years
- 45 to 54 years
- 55 to 64 years
- 65 and over

D6. What is your gender?

- Male
- Female

- D7. What is the highest level of education that you have reached?
- Some elementary (Grades 1 - 7)
 - Completed elementary (Grade 8)
 - Some high school (Grade 9 - 11)
 - Completed high school (Grade 12 or 13)
 - Some college, vocational or trade school
 - Completed Community college, vocational, trade school
 - Some university
 - Completed university (Bachelor's Degree)
 - Post graduate/professional school (Master's Degree or PhD)
 - No schooling

- D8. Are there children living in your household under the age of 15?
- Yes
 - No

- D9. For statistical purposes only, we need information about your income. All individual responses will be kept confidential. Which category applies to your total household income before taxes in 2007.
- Under \$10,000
 - \$10,000 to less than \$20,000
 - \$20,000 to less than \$30,000
 - \$30,000 to less than \$40,000
 - \$40,000 to less than \$60,000
 - \$60,000 to less than \$80,000
 - \$80,000 to less than \$100,000
 - \$100,000 and over

- D10. How many years have you lived in Alberta?

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The information collected through this survey, including your opinions, is collected under the authority of Section 33(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) Act. It will be used by the Government of Alberta in identifying issues and options for the future of land use in Alberta.

If you have any questions about the collection or use of this information, please contact the Manager, Land-use Framework Project, 9915 - 108th Street, Edmonton, AB, T5K 2G8 or by telephone at (780) 422-4871.

We want to thank you for taking the time to fill out this survey. We greatly value your feedback

Workbooks must be submitted by June 20, 2008.

Please send completed surveys to:

By Mail: Sierra Systems Group Inc.
#1300, 10104 - 103rd Avenue
Edmonton NW, Alberta
T5J 0H8

By Fax: (780) 426-0281

If you want to complete the survey online, you can access it at the Land-use Framework website:
www.landuse.gov.ab.ca

If you have any further questions please contact us at:

310-4455

or

email at LUF@gov.ab.ca

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