

Comox Valley Regional District Airshed Roundtable

Roundtable Meeting #2

November 19, 2020, 1:00pm
Zoom online platform



Agenda

- 1:00 Welcome and Introductions
- 1:10 Check-in on process and TOR
- 1:20 Introduction to collaborative strategy development
- 1:40 Steering committee presentations on 3 topics
 - Space heating • Open burning • Transportation
- 2:00 Break-out #1: informing goal development
- 2:15 Break
- 2:25 Break-out #2 and #3: informing goal development
- 2:55 Vision discussion: share your ideas
- 3:25 Next steps



Project purpose

What are we aiming to achieve?

- Ensure the best air possible for a healthy Comox Valley.

How will we achieve this?

- Work together to navigate the complexities with air quality management in the Comox Valley through collaboration, communication and a strategic approach.
- Develop and implement a Regional Airshed Protection Strategy.



Project foundation: guiding principles

Establishing a collaborative process:

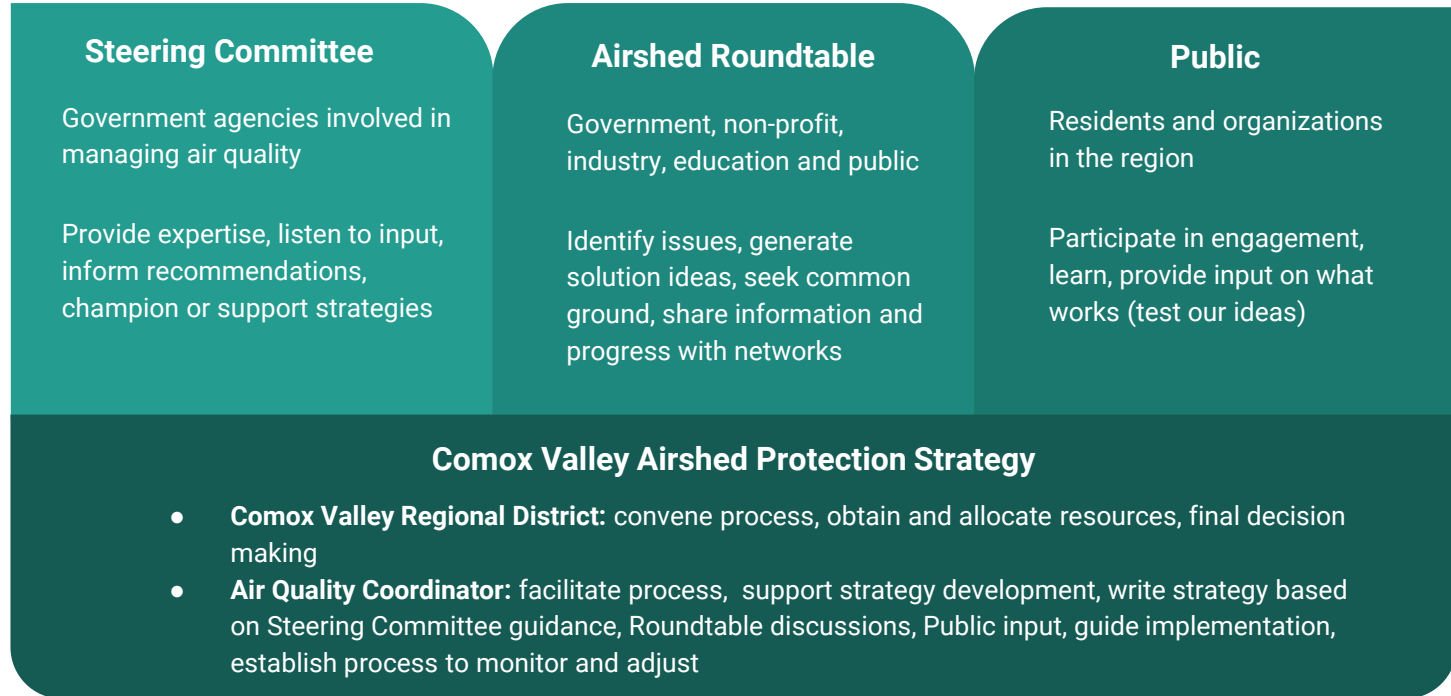
- Ensure commitment at a leadership level
- Provide clarity (roles, mandate)
- Iterate: adapt and continuously improve, while staying focused and on task
- Cultivate a thoughtful, well-chosen membership

Working together:

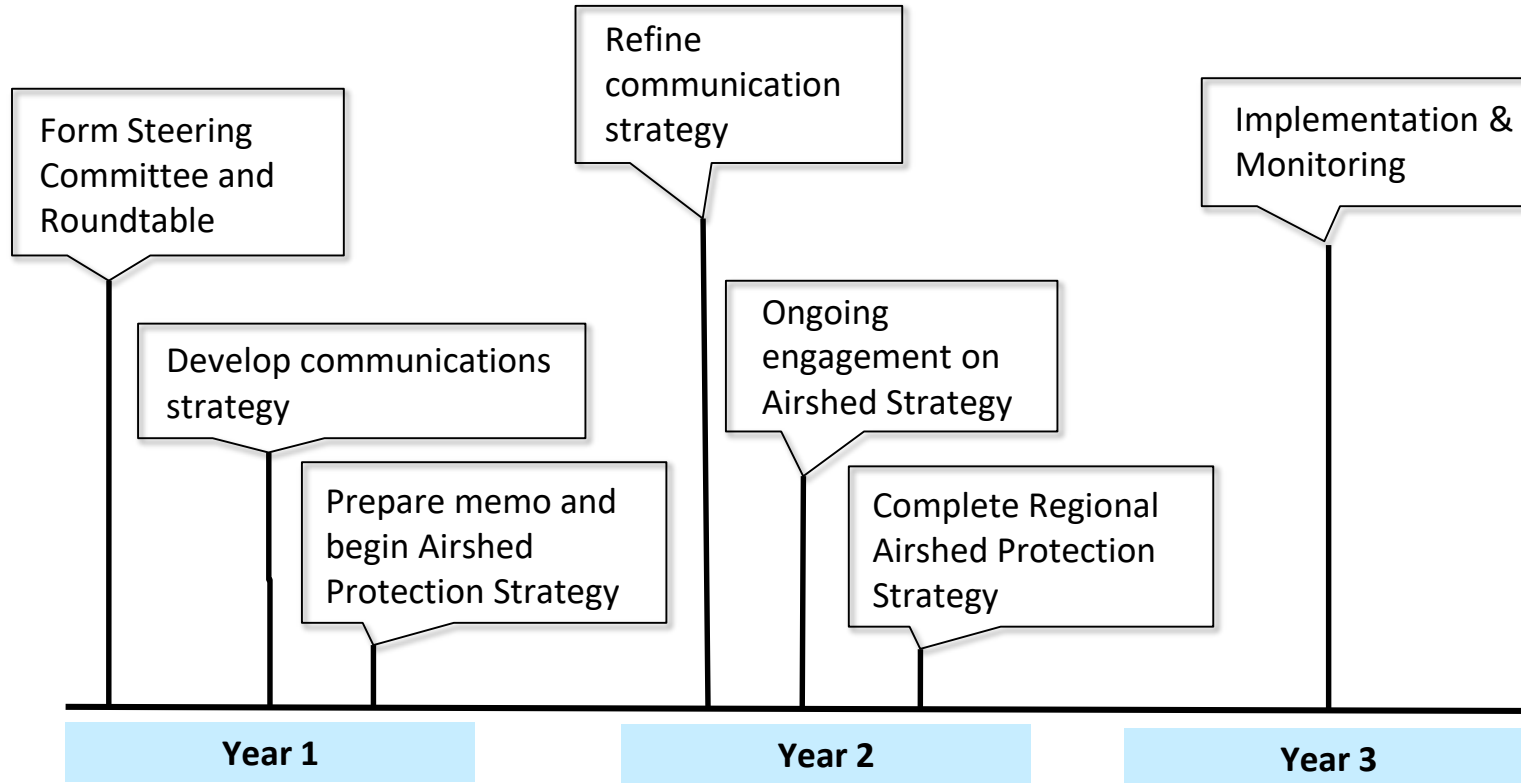
- Be curious, flexible and open to ideas – all views are welcome
- Treat each other with respect
- Work in ways that cultivate trust and shared responsibility
- Take an informed, evidence-based approach
- Find areas of agreement and move forward from there (We are All One Valley)
- Aim for excellence
- Seek short-term wins with a view for the long game



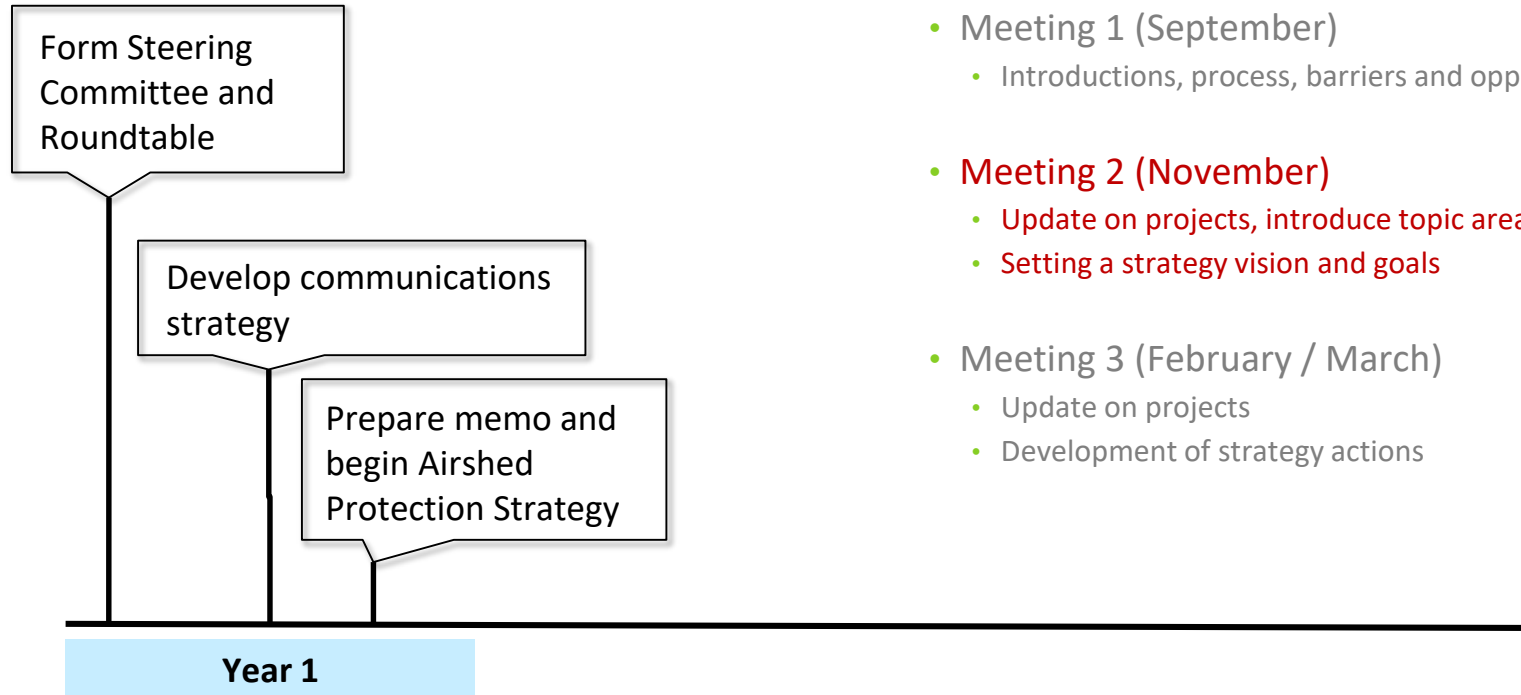
Project structure and roles



Project process



Project process – Roundtable in Year 1



- Meeting 1 (September)
 - Introductions, process, barriers and opportunities
- Meeting 2 (November)
 - Update on projects, introduce topic areas
 - Setting a strategy vision and goals
- Meeting 3 (February / March)
 - Update on projects
 - Development of strategy actions



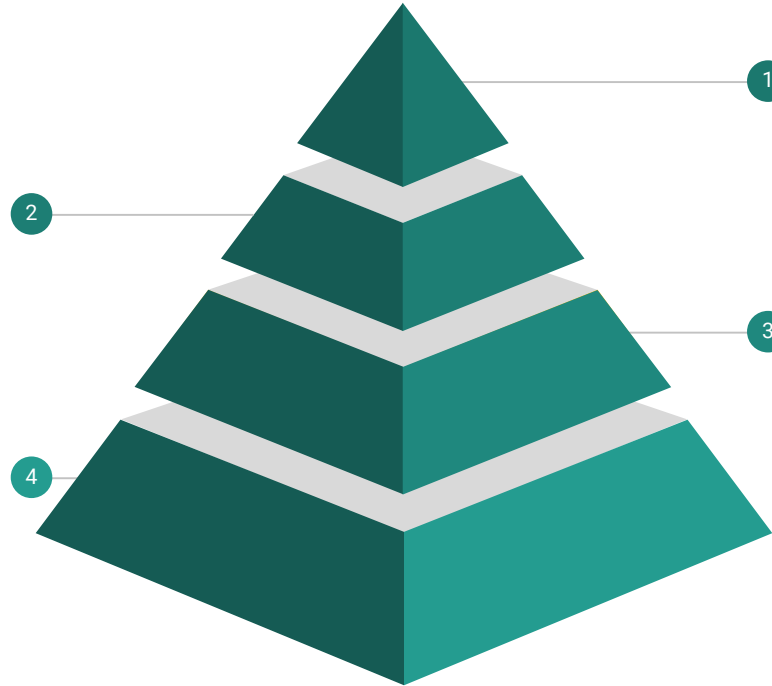
What is a strategic plan?

Goals and strategies

- The "How"
- What you are going to achieve
- The strategies to pursue goals

Implementation and reporting

- How we will track progress
- What we will do to stay on / get back on track



Vision

- The "Why"
- Key changes you want to see
- Values most important to you

Action plan

- The "What"
- Specific actions
- Identifies champions and timeframes



Process to create the strategy

- Our challenge:
 - Air quality is complex - mixed sources; varied impacts
 - Many organizations must “own” and implement
- Our response:
 - Steering committee → Provide expertise and champions or resources to implement the strategy
 - Roundtable → Provide input from multiple informed perspectives and seek common ground
 - Public → Test ideas being developed
 - Air quality coordinator → Maintain momentum and structure; document agreed upon direction
- Today:
 - Your ideas about the the “Why” and “How”



Examples: Vision and Goals

- **Vision statements (Why):**
 - *Healthy air and clear vistas that support a vibrant region [FVRD]*
 - *Working together for clean air to support our health, our environment and our communities [Cowichan Valley]*
 - *Communities in the Sea-to-Sky Airshed will enjoy clean air that sustains and contributes to the health of our residents and guests, our economy, and our environment and wildlife [Sea-to-Sky]*
- **Goal statements - general (How):**
 - *To improve community and environmental health impacted by exposure to air contaminants [FVRD]*
 - *Maintain and improve our understanding of air quality science in the BVLD airshed [BVLD]*
 - *Produce Effective Communications that Drive Positive Air Quality Policies and Behaviours [Sea-to-Sky]*

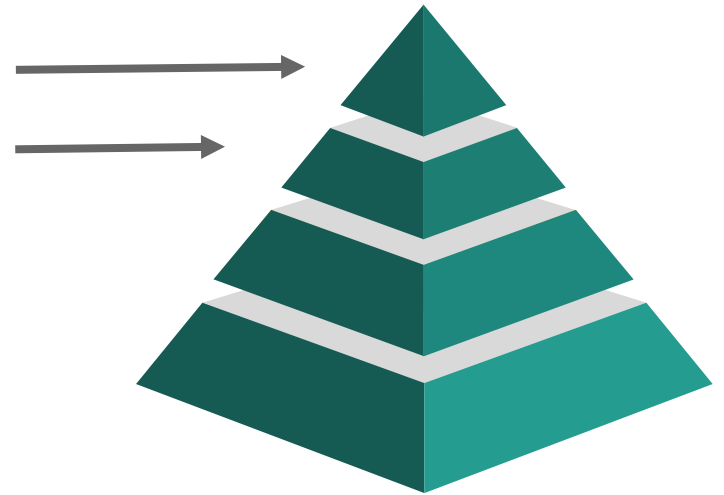
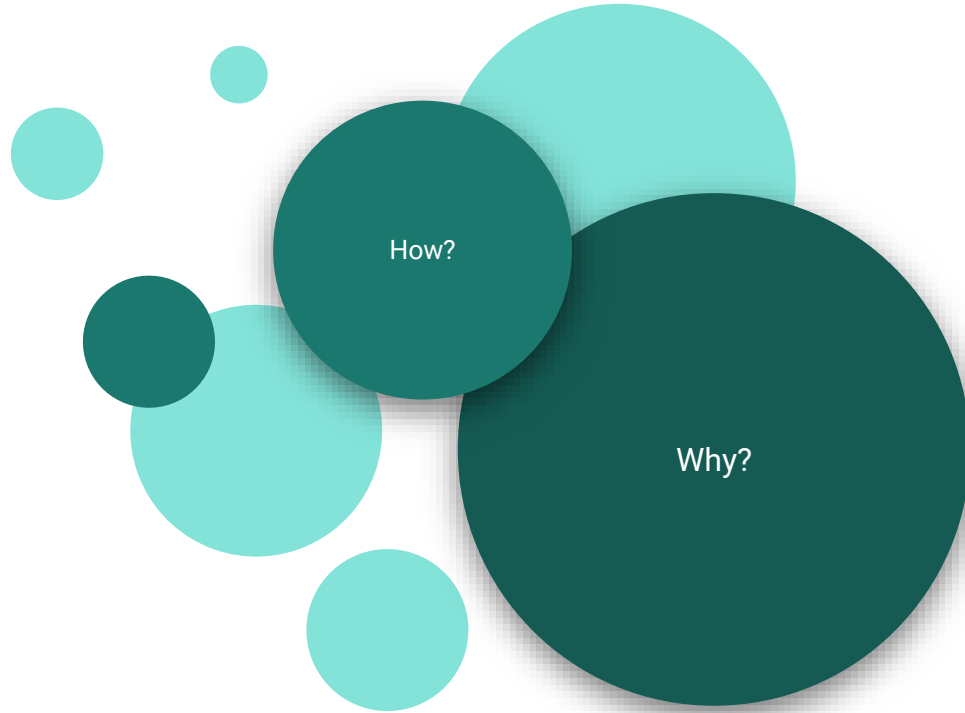


Examples: Measurable Goals and Actions

- **Goal statements - more specific (How):**
 - *Provide a proactive response when air quality is deteriorating by stopping all open burning [BVLD]*
 - *Support the development of new research projects in the airshed that enhance our understanding of particulate matter and odour emissions sources [PG]*
 - *Continue to support the regional Woodstove Exchange Program to bring the total particulate matter reduction to 35 tonnes/year [PG]*
- **Actions (What):**
 - *Develop airshed wide regulatory approach for wood burning appliances [Cowichan]*
 - *Promote use of alternative energy sources and systems [Cowichan]*
 - *Use Pollution Prevention Notices (PPNs) as a tool to initiate a burn ban that stops open burning before air quality deteriorates to advisory threshold [BVLD]*
 - *Develop communication plan and policies [Sea-to-Sky]*
 - *Encourage and support the Province of BC and regional partners to develop a heavy-duty diesel vehicle retirement program that replaces or retrofits old polluting vehicles with cleaner models [FVRD]*
 - *Investigate the feasibility of providing an incentive program to encourage residents to replace older lawn and garden equipment [FVRD]*



Today is about exploring ideas



Exploring the topic areas

- Break-out group discussion:
 1. Where are we now? Defining the issues
 2. Where do we want to go? Preliminary goal ideas



Break-out discussion summaries

1. Where are we now? Defining the issues
2. Where do we want to go? Preliminary goal ideas



Next Steps

- Communications: Video release / Social media / State of the Air FAQs
- Use Roundtable input to begin developing Vision & Goals
- Steering Committee Meeting Mid-January: Review Vision & Goals
- Roundtable meeting February / March: begin developing Strategies & Actions

THANK YOU!

