

# VISION 2000



A BLUEPRINT  
FOR  
RECREATION  
IN  
NOVA SCOTIA

## VISION 2000 INTRODUCTION

In the late fall, 1987, an extra week was added to the end of the year in the province of Nova Scotia. A government shuffle saw the disbandment of the former Scotia Department of Culture, Recreation, and Fitness. Culture became linked with Tourism, Finance and Health, and Recreation and Sport seemed to have disappeared completely from the government agenda. The news left recreation providers and participants shocked and at a loss.

Shortly thereafter, a meeting of recreation stakeholders was held. The meeting was held in a large hall and was attended by many recreation providers and participants. The meeting was held in a large hall and was attended by many recreation providers and participants. The meeting was held in a large hall and was attended by many recreation providers and participants.

There remained a strong feeling of loss and a need for a recreation community. The discussion continued in a board room. Recreation providers had an opportunity to meet. There were many opinions and questions, but few answers. People had concerns about the present and the future and wanted an opportunity to discuss their feelings.

In response to the expressed need, the Recreation Resource Centre of Nova Scotia, through the annual Spring Conference, invited recreation providers and participants to a meeting. The meeting was held in a large hall and was attended by many recreation providers and participants.

### Final Document

- 1) to provide the opportunity for discussion of the issues;
- 2) to analyse the history of the provision of public recreation services in the province;
- 3) to develop a global vision which would serve as a blueprint for recreation in Nova Scotia for the future.

It was decided that through the discussion of the issues, a vision for the future could be developed that would serve as a guide and help focus efforts so that we can move forward in a straight line, knowing where we want to go. Perhaps, with a vision for the future, we would be less vulnerable.

Key resource people were identified from throughout the province for their expertise in certain areas.

Prepared and Produced by

The Recreation Resource Centre  
of Nova Scotia

The Recreation Resource Centre of Nova Scotia was created by the Alberta Recreation and Leisure Council. The centre was created by the Alberta Recreation and Leisure Council. The centre was created by the Alberta Recreation and Leisure Council.

## VISION 2000 INTRODUCTION

In the late fall, 1987, an event took place that shook the roots of recreation in the province of Nova Scotia. A government shuffle saw the disbandment of the Nova Scotia Department of Culture, Recreation, and Fitness. Culture became linked with Tourism, Fitness linked with Health, and Recreation and Sport seemed to have disappeared completely from the government agenda. The news left recreation providers and participants shocked and confused.

Shortly thereafter, the Recreation Association of Nova Scotia called a meeting of the major stakeholders from throughout the province, followed by a press conference which was intended to bring the issue to the public attention. Within days an announcement was forthcoming from Government that sport and recreation interests in the province would be addressed through a newly formed Commission.

There remained much apprehension on behalf of the recreation community. The dialogue continued in board rooms, at meetings and conferences, on the streets - anywhere, in fact, that recreation providers had an opportunity to meet. There were many opinions and questions, but few answers. People had concerns about the present and the future and wanted opportunities to discuss their feelings.

In response to the expressed need, the Recreation Resource Centre of Nova Scotia, through the annual Spring Symposium, provided a forum for discussion and invited the recreation community in Nova Scotia to participate. The Symposium had three objectives:

- 1) to provide the opportunity for discussion of the issues;
- 2) to analyse the history of the provision of public recreation services in the province;
- 3) to develop a global vision which would serve as a blueprint for recreation in Nova Scotia for the future.

It was decided that through the discussion of the issues, a vision for the future could be developed that would serve as a guide and help focus efforts so that we can move forward in a straight line, knowing where we want to go. Perhaps, with a vision for the future, we would be less vulnerable.

Key resource people were identified from throughout the province for their expertise in certain areas:

Anthea Bellemare	-	Fitness
Peggy Gallant	-	Sport
Jude Hirsch	-	Outdoor Recreation
Jeremy Morgan	-	Culture
Renee Lyons	-	Research and Education
Debby Smith	-	Disabilities
Howard Oehman	-	Urban Recreation
John Cotton	-	Rural Recreation

Each of these people served as group facilitators, leading discussions in their respective areas of expertise.

In total, 33 people, representing a broad cross section of interest areas, came together for three days at the Oak Island Inn. The group consisted of university educators, municipal recreation directors, provincial government staff, executive directors of non-profit provincial

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organizations, and municipal councillors - all leaders in the recreation field. Collectively, the group represented more than 500 years of professional service in the field.

"VISION 2000" represents the best thinking and work of this group. Analysis occurred from a wide variety of perspectives as groups considered all aspects before developing visions in their specific areas of expertise. At the close of the symposium, six visions had been formed, one for each of the following areas of recreation:

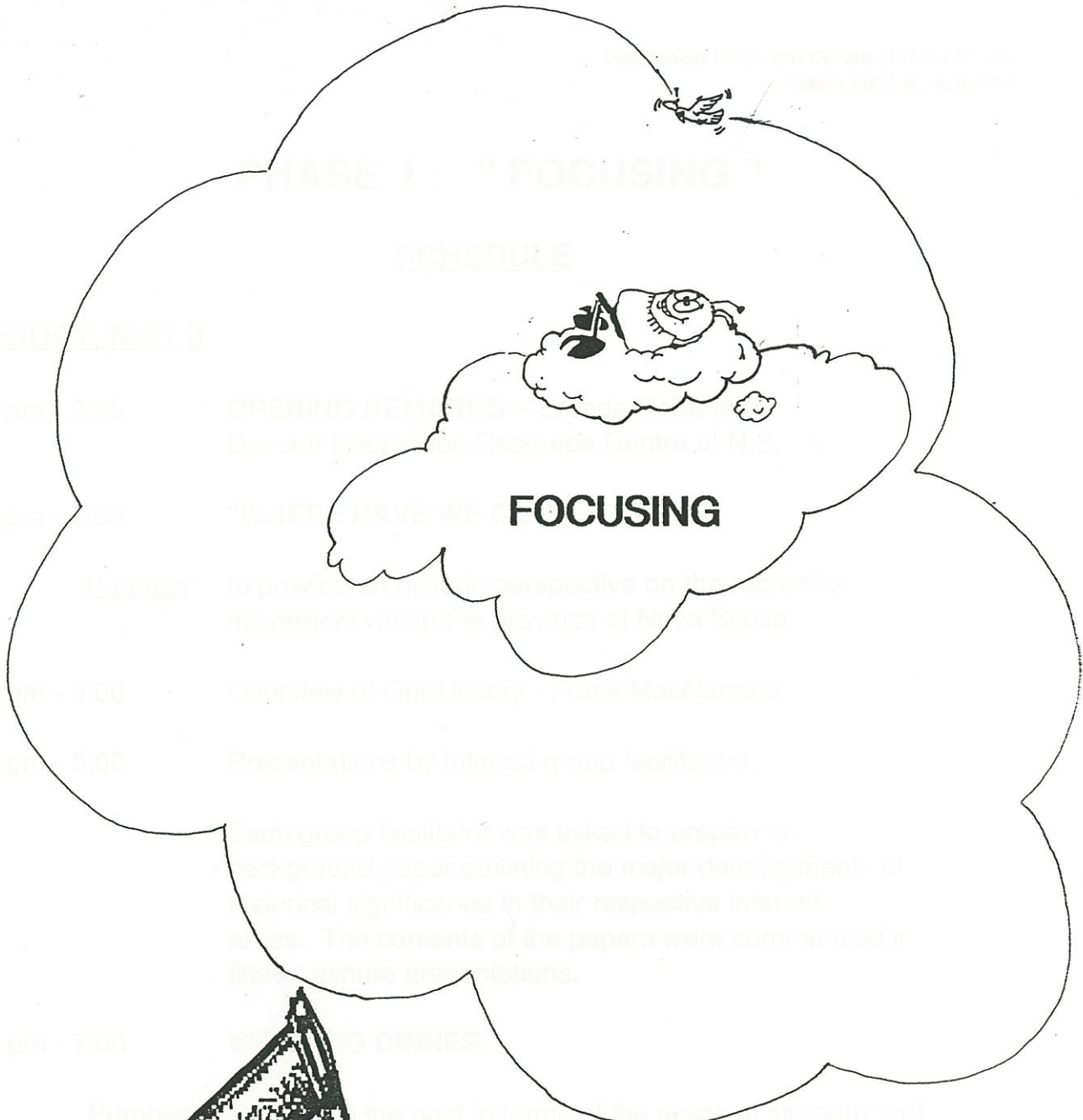
- Sport and Fitness
- Outdoor
- Culture
- Education and Research
- Rural
- Urban

Phase II of the project saw a group consisting of representatives from each of the interest groups meet over a six month period to identify those areas of the visions that were common for all. These themes were extracted and became the components of a global vision.

Phase III, which is presently underway, is firstly to analyze all the data generated from the symposium and extract strategies for each of the components, and, secondly, to brief the provincial organizations which the groups feel to be the key stakeholders in recreation in the province, on the vision and the identified strategies. At that point, they will be invited to become part of an ad hoc group which will meet periodically to monitor our movement towards the vision, sharing information about the work of each respective organization and identifying strategies which can be acted upon collectively.

The purpose of this document is basically to describe the process and present the key points generated through the process. Further detailed information will be made available in subsequent publications.

"VISION 2000" is not only a pathway for the future, it is a road map for today.



# PHASE I, " FOCUSING "

## SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, MAY 3

2:00 pm - 2:15

OPENING REMARKS  
Director, Victoria Resource Centre of N.S.

2:15 pm - 3:00

"W. IER" HAVE WE  
to provide a perspective on the historical  
movement within the province of Nova Scotia

2:15 pm - 3:00

Overview of Our History - Frank Caplan

3:00 pm - 5:00

Presentations by interest group facilitators  
Each group facilitator was asked to prepare a  
background paper outlining the major developments of  
historical significance in their respective interest  
areas. The contents of the papers were summarized in  
brief oral presentations.

5:00 pm - 7:00

WINE DINNER  
Budget for the past in terms of the present origin and  
by interest groups

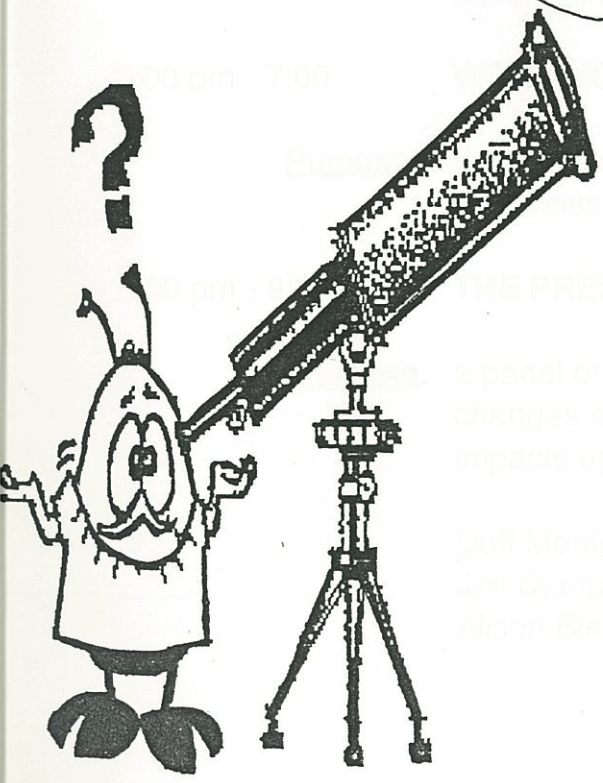
7:00 pm - 8:00

THE PRESENT POSITION OF GOVERNMENT  
A panel of government representatives discussed recent  
changes in the government structure and possible  
impacts upon the field

Duff McGehee  
Jim Campbell  
Alison Bishop

# PHASE I

Tourism and Culture



## PHASE I: " FOCUSING "

### SCHEDULE

#### TUESDAY, MAY 3

2:00 pm - 2:15

**OPENING REMARKS** - Brenda Robertson,  
Director Recreation Resource Centre of N.S.

2:15 pm - 5:00

**"WHERE HAVE WE COME FROM?"**

Purpose: to provide an historic perspective on the recreation  
movement within the province of Nova Scotia.

2:15 pm - 3:00

Overview of Our History - Frank MacNamara

3:00 pm - 5:00

Presentations by interest group facilitators.

Each group facilitator was asked to prepare a  
background paper outlining the major developments of  
historical significance in their respective interest  
areas. The contents of the papers were summarized in  
fifteen minute presentations.

5:00 pm - 7:00

**WORKING DINNER**

Purpose: to analyse the past in terms of the areas of strength and  
weakness by interest groups

7:00 pm - 9:00

**THE PRESENT POSITION OF GOVERNMENT**

Purpose: a panel of government representatives discussed recent  
changes in the government structure and possible  
impacts upon the field.

Duff Montgomerie  
Jim Campbell  
Alison Bishop

Sport and Recreation Commission  
Health and Fitness  
Tourism and Culture

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 4

9:00 am - 12:00

### **TRENDS**

Purpose: to investigate the social and economic trends in the province and the possible impacts upon the interest areas.

9:00 am - 10:00

Current Trends Presentation by Statistics Canada

10:00 am- 12:00

Group Work: interest groups discussed the impacts of the identified trends on their respective areas.

1:00 pm - 4:00

### **DEVELOPING THE VISIONS**

Each interest group was asked to synthesize all the information presented and develop a vision for the year 2000. The group vision consisted of a clearly defined mission statement and a set of goal statements.

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

### **SHARING THE VISIONS**

Each interest group presented its respective vision to the whole group for discussion and debate.

## THURSDAY, MAY 5

9:00 am - 12:00

### **DEVELOPING THE PLAN**

Each interest group identified existing barriers to the achievement of the goals outlined in the vision. Strategies were developed to overcome each of the barriers.

12:00 pm - 2:00

### **CLOSING LUNCHEON**

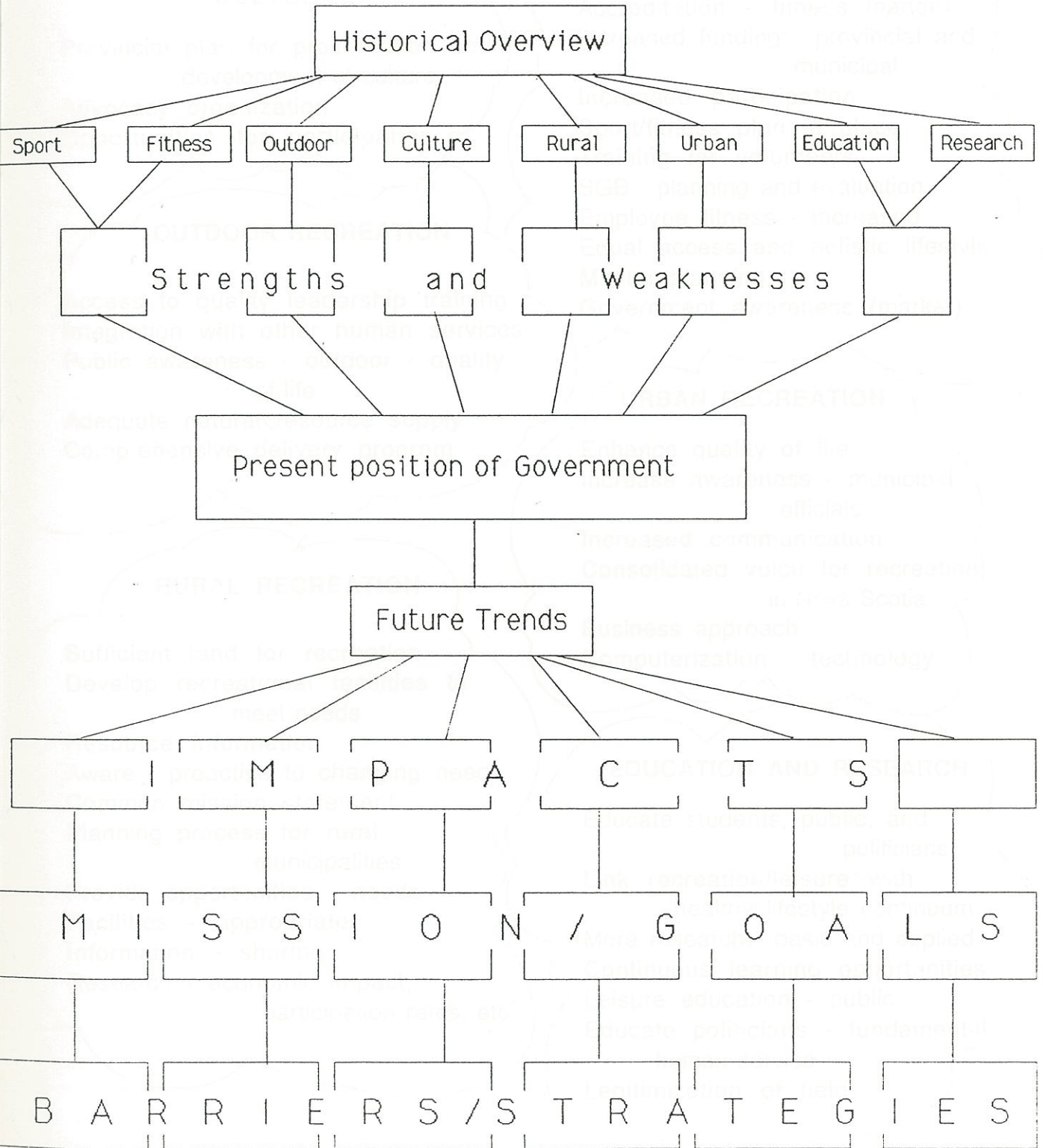
## Symposium Participants

Brenda Robertson	Co-ordinator	VISION 2000
Lyle Davis	Head Facilitator	VISION 2000
Jude Hirsch	Professor	Acadia University
Anthea Bellemare	Consultant	
Peggy Gallant	Professor	St. F.X. University
John Cotton	Rec. Director	Inverness
Alex Wright	Professor	Acadia University
Renee Lyons	Professor	Dalhousie Univ.
Howard Oehman	Rec. Director	Halifax
Jeremy Morgan	Exec. Director	Cultural Federation
Frank MacNamara	Regional Rep.	N.S. Sport/Rec. Comm.
Marilyn Johnston	Rec. Director	Shelburne
Bill Spurr	Regional Rep.	N.S. Sport/Rec. Comm
Jim Archibald	Rec. Director	Windsor
Janet MacKay	Rec. Director	Wolfville
Mike Arthur	Exec. Director	R.A.N.S.
John MacLean	Regional Rep.	N.S. Sport/Rec. Comm
Dave MacLean	Exec. Director	Sport Nova Scotia
Eva Marks Maclsaac	Rec. Director	Colchester County
Dick Hayden	Munic/Special Serv.	N.S. Sport/Rec. Comm
Linda Atkinson	Rec. Director	East Hants County
Karl Nightingale	Rec. Director	Stellarton
Rick Gilbert	Outdoor Co-ord	N.S. Sport/Rec. Comm
Norm Amirault	Rec. Director	Liverpool
Suzanne Castonguay	Rec. Director	Berwick
Susan Markham	Professor	Acadia University
Jean Robinson	Rec. Director	Queens County
Grace Taylor	Rec. Director	N.S. Hospital
Carroll Randall	Rec. Director	Lunenburg County
Gary Longard	Ass't Rec. Dir.	Lunenburg County
Debra Ryan	Rec. Director	Annapolis County
Lavern Slauenwhite	Munic. Councillor	Annapolis County
Anne Marie Fraser	Researcher	N.S. Sport & Rec. Comm



# " FOCUSING" - PHASE I

Spring Symposium  
May 1988



# VISIONS

## CULTURAL

Provincial plan for preservation and development of culture  
Advocacy organization  
Opportunities for participation

## OUTDOOR RECREATION

Access to quality leadership training  
Integration with other human services  
Public awareness - outdoor - quality of life  
Adequate natural resource supply  
Comprehensive delivery program

## RURAL RECREATION

Sufficient land for recreation  
Develop recreational facilities to meet needs  
Resource information  
Aware - proactive to changing needs  
Common mission statement  
Planning process for rural municipalities  
Provide opportunities - needs  
Facilities - appropriate  
Information - sharing  
Research - economic impact, participation rates, etc.

## SPORT AND FITNESS

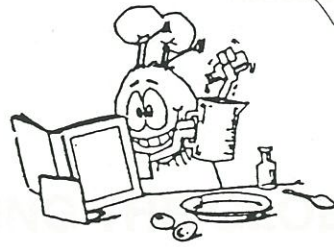
Regional facility cooperation  
Accreditation - fitness leaders  
Increased funding: provincial and municipal  
Increased participation  
Sport/fitness plan in place  
Training for volunteers  
SGB: planning and evaluation  
Employee fitness - increased  
Equal access and holistic lifestyle  
Master planning  
Government awareness (market)

## URBAN RECREATION

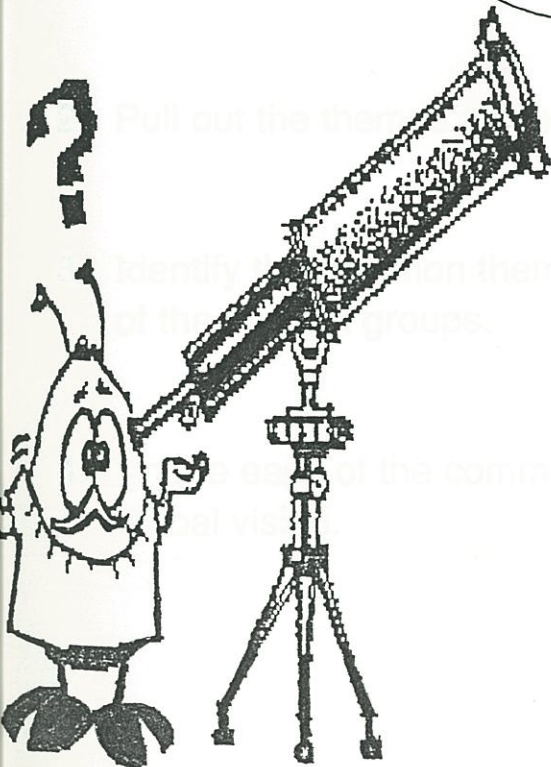
Enhance quality of life  
Increase awareness - municipal officials  
Increased communication  
Consolidated voice for recreation in Nova Scotia  
Business approach  
Computerization - technology

## EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

Educate students, public, and politicians  
Link recreation/leisure with healthy lifestyle continuum  
More research: basic and applied  
Continuous learning opportunities  
Leisure education - public  
Educate politicians - fundamental human service  
Legitimization of field



## DEVELOPING THE GLOBAL VISION



## PHASE II

DEVELOPING THE GLOBAL VISION - PHASE II  
MAY - OCTOBER 1986

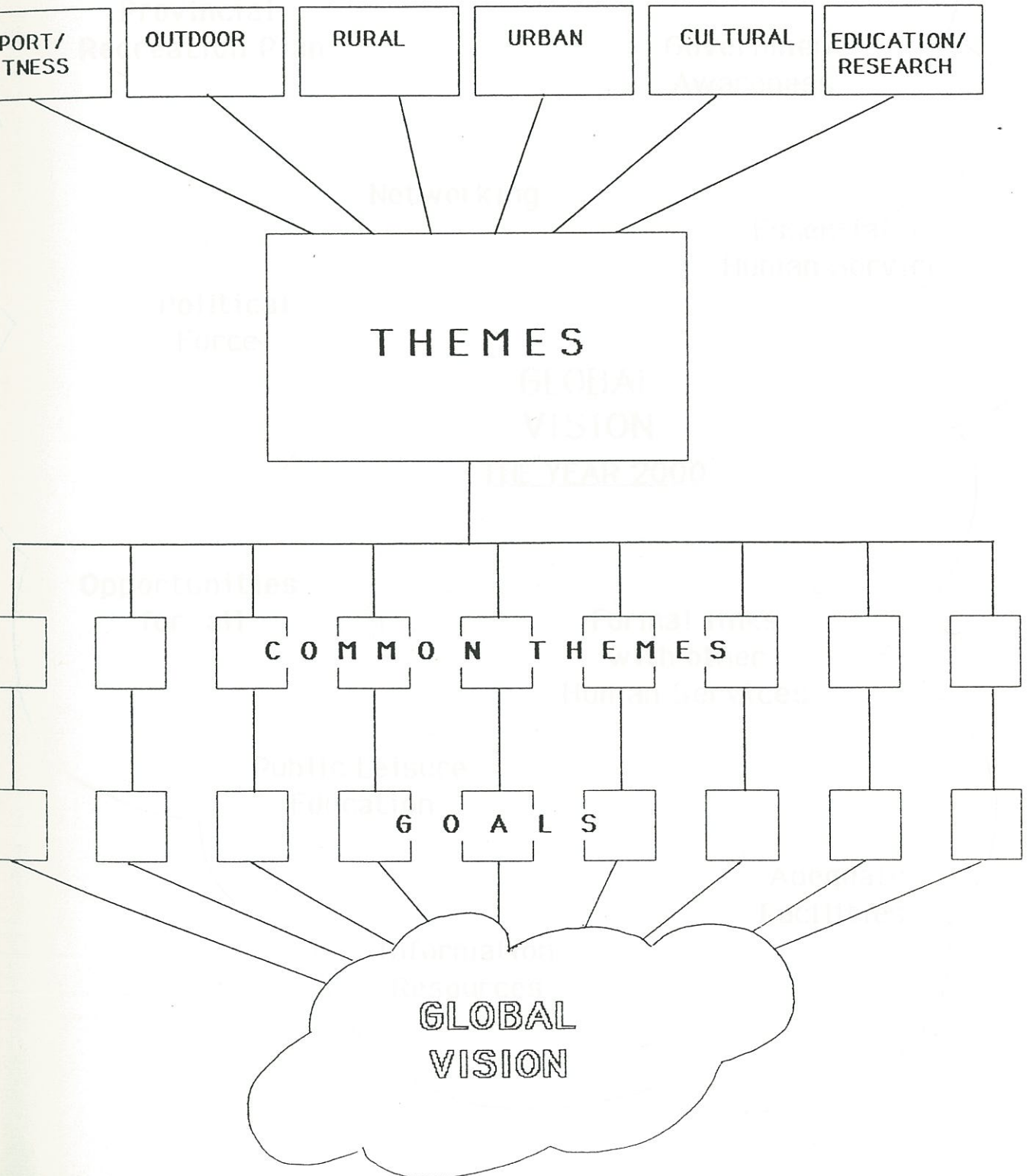
## PHASE II: " DEVELOPING THE GLOBAL VISION "

As a result of the symposium, the delegates felt that there was more work to be done if the vision was to ever become a reality. Therefore, it was agreed that the **Recreation Resource Centre of Nova Scotia** would continue to assume a leadership role by continuing a followup process with a small working committee of representatives from the interest groups. This committee included Brenda Robertson, Lyle Davis, Debby Smith, Frank MacNamara, Dick Hayden, Alex Wright, Rick Gilbert, Howard Oehman, Peggy Gallant, and John Cotton. The process which this committee followed was:

1. Review all documentation from whole and interest group working sessions.
2. Pull out the themes discussed by each interest group
3. Identify the common themes which had been identified by all of the interest groups.
4. Shape each of the common themes into a goal statement for global vision.

# "DEVELOPING THE GLOBAL VISION" - PHASE II

MAY - OCTOBER 1988



**COMPONENTS OF THE GLOBAL VISION FOR RECREATION IN SCOTIA**

**Qualified Leadership**

**Provincial Recreation Plan**

**Government Awareness**

**Networking**

**Essential Human Service**

**Political Force**

**GLOBAL VISION**

**THE YEAR 2000**

**Opportunities for all**

**Formal links with other Human Services**

**Public Leisure Education**

**Adequate Facilities**

**Information Resources**

## **COMPONENTS OF THE GLOBAL VISION FOR RECREATION IN NOVA SCOTIA**

1. There will be opportunities for all Nova Scotians to participate in recreational pursuits of their choice.
2. The public will be educated about the value of leisure in their lives and the opportunity for participation.
3. Recreation will be recognized as an essential service.
4. Formal links will be developed with other human service fields, including education and health.
5. Governments will be aware of the role and importance of recreation in the quality of life of all Nova Scotians.
6. The recreation field will have a strong presence and advocacy role in influencing policy and decision making.
7. There will be qualified, competent leaders to ensure the delivery of all recreation programmes and services.
8. Adequate facilities and open spaces will exist to meet the recreational needs of Nova Scotians.
9. Pertinent informational resources will be readily available to the population.
10. There will be an effective networking and consultation system for recreation services.
11. There will be a provincial plan for recreation developed in consultation with the stakeholders.

## VISION 2000 Component Details

**COMPONENT # 1: There will be opportunities for all Nova Scotians to participate in recreational pursuits of their choice**

Members of the Vision 2000 project recognized the fact that not all Nova Scotians have had opportunities to participate in recreational pursuits of their choice. From the disabled to ethnic minorities to senior citizens, access to recreational pursuits is either consciously or unconsciously inhibited by a number of factors. The focus of this component is to identify the inhibiting factors, and to work toward the elimination of them by the year 2000.

## VISION 2000 Component Details

**COMPONENT # 2: The public will be educated about the value of leisure in their lives and the opportunity for participation**

Leisure education has become a topic of considerable interest to both educators and recreation professionals alike. There is a growing awareness in both of these groups that just having leisure does not mean that one can "use" it. Nova Scotians need to learn how to make meaningful leisure choices, and how to capitalize upon opportunities for leisure participation. This knowledge can enhance and enrich the lives of all Nova Scotians and will help to ensure that the opportunities for leisure participation which are being provided by recreation professionals and volunteers will be utilized.



## VISION 2000 Component Details

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**COMPONENT # 3: Recreation will be recognized as an essential human service**

The starting point for many important funding and policy decisions for and about recreation must begin with the recognition that the provision of recreation opportunities, programs, and services for all Nova Scotians is an essential function. This recognition is important to a number of strata of Nova Scotian society. Individual citizens, through experience, education, and other means, must recognize the essential nature of recreation. The cumulative effect of this should be the communication of this belief to local, regional, and provincial bureaucrats and politicians.

**COMPONENT # 4: Formal links will be developed with other human service fields, including education and health**

Linking recreation with other human services recognizes the multi-disciplinary nature of the field. The need to develop a network was prompted, in part, by the dissolution of the Nova Scotia Department of Culture, Recreation, and Fitness. VISION 2000 participants endorsed not only the concept of developing strong links between the components of the former department, but also the forging of bonds outside the normal purview of recreation. The resulting network would help to: a) eliminate duplication of similar programs and service, b) reinforce the "voice" of recreation in the province, and c) allow for co-operative ventures aimed at enhancing the quality of life of all Nova Scotians.

**COMPONENT # 5: Governments will be aware of the role and importance of recreation in the quality of life of all Nova Scotians**

Because of the predominantly public nature of recreation in this province, the field is dependant upon government at the municipal, regional, and provincial levels. This situation and the need to advance the field, necessitate that government representatives be well aware of both the role and the importance of recreation in the lives of Nova Scotians.

**COMPONENT # 6: The recreation field will have a strong presence and advocacy role in influencing policy and decision-making**

As is often the case with de-centralized organization of many components, recreation does not have a strong unified presence in Nova Scotia. This situation results, in many cases, in the recreation field reacting to policies and decisions instead of being part of the formulation process. The future of recreation in the province depends, to a great extent, on the development of a strong presence which can speak out for the recreational needs of Nova Scotians and for the profession itself.

**COMPONENT # 7: There will be qualified, competent leaders to ensure the delivery of all recreation programs and services**

Good leadership is vital to the provision of quality recreation experiences. The presence of qualified, competent leaders not only provides for safe, enjoyable recreation activities, but also helps to instill participants with such positive qualities as co-operation, commitment, and responsibility; all hallmarks of good citizenship

**COMPONENT # 8: Adequate facilities and open spaces will exist to meet the recreational needs of Nova Scotians**

The provision of adequate facilities and open spaces in Nova Scotia will help to ensure that there will be a place or a space for both organized recreation programs and unstructured leisure opportunities. As more and more Nova Scotia municipalities embark upon Master Plans for their future development, the need to ensure that adequate facilities and open spaces are provided and planned for is intensified.

**COMPONENT # 9: Pertinent information resources will be available to the population**

This decade has been termed "the beginning of the information age." The level of sophistication of information generation and manipulation has risen to a point of unprecedented simplicity. Recreationists must generate information about their field in a form that makes it accessible to citizens as well as to other recreationists. This information will help the field to learn more about itself, and will help Nova Scotians discover satisfying recreational opportunities.

**COMPONENT # 10: There will be an effective networking and consultation system for recreation services**

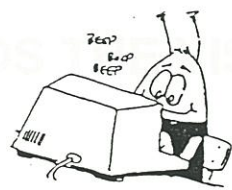
This component emerged on the basis of three points. Firstly, the province of Nova Scotia is characterized predominantly by rural areas and fairly isolated population centers. The ability of recreationists to stay in touch with each other on a regular basis is hampered by this geographical reality. Secondly, the provincial body overseeing recreation in Nova Scotia is now split into three entities. The increased distance between component parts of the provincial administrative body and between those whom it serves also inhibits effective communication. Finally, with a situation of scarce fiscal and human resources, such as is the case in Nova Scotia, recreationists cannot afford to duplicate efforts, programs, or services. Without efficient regular communication and consultation, resources will be wasted. An effective networking system would address all of these points and help to resolve other communication issues as they arise.

**COMPONENT # 11: There will be a provincial plan for recreation developed in consultation with the stakeholders**

The obvious next step in the VISION 2000 project was to ensure that the hard work and thought of the participants in this process was put to good use. The "vision" and subsequent strategies developed by those participants formed the starting point for the development of a provincial plan for recreation to the year 2000. Again, because of the multi-faceted nature of the recreation field, it was deemed appropriate that the plan be developed and implemented in consultation with the various groups and individuals who have a major "stake" in the future of recreation in Nova Scotia.

# MOVING TOWARDS THE VISION

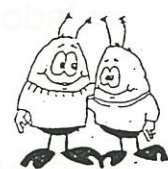
Research



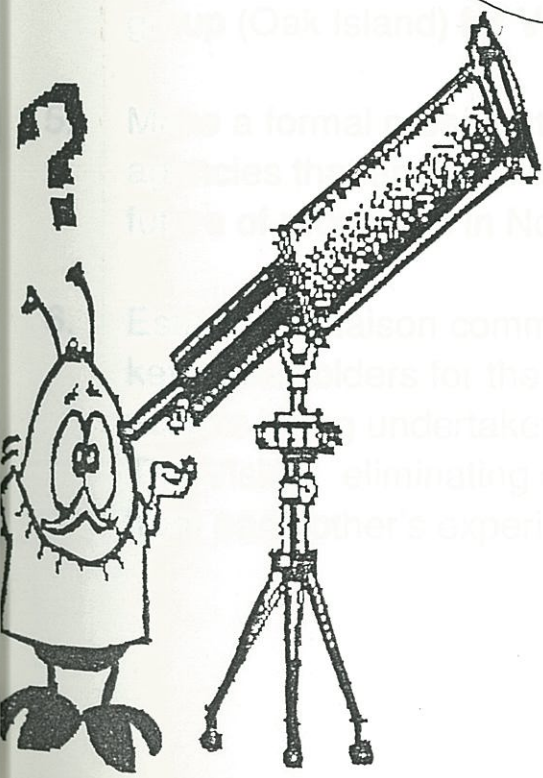
Education



Co-operation



Government



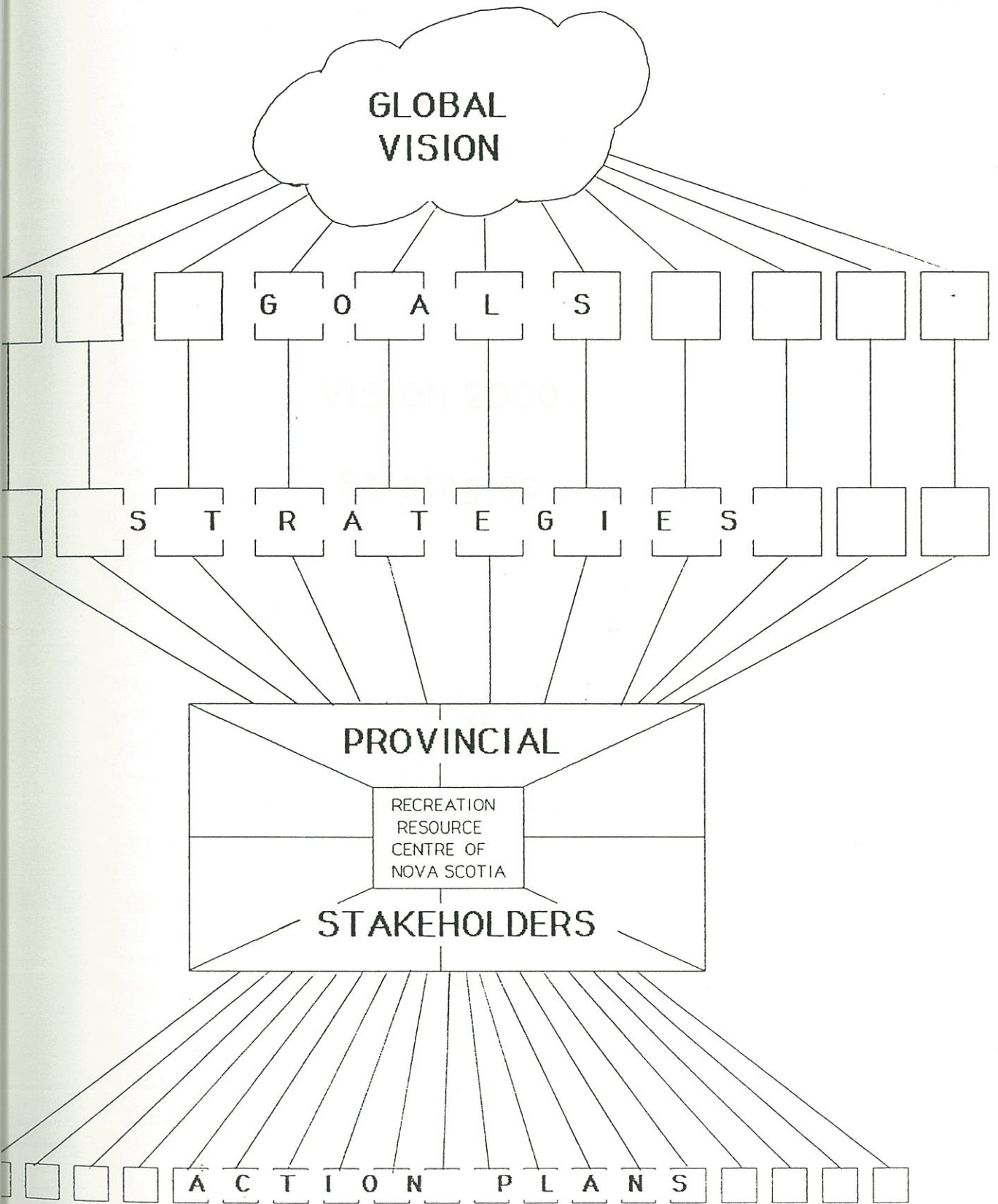
# PHASE III

## PHASE III: " MOVING TOWARDS THE VISION "

Once the global vision had been developed, the committee needed to address how the "recreation movement" could proceed toward realizing the vision. The process followed was:

1. Pull out the identified strategies from the work of the interest groups for each component (goal) of the global vision.
2. Identify the common strategies which had been developed by the interest groups.
3. Develop strategies for each of the components of the global vision.
4. Receive endorsement from the original members of the group (Oak Island) for VISION 2000.
5. Make a formal presentation of VISION 2000 to the Provincial agencies that are considered to be key stakeholders in the future of recreation in Nova Scotia.
6. Establish a liaison committee with representatives of the key stakeholders for the purpose of sharing information on actions being undertaken by their respective agencies re: The Vision; eliminating duplication of effort; and learning from each other's experiences.

"MOVING TOWARDS THE VISION" - PHASE III





COMPONENT # 1 There will be opportunities for all Nova Scotians to participate in recreational pursuits of their choice.

## STRATEGIES

### 1. Baseline:

- will be done to identify needs, interests and opportunities for all segments of the population in Nova Scotia
- identify perceptions, by various groups, of recreational opportunities
- assess leisure awareness of various groups of Nova Scotians
- investigate how recreation knowledge translates into leisure behaviour
- information will be available to the population as required
- information sources (by category) will be identified
- target group information searching behaviour will be investigated.
- programs and services currently offered to specific target groups will be catalogued to identify gaps and duplications.

## VISION 2000

## Strategies

### 2. Co-operation:

- will be promoted and developed among private, commercial and municipal recreation providers as well as school and continuing education organizations to ensure that all Nova Scotians have access to recreation opportunities.
- methods of inter-agency co-operation will be investigated to attain benefits/disadvantages/etc

### 3. Government:

- will become a prime target group for lobbying efforts on behalf of recreational opportunities for all Nova Scotians
- social service lobbying procedures/strategies will be investigated
- Nova Scotians will be encouraged to lobby on behalf of recreation in the province
- Government will undertake affirmative action initiatives to ensure equity for all Nova Scotians

**COMPONENT # 1: There will be opportunities for all Nova Scotians to participate in recreational pursuits of their choice.**

**STRATEGIES:**

**1. Research:**

- will be done to identify needs, interests and opportunities for all segments of the population in Nova Scotia
- look into perceptions, by various groups, of recreational opportunities
- assess leisure awareness level of various groups of Nova Scotians
- investigate how recreation/leisure attitudes/knowledge translates into leisure behaviour.
- information will be available for dissemination as required
- information sources (by target group) will be identified
- target group information searching behaviour will be investigated.
- programs and services currently offered to specific target groups will be catalogued to identify gaps and duplications.

**2. Co-operation:**

- will be promoted and developed among private, commercial and municipal recreation providers as well as school and continuing education organizations to ensure that all Nova Scotians have access to recreation opportunities.
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- Government will undertake affirmative action initiatives to ensure equity for all Nova Scotians.

#### 4. Education:

- institutions with programs of studies in recreation will provide course offerings which address the topic of Leisure and Individuals with Special Needs, ie. seniors, individuals in correctional institutions, individuals with physical or mental disabilities.
- provide courses in lobbying, advocacy, policy making
- institutions will provide, in programming courses, alternative methods of program development designed to meet needs of all Nova Scotians.
- leisure education programs in the public school system will create an awareness of the benefits of recreation and its importance in people's lives.

#### 2. Cooperation:

- will be developed and promoted among public recreation agencies, the sponsored sector, schools and continuing education agencies to ensure that leisure awareness and education are heightened among all Nova Scotians.

#### 3. Government:

- Leisure programs will become targets for leisure education/awareness and awareness for it among many Nova Scotians.
- the Minister responsible for Sport and Recreation will encourage Nova Scotians to learn about leisure and the opportunities available.
- it will be included in the public schools.
- included in teacher training.
- leisure education opportunities will be provided for those not in schools, i.e. seniors, unemployed, etc.

**COMPONENT # 2: The public will be educated about the value of leisure in their lives and the opportunity for participation.**

**STRATEGIES**

1. Research:

- will be done to further investigate the value of leisure as perceived by various segments of the population.
- the value of leisure from an interdisciplinary perspective will be investigated (sociological, psychological, geographical, economic, political, medical, technological)
- attitudes/benefits of leisure as seen by a cross-section of population will be researched.
- information will be available for dissemination as required.
- an historical view of participation, by Nova Scotians, in leisure activities will be developed.
- a directory of leisure opportunities in Nova Scotia will be developed.
- will be initiated to investigate the incorporation of leisure education into the public school curriculum.

2. Co-operation:

- will be developed and promoted among public recreation agencies, the corporated sector, schools and continuing education agencies to ensure that leisure awareness and education are heightened among all Nova Scotians.

3. Government:

- Legislators will become targets for leisure education/awareness and the need for it among many Nova Scotians.
- the Minister responsible for Sport and Recreation will encourage Nova Scotians to learn about leisure and the opportunities available.
- must get in the public schools
- must get in teacher training.
- leisure education oppotunities will be provided for those not in schools ie. seniors, unemployed, etc.

4. Education:

- Institutions at the elementary and secondary levels will be encouraged to incorporate leisure education into their curriculum.
- provincial media (TV, news, radio) will be encouraged to develop leisure education/opportunities features
- continuing education agencies will be encouraged to offer education for leisure programs
- leisure education programs will be encouraged at the municipal program offering level.
- service clubs and other volunteer agencies will be encouraged to promote leisure education/awareness among their causes.
- business owners will be encouraged to provide leisure education as an employee benefit.
- pre-retirement seminars will incorporate leisure education.
- post-secondary institutions will offer leisure education courses to all students.
- leisure education courses will become a mandatory component in Recreation, Physical Education and teacher preparation curriculae.
- multiple methods of educating about leisure must be explored including videos, sign interpretation, braille materials, etc.

### COMPONENT # 3: **Recreation will be recognized as an essential service.**

#### STRATEGIES

##### 1. Research:

- will be done to demonstrate the essential role of recreation to individuals and society.
- The value of leisure from an interdisciplinary perspective will be investigated (sociological, psychological, geographical, economic, political, medical, technological)
- benefits of leisure as seen by a cross-section of population will be researched.
- will be conducted into the economic impacts of recreation
- the importance of wellness and quality of life will be studied from a holistic perspective.

##### 2. Co-operation:

- in a public education campaign on the value of recreation will be sought among all providers of recreation program offerings.
- providers of recreation services will work more closely with the providers of other essential human services such as health, social services, education, etc.

##### 3. Government:

- will be the target of information regarding the essential role of recreation in the lives of all Nova Scotians
- investigate constitutional ramifications of having recreation decreed as an essential service/right
- investigate "International Year of Leisure Awareness" declaration
- Sport & Recreation to work with other Government departments to educate them that it is essential

##### 4. Education:

- Government officials and decision makers will be educated about the value to recreation through multiple means

**COMPONENT # 4: Formal links will be developed with other human service fields, including education and health.**

**STRATEGIES**

1. Research:
  - will be jointly undertaken by health and education.
  - investigate linking advantages and disadvantages from past
  - investigate needs/wants which other fields might wish to satisfy through recreation link
  - investigate needs/wants which recreation might satisfy through links with other fields.
  
2. Co-operation:
  - will be promoted and developed through networking links with departments of:
    - health and fitness
    - education
    - advanced education and technical training
    - tourism and culture
    - environment/lands and forests
    - social services (community services)
  
3. Government:
  - will be targeted for position papers on the integrated role of recreation.
  - investigate methods of establishing formal links between Sport & Recreation and other related departments (as above)

#### 4. Education:

- institutions will be encouraged to incorporate leisure education into health and education curricula.
- other departments, which may have a link with recreation, will be targeted for education programs - help to rationalize the links which may be forged.
- Recreation information resources must be made available to those in other human services fields through newsletters, conference sessions, seminars, etc.
- education of recreation professionals about the other human service fields, also.



**COMPONENT # 5: Governments will be aware of the role and importance of recreation in the quality of life of all Nova Scotians.**

**STRATEGIES**

1. Research:

- Data base will be developed which clearly depicts the political reality of recreation:
- have as many statistics as possible broken down by region and by municipality
- also have comparative statistics with other provinces
- quantitative accounting of people's attitudes toward recreation
- development of a political history of recreation in N.S.
- information will be disseminated in attractive packages
- information will be easily accessed by those attempting to achieve Component #5.

2. Government:

- will be encouraged to recognize the leadership role of the coalition of provincial organizations.
- at the provincial and municipal levels will become the target of a recreation awareness campaign which should include a meeting with the caucus of each of the three major parties, and invitations to municipal councillors and M.L.A.'s to attend recreation events.

3. Co-operation:

- Tourism & Culture and Health & Fitness; Education; Advanced Education; Senior Citizen Secretariat will be encouraged to actively promote the recreation aspect of their mandate and have their voice heard when political/economic decisions are being made.

**COMPONENT # 6: The recreation field will have a strong presence and advocacy in influencing policy and decision making.**

**STRATEGIES**

1. Research:

- seek out the names of individuals/departments most effective in accomplishing Component #6
- investigate past recreation lobbying/advocacy efforts in Nova Scotia and in other provinces

2. Co-operation:

- and leadership will be required to develop a collective voice for recreation.
- recreation advocates at the municipal, regional, provincial and federal levels must co-operate to ensure synergistic efforts.

3. Government:

- legislators will be made aware of the presence and role of the collective voice (coalition) in flagging issues and recommending policy.

4. Education:

- programs will be developed for recreation staff and volunteers re:
  - community development and organization
  - advocacy
  - political process
  - law
- programs similar to above will be developed for coalition members.
- institutions offering recreation study programs will educate their students on the topics of:
  - community development and organization
  - advocacy
  - policy-making
  - law
- education sessions for recreation providers on how to be an effective advocate.

**COMPONENT # 7: There will be qualified, competent leaders to ensure the delivery of all recreation programmes and services.**

**STRATEGIES:**

**1. Research:**

- will continue to assess leadership needs, effectiveness, and standards
- literature will be available through R.R.C.N.S. on current leadership trends/needs/standards
- investigate the meaning of "qualified" and "competent" for each area of interest
- will be disseminated as required
- research will be directed toward developing leadership profiles to aid recreation organizations in acquiring qualified, competent leaders

**2. Co-operation:**

- will be nurtured through an on-going forum linking practitioners and university professional training programs in order to communicate the skills, knowledge and behaviour needed by recreation professionals.
- professional development efforts: organizations will work together to avoid conflict, to co-operate on efforts
- need to decide what organization is best suited to provide what level of professional development
- between university recreation schools and their respective continuing education departments to provide relevant and flexible programs to meet professional development needs
- role of volunteer (professional partnership will continue to be promoted).

3. Government:

- will be lobbied for contributions of resources for on-going professional development
- will be lobbied for increased funding for universities offering recreation programs of study
- continue to assist with funding of leadership programs and initiatives.

4. Education:

- programs for volunteers, by R.A.N.S., should continue - expand through regional staff promoting the programs and carrying out workshops
- curriculum planning for leadership and professional development will incorporate research re: profiles, and combine with needs of organization
- curriculum planning seminars will be encouraged for all organizations providing (or thinking of providing) leadership or professional development seminars/courses
- programs will be developed for board members and commission/committee members
- programs for volunteers should be incorporated into professional conferences
- of fitness leaders should be developed with standards, certification, and leadership training.
- of recreation management employers will be developed to address the types and extent of preparation and support services recreation professionals require in order to carry out their mandate
- of employers as to need for professional development of staff - time/money
- of volunteers about their need for volunteer development
- of professionals to understand the concept, responsibilities, etc., of 'professional'
- of volunteers in methods of personnel evaluation designed to assess their staff
- recreation professionals'/leaders' professional development needs will be assessed in an on-going manner

**COMPONENT # 8: Adequate facilities and open spaces will exist to meet the recreational needs of Nova Scotians**

**STRATEGIES:**

1. Research:

- will be undertaken as the basis for the construction of a recreation facility development plan for the Province of Nova Scotia (including retro-fitting, re-designing and new facility construction)
  - innovative ideas
  - trends
  - information available
- will investigate the needs of Nova Scotians (including standards of service) to assess the extent to which existing facilities can/should be able to meet the demand for facilities
- information regarding facility and land use provision in other provinces will be "unearthed"
- an attempt will be made to define "adequate" and to establish whether current levels of provision are "adequate" or not
- research the idea of a regional concept for the provision of major facilities within the province
- design and management of facilities to meet the needs of all Nova Scotians

2. Co-operation:

- on a regional basis will be encouraged for facility development and land use.
- networking between facility's designers and managers
- with environment people about the state of natural environment for recreation
- between private/commercial/public facilities
- on accessibility to facilities and open spaces will be encouraged through a network among recreation, municipal affairs, lands and forests, and Parks Canada

## **COMPONENT # 9: Pertinent information resources will be available to the population**

### **STRATEGIES:**

#### **1. Research:**

- ways and means of developing a computer network linking:
  - Recreation Resource Centre of Nova Scotia with regional centres
  - resource data bases in the province
- investigate sources most often used by various publics to obtain leisure related information
- investigate the kinds of related information required/sought by various segments of the population
- investigate how information should be "packaged" for various publics
- develop data bases involving inventories of community resources for use at the municipal level as well as various user-friendly means of accessing

#### **2. Co-operation:**

- will be nurtured between the recreation community and the N.S. Library Association
- will be nurtured among agencies which generate or disseminate pertinent information to share information with each other and eliminate duplication of effort
- encourage agencies above to communicate regularly to ascertain information gaps and who best can fill them

#### **3. Government:**

- ensure access to information services to Nova Scotians through the Recreation Resource Centre of Nova Scotia
- a formalized regular information link will be established with decision/policy makers at all levels of government
- funding for information network data base development

**COMPONENT # 10: There will be an effective networking and consultation system for recreation services**

**STRATEGIES:**

1. Research:

- will be undertaken to investigate the most appropriate methods by which to develop effective networks and meet the information needs of various members
- will be undertaken to identify the current methods of networking/consultation and the effectiveness of each

2. Co-operation:

- will be fostered among the following to ensure the networking of information among members:
  - libraries
  - cultural organizations
  - sport organizations
  - private organizations
  - institutional recreation
  - corrections
  - Armed Forces
- network mechanisms will include:
  - conferences
  - professional development
  - written communication
  - coalition building
- efforts will need to be spearheaded by a co-ordinating person/organization

COMPONENT # 11: There will be a provincial plan for recreation developed in consultation with the

3. Government:

- legislators will be lobbied to provide financial resources to facilitate the establishment of networks
- will become a member of the network to give and receive information.

1. Research:

4. Education:

- recreation students and providers will be taught about the importance of networking and effective networking skills.

2. Co-operation:

will be promoted to establish a working committee for the development and implementation of a planning process. The working committee is to be representative of recreation throughout the province, and should include representatives from:

- R.C.D.N.S.
- R.A.N.S.
- P.C.D.N.S.
- S.N.S.

Planning process should incorporate the following:

3. Government:

will be encouraged to support (in-kind and financially) the development and implementation of a provincial plan

4. Education:

public should be educated as to the need for a provincial plan and the need to support it - a their input and encouragement



**COMPONENT # 11: There will be a provincial plan for recreation developed in consultation with the stakeholders.**

**STRATEGIES:**

1. Research:

- stakeholders will be polled to identify the needs/wants which they would have for a provincial plan.
- other provincial plans - successes/pitfalls

2. Co-operation:

- will be promoted to establish a working committee committed to the development and implementation of a planning process. This working committee is to be representative of recreation throughout the province, and should include representatives from:

R.C.D.N.S.	Dalhousie
R.A.N.S.	Acadia
R.C.D.N.S.	C.F.N.S.
S.N.S.	

- planning process should incorporate input from public as well

3. Government:

- will be encouraged to support (morally and financially) the development and implementation of a provincial plan

4. Education:

- public should be educated as to the need for a provincial plan and the need to support it via their input and encouragement