

ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION -

Regional Development

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

- Physical
- Political
- Economic
- Virtual

LOGISTICAL ISSUES

- Power
- Transport
- Technologies
- Staffing

MARKET ACCESS ISSUES

- Niche or bulk
- Specialist niches
- Access to relevant markets

COMMUNITY ISSUES

- First nation involvement
- Planning processes
- Values of Residents
- Level of present vs. future development

CONCLUSIONS



ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Physical Environment

- Topography
- Climate
- Natural vs. Built Environment
- Access to water
- Access to power
- Transport Options

Political Environment

- Stability or lack of in government decision making
- Sectional interests influences in decision making
- Local, regional and international pressure points
- Access to decision makers at all levels of government
- Transparency or lack of in decision making
- Planning for the future

Economic Environment

- Access to suitable forms of capital
- Interest rates
- Policy frameworks / economic controls
- Currency levels , impacts on importing and exporting
- International influences
- Range and depth of different economic sectors

Virtual Environment

- e commerce availability
- level of artificial intelligence applications
- level of skills base of knowledge workers
- scalability of Communications infrastructure
- security and suitability of virtual environment
- location of Centres of Technological excellence

LOGISTICAL ISSUES

Power

- types of power available
- consistency of supply
- costs of accessing different types of power
- capacity of infrastructure to deliver level of power required
- power storage options
- support for innovations in creating and delivering new sustainable sources of power

Transport

- road
- rail
- air
- sea
- publicly owned
- privately owned

Technologies

- range locally available
- support services
- business requirements
- resident requirements
- area specific
- integration of available technologies

Staffing

- accommodation options
- attractions of area
- level of medical , professional and human services
- fly in /fly out or resident in area
- level of skills required
- educational and recreational opportunities

MARKET ACCESS ISSUES

Niche or bulk

- capacity to service highly specialized niche markets
- high value added products and services that are feasible given a regional location
- government marketing support
- availability of infrastructure to support large runs of manufactured products
- transport options for supplying bulk market sectors
- professional services available in region

Specialist niches

- neurological instrumentation with AI tools
- unique equipment for unique environments
- robotics software and decision making software for use in legal ,accounting and engineering professional practices
- multi purpose building equipment for use where foundations need to be created
- water safety systems for harsh climatic conditions

Access to national and global markets

- government preference for regional products and services
- trade promotion services
- development of international co -operatives, networks of buyers and providers on a government to government level , as well as encouragement of business co-operatives, formal and informal
- publications that list products and services available by region
- facilitation of counter trade transactions, regulatory framework for financial transactions with overseas suppliers and buyers.
- enforcement of anti -dumping and quality standards for both imports and exports

COMMUNITY ISSUES

First Nation Involvement

- encourage respectful collaborations between local first nation people and the wider community, so that the traditional skills and knowledge of such people can be recognized and valued
- provide training for first nation people in applying that skill and knowledge for the benefit of the whole community
- facilitate cross cultural workshops, where all ethnic groups can share their traditions and knowledge
- provide opportunities for the story tellers among the first nation people to make multi -media presentations , for stories that are allowed by their elders and senior people to share
- identify opportunities for first nation people who are artists to work with artists from other cultures to showcase the role of artists in business
- encourage language centres where first nation languages can be taught

Planning processes

- communicate , communicate , communicate with all what developments are proposed
- present to all a business case for each development , with the benefits and changes required highlighted
- develop workshops, where local council staff, councillors and service providers can develop regional and local plans for exhibition to the rest of the community
- encourage local business operators to suggest new enterprises that will create employment and other opportunities for the region
- wherever appropriate , offer flexibility in applying rules and regulations
- set quality and probity benchmarks for all developments

Values of Residents

- appoint Community Development Officers , who live in the community they serve and are responsive to the expressed values of the community
- undertake a community values mapping process every three years, as values and population can change over that time
- include a values matching process in any development proposed
- identify the range of volunteer needs and match people with relevant skills, talents and abilities with needs
- consider the feasibility of establishing new infrastructure that would add to the amenity of an area.
- facilitate community events that enable people in the community to meet together in a social environment

Levels of Present VS, Future Development

- what is the current level and state of built environment ?
- what is extent of use of the natural environment ?
- prepare business , environment and population demographics for each region , current and projected
- identify what new infrastructure , impacts of this on natural environment , will be required to service current needs, then do the same for projections
- discuss with all areas in the region whether they should specialize, for example arts and crafts, tourism , sporting events etc.
- quantify water, power and housing needs , both present and projected

CONCLUSIONS

- (1) Regional Development is an on -going process , not a set and forget exercise
- (2) A blend of built, social , financial and emotional capital is required, so that an appropriate psychosocial culture is created and then sustained
- (3) The role of government is one that requires enabling , facilitating, encouraging and at times funding to allow regions to be communities , rather than political footballs
- (4) Clear , transparent communication of policy goals and objectives between government, business, community members and developers offers the best chance of creating and sustaining viable, cohesive communities

END OF DOCUMENT
