



# Summary of East Algoma Community Values to Guide the Economic Development Mission

As derived from the Community Workshops in October 2011

East Algoma  
Economic Development  
Strategic Plan 

Prepared by:



# Community Values to Guide the Economic Development Mission

*Summary of the Outcomes from all Five Communities*

## Summary of the Outcomes of Community Values to Guide the Economic Development Mission

Reviewing and comparing the expressed Community Values for all five jurisdictions is more than an academic exercise. The close proximity of the five Communities creates a caveat as well as opening the door to some broader opportunities.

### The Caveat

“Your rights end where mine begin”. Changes in one of the communities may have implications for a neighbouring community; if the expressed Values conflict from one locale to another, then this may create acrimony between the people affected. For example, a smoke-stack in one place may have a visual and environmental impact on another, which is likely to cause conflict if the Values differ on this point.

### The Opportunity

Where the Values and the present conditions are similar then resources may be pooled a broader regional initiatives towards realising these common Values. This may enable more effective and efficient initiatives to be conceived and implemented.

The results are displayed in the charts, with explanatory notes where necessary. In creating the analysis, the Values expressed by the Community were grouped once more into themes but at higher levels. For example, all concerns relating to the environment were grouped, those relating to business and industry similarly consolidated, and so on. This was done to gain a broader picture and in no manner dilutes the individual elements. Where there are clearly conflicting aspects between Communities then it is possible to “dig down” to examine the details and attempt to find resolutions if need be. Where there is no conflict then such further analysis is not required. Once more, the observation point is from that of economic development and the implications thereon. *The numbers will not add to 100% since we have not shown “All Others”.*

Please do review, critique and improve this through feedback to the Consultants. Comments and input on any and all aspects of the project would also be very welcome. Details on how to do this are on the last page.

Thank you,

  
**George Schrijver**  
WCM Consulting

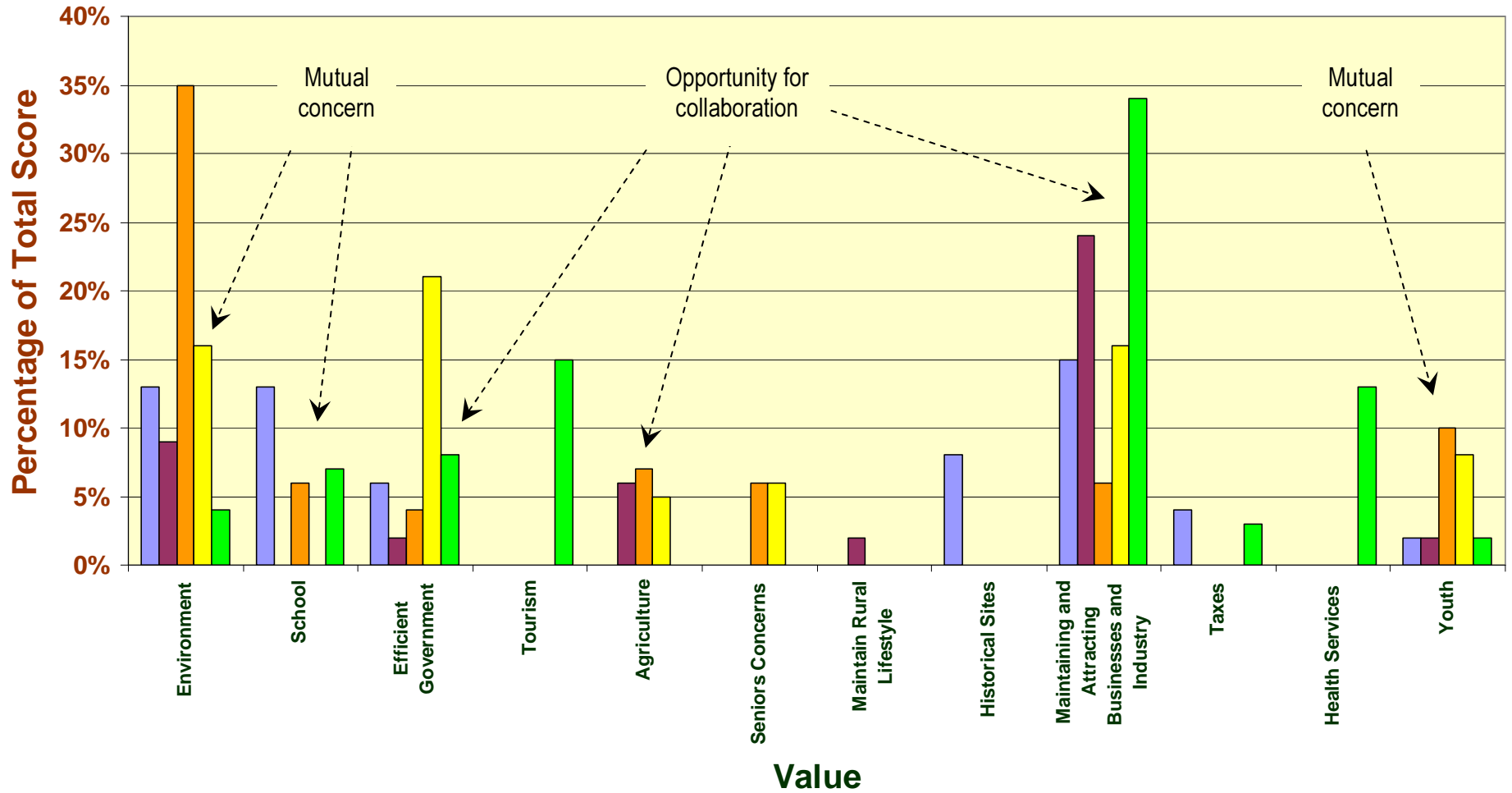
  
**Greg Bender**  
MMM Group

# Community Values to Guide the Economic Development Mission

Summary of the Outcomes from all Five Communities

## East Algoma Summary of Key Community Values

■ Bruce Mines   
 ■ Huron Shores   
 ■ Johnson   
 ■ Plummer Additional   
 ■ Thessalon



# Community Values to Guide the Economic Development Mission

## Summary of the Outcomes from all Five Communities

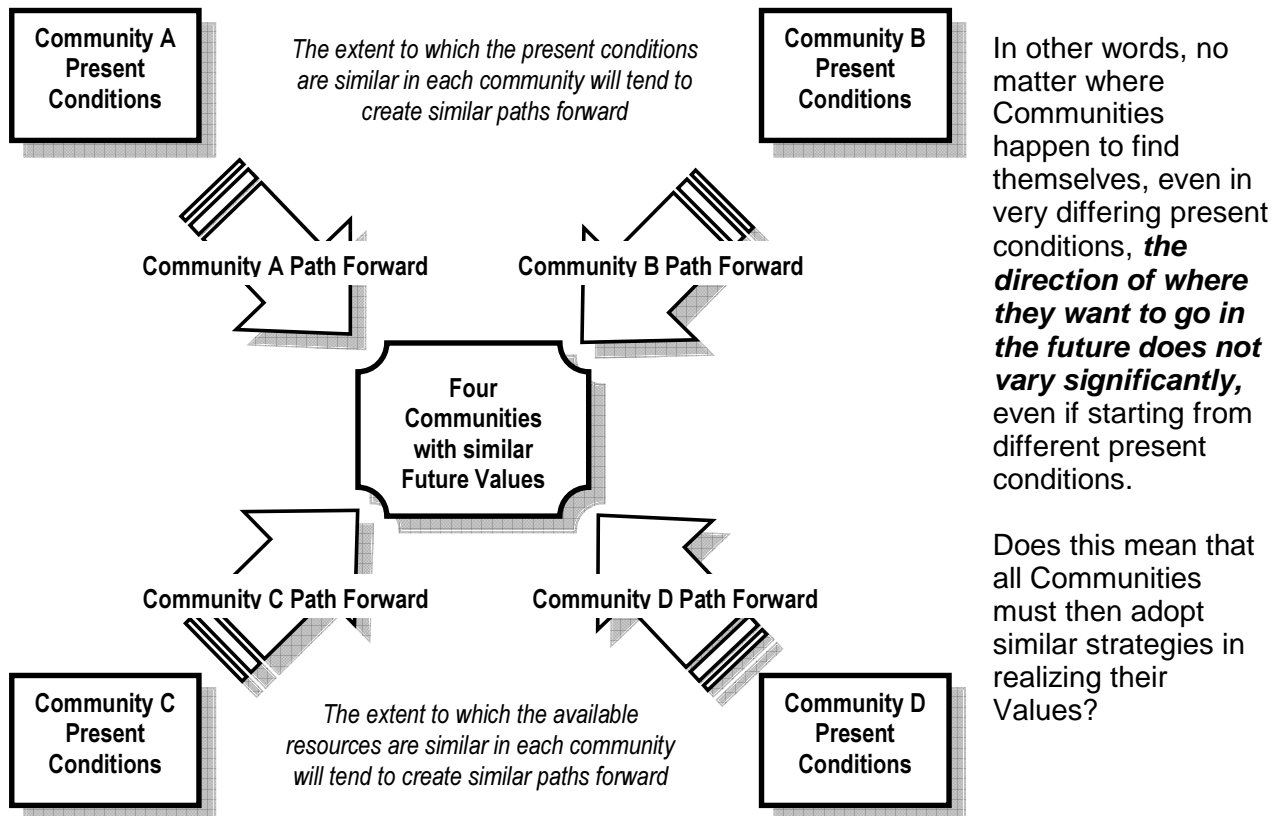
### Consultant Comments on the Summary Outcomes

As can be seen, some or all of the Communities share priority common Values. Nor do we see Values that may obviously conflict and there are clearly some opportunities for collaborative initiatives between two or more of the Communities. Based upon our experience with many similar Workshops, **this is a most usual outcome.**

While all Communities wish to think of themselves as unique, it is the combination of multiple dimensions and factors, as well as the people who live there, that create this uniqueness. However, the Values expressed by a Community originate largely from fundamental human desires and needs, which are common to most peoples, everywhere.

This is generally true even when comparing, for example, a large metropolitan centre with over a million people, a medium sized town with a heavy industrial base and smaller communities such as are found in East Algoma. There are obvious differences between these examples since, from a Values perspective, the different populations have accepted the inevitable compromises inherent in such choices of locale. However, the common theme running through them might well be:

- A desire to see no deterioration in the local environment, from the present condition
- The retention of youth, as the basis for the future
- Increasing prosperity, to fuel enjoyment and well-being
- Future good health
- ...and so on



In other words, no matter where Communities happen to find themselves, even in very differing present conditions, **the direction of where they want to go in the future does not vary significantly**, even if starting from different present conditions.

Does this mean that all Communities must then adopt similar strategies in realizing their Values?

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*Not necessarily*, but the likelihood of similar path forward (strategies) depends on the similarities between at least two further parts of the model:

- The starting condition in each; where they are today
- The resources available by which to move forward; the essential “fuel” to power their progress towards realizing their Values

The Communities of East Algoma have much more in common with each other than the expressed Community Values. Although there is some variation in geography and natural resources, these are relatively minor in comparison to the similarities.

This would imply that many of the plans to develop the economy will have strong common elements. Whilst some may feel that unique strategies are preferable, realistic plans must be driven by the facts: ***where are we today and where do we wish to go***. The route from one to the other is then largely defined, if we have the wherewithal to take that path through the available resources.

From a different perspective, this “commonality” opens the door to broader based regional initiatives, in which two more Communities can collaborate to realise their Community Values.

The next stage of the project will determine to what extent these commonalities exist.

#### **Contacting us**

- By telephone to: **George Schrijver** at WCM Consulting **(905) 478-8523**  
*This is long distance, so leave a message and allow us to return the call*
- By E-Mail: [\*\*george@wcmconsulting.com\*\*](mailto:george@wcmconsulting.com)
- By fax to: **(905) 478-8598**
- By mail or drop-in to: **Your Community Municipal Offices**