

Summer 2008



## INTEGRATED HUMAN SERVICES PLANS DELIVER MAJOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO MUNICIPALITIES

When the costs are added; public health, community safety, education and other human services are typically a municipality's largest budget item. Canada-wide research by Hardy Stevenson and Associates Limited found that when Human Services Plans are integrated with growth management plans, doors open for improved municipal governance and program performance across a broad range of areas.

Our research and experience show a well-thought through Human Services Plan can:

**Improve the effectiveness of human services delivery** – The process of developing a Human Services Plan can broaden thinking and encourage cross-departmental (Treasury, Works, Planning and Community Services) understanding and collaboration to achieve human service goals.

**Encourage economic investment** – Companies deciding where to locate and their employees are looking for a municipal commitment to provide a high quality of life for all residents (e.g. early childhood education, immigration support, preventative health care, etc).

**Support Triple Bottom Line (“TBL”) analysis** - Human Services Plans provide social data important for TBL assessments (the formal assessment of economic, environmental and social implications of municipal policy decisions).

**Improve success of funding requests** - Foundations and senior levels of government are more likely to fund collaborative funding requests than multiple, less coordinated requests from organizations with overlapping mandates. A Human Services Plan becomes the action plan supported by the broader community and thereby increases the likelihood of successful funding.

For more information, contact Jennie Weller, Manager of Public Consultation at (416) 944-8444 Ext. 226 or [jennieweller@hardystevenson.com](mailto:jennieweller@hardystevenson.com)

## PUBLIC CONSULTATION ASSUMES A GREATER ROLE IN THE WAKE OF NEW PROVINCIAL POLICY

With the release of the *Growth Plan*, *Greenbelt Plan* and *Provincial Policy Statements*, public consultation is assuming a more important role in the development approvals process.

Unfortunately, public consultation is often viewed as a hurdle to be overcome in the land development process - a risk that could potentially delay approval of an Official Plan Amendment or Rezoning application. However, what successful developers recognize is that they minimize risks through public consultation.

The *Planning Act* requires stakeholders and the public to be adequately informed of proposed developments. However, for many applications, the mandatory public meeting is only held once the technical studies have been finalized, land uses have been assigned and traffic patterns have been determined - once the community mindset has shifted from interest to speculation.

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### News / Web / Blog...



- HSAL Benefits Blueprint Project receives praise from Premier Shawn Graham of New Brunswick
- HSAL's Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Bid preliminary SIA report becomes minor best-seller with almost 2000 downloads from our website!
- HSAL opens Orillia Office. Call Jeff Holec, Central Ontario Director at 705.345.7738

**Check us out!! Our website is:**  
[www.hardystevenson.com](http://www.hardystevenson.com)

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## Benefits of Enhanced Public Consultation

At HSAL, we understand that getting the “people part” of land development right allows us to:

- Streamline the approvals process saving our clients both time and money;
- Resolve minor issues before they evolve into potential showstoppers;
- Build trust within communities and instill confidence in projects;
- Inspire constructive criticism and more meaningful stakeholder and public input; and
- Foster consensus and broader support for proposed developments.

To learn more about our approach to public consultation, contact Melissa Clements, Urban Planner, at [melissaclements@hardystevenson.com](mailto:melissaclements@hardystevenson.com) or (416) 944-8444 Ext. 228.



## HARDY STEVENSON TAKES ON PROJECT DEVELOPER ROLE FOR PRIVATE AND COMMUNITY-BASED SOLAR PROJECTS

The benefits of solar power are compelling: environmental protection, economic growth, job creation, diversity of fuel supply and rapid deployment, as well as the global potential for technology transfer and innovation. Hardy Stevenson and Associates Limited has agreed to serve as Project Manager for several solar farm developments in Ontario and are responsible for project development, project finance and project siting.

Solar power is a great idea, so the question remains –how do you make it happen? We recommend the following steps:

- Determine the scale of the desired solar development;
- Develop strategic partnerships;
- Identify and narrow funding options;
- Complete site selection and decide the tenure arrangement; and
- Proceed with regulatory approvals.

Why choose solar power? Improvements in solar technology have increased dramatically in the past few years. These changes are favourable to municipalities looking to implement solar technologies. Approval processes are straightforward and simple – this due to the relatively low environmental impacts from solar installations. Photovoltaic solar cells have long term reliability and low maintenance costs.

Municipal owned solar power projects can meet community needs, achieve clean energy generation and create a revenue source for the local community. There are a variety of ways that a municipality can host solar projects - from approving private development to municipal community based solar power initiatives that involve cooperatives or partnerships with developers, First Nations and utilities.

For more information contact Danya Al-Haydari, Environmental Planner. Danya is currently managing project development for solar and wind power projects in Ontario. She can be reached at [danyaalhaydari@hardystevenson.com](mailto:danyaalhaydari@hardystevenson.com) or (416) 944.8444 x 224.

## NEW TO OUR TEAM

Hardy Stevenson and Associates Limited is pleased to announce new employees joining our team during the last year:

**Shannon Logan**, B.A (Hons), M.E.S. (Pl.), is a community planner with experience in socio-economic and environmental assessments; sustainable community development, growth management, project management, and public consultation. Shannon can be reached at [shannonlogan@hardystevenson.com](mailto:shannonlogan@hardystevenson.com) or Ext. 223

**Danya Al-Haydari**, B.A (Hons), M.A., is an environmental planner. Danya is an expert in policy analysis heading solar, nuclear and wind project developments. Danya can be reached at Ext. 224 or [danyaalhaydari@hardystevenson.com](mailto:danyaalhaydari@hardystevenson.com)

**Olav Sibille**, BA (Hons.), MA, MSc, MCIP, RPP, is an expert in regional and urban research (land use, environmental issues, demographics and growth), strategic planning, organizational development, capacity building, and public consultation. Olav can be reached at Ext. 225 or [olavsibille@hardystevenson.com](mailto:olavsibille@hardystevenson.com)

**HARDY  
STEVENSON  
AND ASSOCIATES**

### About the Company

Hardy Stevenson and Associates Limited was formed in 1990. The firm specializes in:

- Project Management and Development
- Social Impact Assessment
- Environmental Planning
- Land Use Planning
- Public Consultation and Communications
- Facilitation

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