

Principles of DNR Strategy 2010

All Phases of Strategy 2010 (including the Steering Panel and Panels of Expertise) will abide by the following principles.

Transparency: Given the significant public interest and concern about environmental, social and economic issues, Strategy 2010 processes will endeavour to keep the public informed about consultation, decisions and actions. Public communications from the panels will be through the Steering Panel Chair in consultation with the DNR Strategy 2010 Project Management Team and the Minister.

Scientific and Technical Accuracy: The panels will strive to incorporate the most current and scientifically accurate and relevant information and data available in its report and recommendations.

Commitment: A commitment from panel members to participate fully as individuals and citizens of Nova Scotia, in a thoughtful, timely and open manner based on their broad knowledge and technical expertise, regarding the four key areas of Strategy 2010.

Best Practices: The panels will strive to identify best practices in the four key areas of Strategy 2010, as well as citizen engagement and horizontal government, and make recommendations that harmonize requirements and help to streamline compliance and commitment to recommendations

Collaboration and Recognition of the Interests of Stakeholder Groups, Citizens and Communities: The panels will strive to ensure fair, comprehensive and equitable representation of stakeholder groups, citizens and communities in its consultation and engagement programs – recognizing that communities, citizens and stakeholder groups have a direct concern or interest in the decisions or policies under discussion.

Inclusiveness: The panels will strive to enable diverse participation at every opportunity.

Respectfulness: The panels will ensure the purpose, process and objectives of consultation are clear to participants; will foster a respectful atmosphere in consultation and engagement processes; will design engagement activities to avoid or remove barriers, as much as possible, which may inappropriately limit participation.

Objectiveness: As well as stakeholder group engagement and consultation, the panels will include a commitment to independent research and opinion.

Responsiveness: The panels will produce a final report and recommendations to be submitted to the Minister and the citizenry of Nova Scotia.