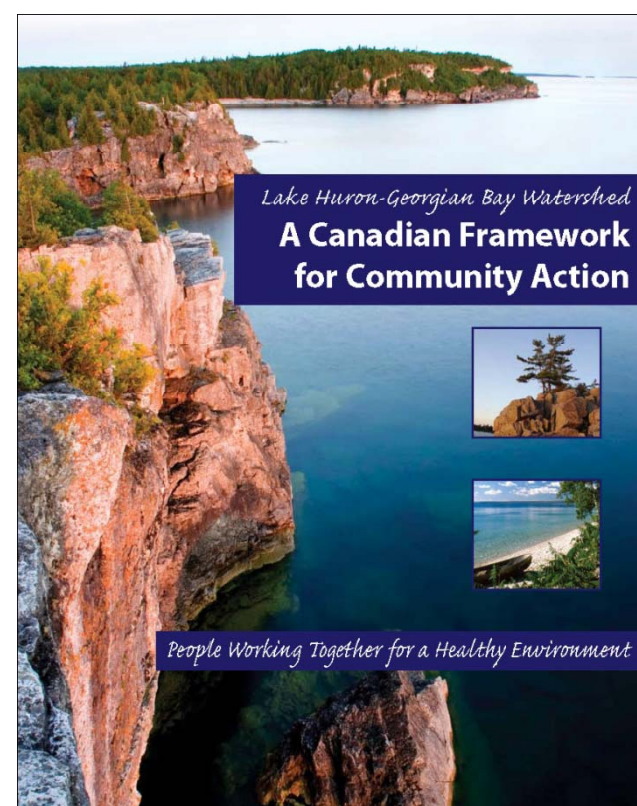


Engaging People and Partnerships through Collaboration On Lake Huron



Lake Huron Framework Connects People Across the Watershed



The **Lake Huron Watershed Framework for Community Action** works on the principle that each individual, community and organization in the watershed will operate independently, and are formally linked under the umbrella of the Lake Huron Charter to represent a force stronger than the individual parts.

Through the charter everyone will share the same goals and vision. Through our individual actions we will strive to collectively work towards conserving, protecting and rehabilitating important ecosystem components throughout the watershed.

Individuals, environmental and local community groups, businesses, municipal, provincial, federal and Aboriginal communities from all parts of the watershed are encouraged to work together and sign the Lake Huron Charter.

In a collaborative approach... local knowledge of ecosystems and concerns can be shared and the results of current science and monitoring projects can be put into community hands for their use. This approach will assist citizens in moving from the role of observer to active participant, and to find a place for themselves to initiate change and take active leadership roles.



A Community Based Approach Made for Lake Huron

Currently there are many individuals across the watershed that are actively involved in promoting sustainable activities. The purpose of the **Lake Huron Watershed Framework for Community Action** is for people from across the watershed to learn from and share their experiences with each other to enhance a lake-wide commitment for a healthy and sustainable Lake Huron watershed.

*Community Action is an investment in the overall watershed health...
...together we will achieve more than any one partner could do on its own!*

Local communities, groups and individuals are among the most effective champions to achieve environmental sustainability in their own backyards and communities. A community based approach must engage and inform everyone so that they will participate and become involved in a collaborative problem solving process.

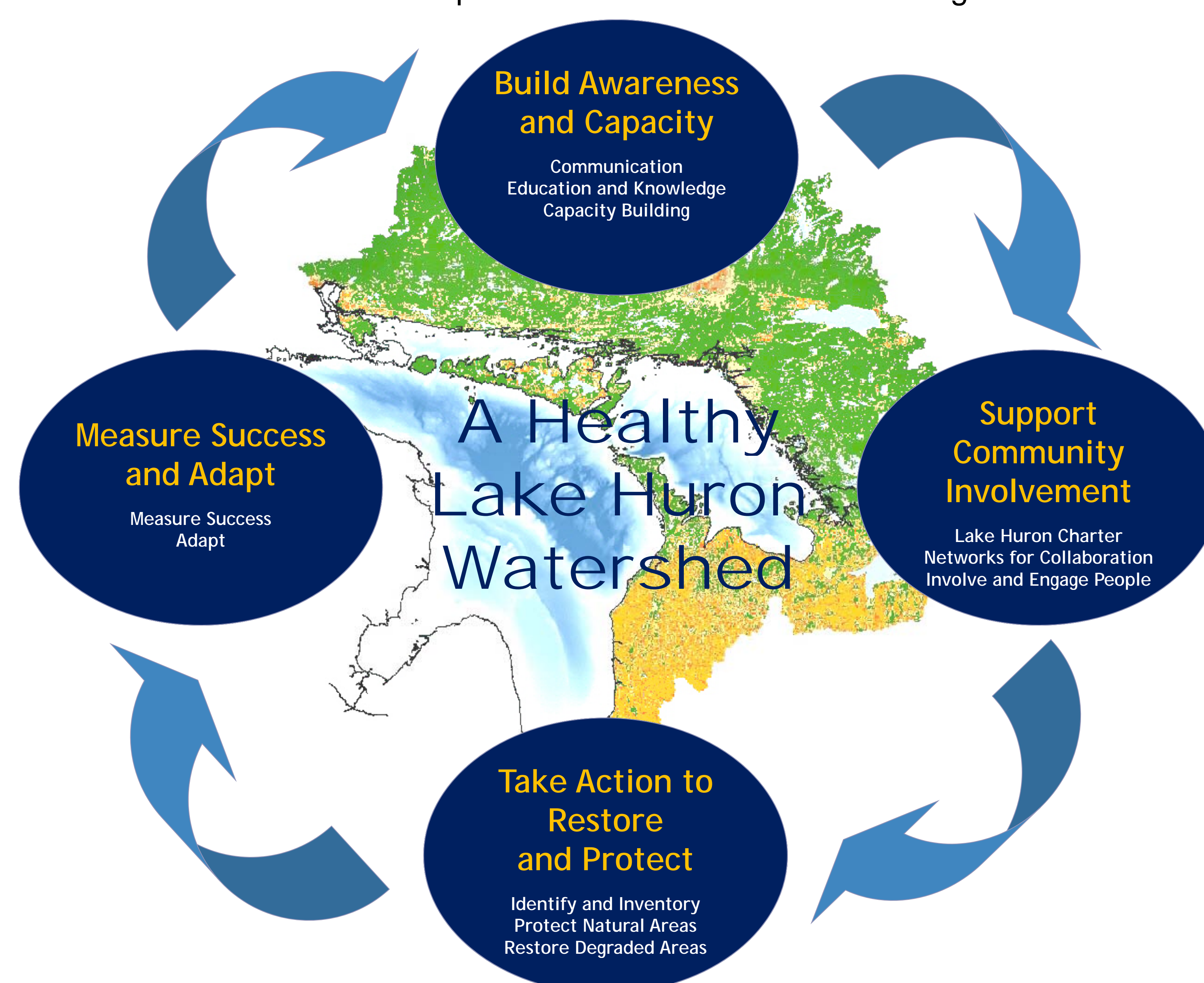
The Framework for Community Action:

- Encourages active participation;
- Promotes environmentally responsible decisions and activities;
- Establishes a collaborative network of contact people;
- Establishes an inventory of environmental monitoring and technical information to be shared with all people; and
- Promotes restoration and protection initiatives.



Principles and Approaches

The Lake Huron Watershed Framework employs an integrated process that is aligned with a set of fundamental principles. These principles promote and guide collaborative, science-based approaches that align individuals, communities and government agencies in taking the most effective conservation and protection actions to achieve lasting results.



Sign the Lake Huron Charter

The Charter and the Canadian Vision for the Lake Huron Watershed establishes a common bond between everyone in the Watershed.

The Canadian Vision describes:

- The future social, physical and natural environment;
- The challenges that we face;
- The actions we would like to undertake; and
- The desire to take action together.

The Lake Huron Charter is a personal or corporate pledge to the Vision. We are asking everyone in the watershed to sign the Charter so that it becomes a common thread connecting all people across Lake Huron and Georgian Bay. www.lakehuroncommunityaction.ca

Who is Involved and What are they Doing?

Everyone of us can make a commitment to the Lake Huron Charter and take actions to support a healthy life sustaining ecosystem.

Individuals can make environmentally responsible decisions in their lives that collectively contributes to overall improvements in the watershed.

Industry, business, farmers and developers can provide leadership and innovation in the adoption of environmental values, best management practices and green principles.

Local communities, ratepayer groups and clubs can become more involved in initiating community activities.

Non government organizations can be environmental leaders and help others.

Researchers and schools can lead research programs, complete restoration projects and provide education programs.

Aboriginal communities can provide the collection and merging of traditional knowledge into science, research and monitoring, and identify priorities and actions.

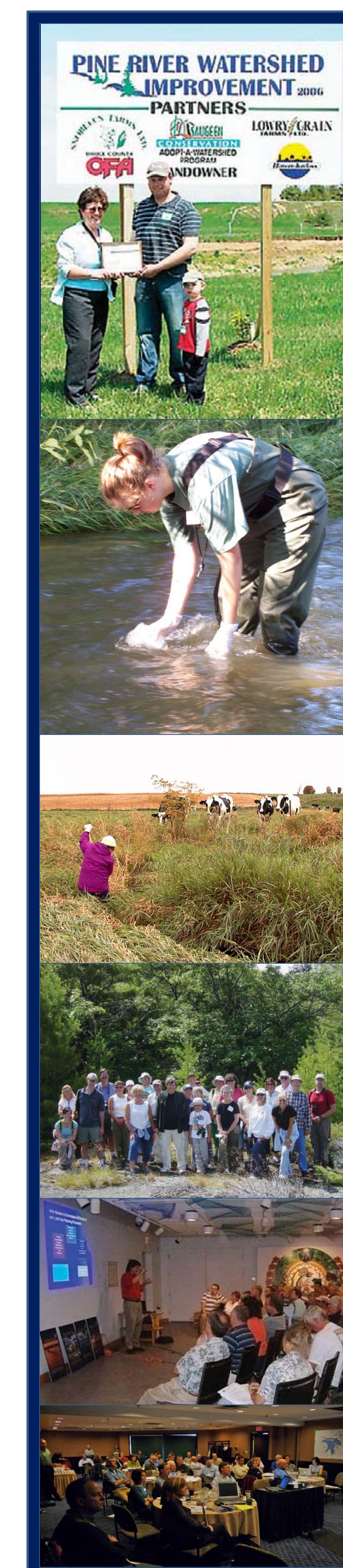
Municipalities, cities, towns, regions and counties can provide direction for development in official plans and make wise land use decisions.

Conservation Authorities can provide leadership and guidance through watershed planning exercises and through stewardship and outreach programs.

Federal and provincial governments can provide leadership and coordination, access to scientific information and support various projects across the watershed.

Acknowledgements

Lake Huron Steering Committee – Janette Anderson - Environment Canada, Ted Briggs - Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Peter Burch - Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority, Wayne Caldwell - University of Guelph, Huron County Planning Development, Wendy Cooper - Georgian Bay Land Trust, Randy French - French Planning Services, Scott MacKay - Environment Canada, Greg Mayne – Environment Canada, David Reid - Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Susanna Reid - Huron County Planning Department, Stewart Sweeney – Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Mari Veliz – Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority



People Working Together for a Healthy Environment