



Municipality of the Township of Gore

A natural choice!



Our future...

Nature, rural character and a closely knit community



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Message of the Mayor

It is with great pride that the municipality presents the strategic vision for the future of our community. Our philosophy at the municipality has always been to work diligently to maintain and improve the quality of life of our residents. We are therefore particularly proud of the collaboration and partnerships with community groups and residents that led to the development of this vision statement for the future of our municipality.

Our objectives, collectively, are to ensure the respect of nature and the protection of our environment while optimizing the services available to our residents. As an element of our identity, we have beautiful landscapes with great potential for adventure and outdoor activities, to establish ourselves as residents or cottagers as well as to create strong community ties. It is up to us to benefit from everything this strategic plan has to offer, benefits for our current generation as well as for future generations.

We would like to thank the MRC d'Argenteuil, our neighbors in Mille-Isles and Wentworth, as well as all other local and regional partners that support and collaborate in various initiatives involving our community. It is through the strengthening of our relationships we will be able to grow as a community. We also thank our residents who, through their involvement and generosity, inspire us all here within the municipal team.

Scott Pearce





Context

The Municipality of the Township of Gore has undergone many changes in its history. Since the arrival of the first settlers to the present day, land uses and community demographics have been transformed, but the natural landscape still remains an essential and pivotal element of our territory.

In order to focus on our identity, the Municipality of the Township of Gore must set priorities in municipal planning and management. We must be prepared for potential development on our territory, while remaining true to our vision. It is in this perspective that the municipality has initiated strategic thinking for our future.



The Approach

The strategic planning exercise is a tool for the municipality that allows the identification of essential elements of our identity and vision.

Ultimately, it assesses where we are, *where we want to go and how we will get there.*

The guidelines and identified strategic objectives are the result of a collaboration between the municipal administration and community groups and residents. It is essential to stress the participation of community members in this exercise. With surveys, meetings and conversations, many residents shared their interests and needs. The result is a truly collective vision of the future of the Township of Gore that everyone can proudly share.



A Strategic Territory

Nature. One simple word which defines the territory of the Township of Gore.

In numbers, it is nearly 100 square kilometers of territory and a current permanent population of less than 2 000 residents.

The vast majority of the territory remains natural to this day, covered with diverse forests and speckled with beautiful lakes. Even in the areas that have seen development, nature remains an essential attribute of our community.

Located outside of major developments in recent decades, the Township of Gore has maintained its rural attributes. Despite the development that the territory could have known in the past, the municipality was able to preserve its typical bilingual township character.



Our Identity, Our Vision

This strategic planning exercise has notably identified the essential elements of our vision for the future, the “ideal” that we will work to achieve.

We would like to reiterate the importance of our identity and focus on our current achievements: a municipality building on its environmental values, a territory known for its rural character, a vibrant and collaborative community.

To present our vision, we aim to become a benchmark for environmental protection in Quebec, to preserve our rural attributes and to enhance our cultural and community relationships. We want our municipality to be known as a wonderful place to live, retire, visit and build strong community ties.



Our Municipal Mission

To achieve our goals and reach our vision, concentrated effort and commitments of community groups and residents is essential.

Considering our strategic vision, Gore must set an example to follow in achieving our objectives. The municipality's mission is to offer the best opportunities for a real sustainable development of our community, build on its current achievements and remaining loyal to its identity, offering quality services at a fair cost, for the purpose of enhancing the sense of belonging and the pride of our residents.

We intend to achieve this mission with the collaboration of our residents and local community groups, in order to meet the interests, the needs and the concerns of the community.

Our Current Issues



COMMUNITY

- Quality of life
- Community involvement and solidarity
 - Sense of belonging
 - Leisure and culture
 - Families and seniors
- Housing and services
 - Health and safety
 - Heritage

ENVIRONMENT

- Water and lakes
- Natural green spaces
 - Waste management
- Climate change adaptation

ECONOMY

- Economic development
- Cultural and recreational tourism
- Sustainable forestry and agriculture
 - Infrastructures
 - Essential services

Strategic planning takes into account several issues linking the Township of Gore to its vision.



Our Strategic Orientations

In order to fulfill our mission and achieve our vision, our priorities for the years to come include six major orientations.

1. **A satisfied, engaged and happy community.** Concerned about the interests and needs of our community, the Township of Gore builds on collaboration with community groups and residents to strengthen our community and enhance the quality of life.
2. **Sustainable municipal development** for growth that respects the social identity of our community and our environmental values.
3. **Innovative land use planning guidelines** building upon existing achievements, preserving the identity of Gore and the values of its territory.
4. **Healthy, preserved and accessible environment** as a central element in the growth of the Township of Gore.
5. **Positioning, recognition and collaboration** among residents, community groups and other surrounding communities.
6. **Efficient municipal organization** focusing on continuous improvement, innovation and community participation.

Our Community

A satisfied, engaged and happy community. Concerned about the interests and needs of our community, the Township of Gore builds on collaboration with its residents and community groups to strengthen our community and enhance our quality of life.

Strategic directions

Develop and promote a variety of leisure and recreational activities related to the outdoors as well as in collaboration with community groups and recreational clubs; activities accessible and available to different family members and different age groups.

Encourage participation and community involvement in development aiming to strengthen our community and develop a sense of belonging among residents in order to create an attractive and dynamic living environment.

Make health services, transportation, and leisure more available and secure accommodation for seniors in the community to allow them to remain in the territory for a longer period of time.

Course of action

- Outdoor activities related to our natural environment
 - Active and healthy lifestyles for families
 - New clubs and new community recreation groups
 - Activities and groups for children and seniors.
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- Artistic culture and crafts connected to the land and the area's history
 - Attractive cultural and artistic events for the community
 - Participation of residents of all ages to groups and art clubs
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- Health and home services
 - Adapted transport
 - Entertainment and leisure activities
 - Adapted housing

Our Sustainable Development

Sustainable development of the municipality for growth that respects the social identity of our community and our environmental values.

Strategic directions

Plan in an integrated way the development and creation of new residential housing based on needs and demands, local realities and characteristics of the territory and in connection with other socio-environmental issues of the municipality.

Promote economic development and implementation of local businesses that fit well in the community.

Attract tourists that are conscientious of the environment and of the municipality's rural and community values.

Course of action

- Minimize residential area spreading by promoting multiple use areas related to the natural environment
- Diversity of adapted housing and respecting the social and environmental interests of the community

- Local businesses, self-employment, entrepreneurs and professionals
- Specialized social services adapted to the population
- Local jobs accessible to residents
- Early childhood education

- Tourism based on the individual's personal experience in a natural environment
- Local agrotourism highlighting producers and local products
- Activities and events showcasing culture

Strategic directions

Plan, develop and maintain the infrastructure network in a sustainable development perspective.

Course of action

- Road infrastructure network that addresses issues and environmental impacts and designed for effectiveness and efficiency of financial investments
- Active transportation modes and transit
- Access to telecommunication services
- Sustainable energy sources and energy conservation

Enhance forestry potential and revitalise agricultural activities in ways that respect the sustainable development principles.

- Sustainable forest management activities that aim to preserve ecological attributes
- Extensive local agricultural activities
- Local farmers market

Build resilience to climate change and protect the attributes and benefits of the ecosystems that reduce the impacts on our environment and the climate.

- Climate change adaptation as an issue in planning, management and decision making
- Risk assesment and adaptation practices
- Preservation of ecosystem services that reduce impacts

Ensure sustainable and efficient waste management.

- Reduction of residual waste
- Increase the effeciency and performance of reuse initiatives and recycling activities
- Education, raising awareness and community participation



Our Land Use Planning

Innovative land use planning guidelines building upon existing achievements, preserving the identity of the Township of Gore and the values of our territory.

Strategic directions

Protect and enhance the natural environment.

Build a framework to protect the natural environment and ensure integration of uses within the natural character of the territory.

Protect and enhance our natural heritage, built heritage and landscape.

Course of action

- Conservation, restoration and enhancement of the natural environment initiatives
- Tools for planning, managing and protecting the natural environment

- Framework for development and land uses
- Integrated watershed management

- Elements and values of the heritage within the municipal territory
- Framework and integration of uses



Our Environment

Healthy, preserved and accessible environment as a central element in the growth of the Township of Gore

Strategic directions

Protect the health of the environment and of ecosystems.

Encourage, foster and promote a healthy and safe environment and implement prevention and essential precautionary measures.

Course of action

- Measures and actions to eliminate and reduce risks in order to protect water quality
 - Respect of the support capacity of ecosystems
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- Health, safety and hygiene of living environments and residences
 - Health and safety standards in public areas
 - Health and safety prevention program
 - Municipal emergency action plan



Our Position

Positioning, recognition and collaboration among residents, community groups and other surrounding communities

Strategic directions

Create and maintain collaboration and consultation between local and regional community groups.

Being known as a pioneering municipality in municipal management.

Promote and encourage recognition of the municipality for its rural, community and environmental values.

Course of action

- Collaboration with the Townships of Wentworth and the municipality of Mille-Isles
- Collaboration with the MRC d'Argenteuil in issue management and local and regional initiatives.

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- Municipal expertise and know-how
 - Services to residents
 - Sharing information and experience

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- Promotion and recognition for sustainable development principles to attract clientele that fits with community values



Our Organization

Efficient municipal organization focusing on continuous improvement, innovation and community participation

Strategic directions

Aim for the effectiveness and organizational performance of all municipal departments.

Create and maintain collaboration and consultation between local community groups and residents.

Course of action

- Management plan for effective monitoring and continuous service improvement
 - Development of personal and organizational performance of human resources
 - Team spirit, commitment and involvement of human resources
 - Adequate and effective financial planning
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- Active and dynamic collaboration between local community groups and the municipality
 - Dialogue and consultation with local community groups in planning and decision making



Closing thoughts

The process of developing the strategic vision of the Township of Gore was truly interesting and rewarding. In addition to establishing our identity, strategic planning has helped reinforce the relationship between the municipality, community groups and residents to create a collective vision for the future.

In the coming years, the municipality will work to implement this strategic plan while remaining focused on this vision for the future. We will focus on initiatives, programs and projects to meet our objectives, in the sustainable development of our territory, environmental protection as well as the strengthening of our community. In addition, this strategic vision is the foundation on which to base the regulatory revision for land use planning. The municipality will establish regulations that respect this vision and promote development that meets our objectives of sustainable development and community building.

The Municipality of the Township of Gore, its council and its employees would like thank the community for their participation in various activities and the consultation process and we hope to continue this good collaboration in the future!

Your municipal team.