



# RE-MISSIONING IN TIMES OF OPPORTUNITY

29 May 2015

*The Anglican Parish of Muskoka Lakes  
Deanery of Muskoka  
Diocese of Algoma*



Tom Esakin



HOPE IN LOVE

*We as Christians are  
commissioned by Christ to, first  
and foremost, “love”. From  
there is and comes our hope.*

**36 “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”**

**37 Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’<sup>[a]</sup> 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’<sup>[b]</sup> 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.” (NIV)**

**Matthew 22:36-40**

## *Re-missioning is...*

*...an opportunity, rooted in hope, to create the strongest possible shared-future* (one holistically-interconnecting social / economic / environmental parts) that will be *collectively journeyed-toward by a parish, with its parishioners, and for the fullest community its supports.*

## AGENDA

*VOICED PRAYER - GAILMARIE*

1. ICE-BREAKERS

♥ LET'S GET-TO-KNOW GAILMARIE (15 MINUTES)

(+ GAILMARIE'S STORY WITH STRATEGIC PLANNING)

♥♥ CLOSER-CONNECTIONS WITH ONE-ANOTHER (15 MINUTES)

2. CHANGING LANDSCAPE OF CHURCH – GAILMARIE (15 MINUTES)

*QUIET PRAYER - TOM*

3 STRETCH – JULIET (5 MINUTES)

*PERSONAL PRAYER – INTRODUCED BY GAILMARIE*

4. STRATEGIC PLANNING AND 4 MODELS (25 MINUTES)

5. LET'S PRACTICE IN BREAKOUT GROUPS (20 MINUTES)

6. REPORT BACK TO GATHERING ON PRACTICE (10 MINUTES)

7. Q&A (5-10 MINUTES)

*GROUP MUSICAL PRAYER - JULIET*

UNTIL TOMORROW & SOCIAL

***Voiced  
Prayer***



# 1. ICE-BREAKERS

# *Ice-breaker (1 a)*

♥ *Let's Get-to-know GailMarie*

+ **GailMarie's story with strategic planning**

*(15 minutes)*

# Ice-breaker (1b): Think, Pair, Share

## ♥ ♥ Closer-connections with one-another

With the person sitting 2-chairs over from your left, please share with them (and take notes, if you would like)....

1. Your name;
2. Where you live;
3. What “*Christianity*” means to your life (in a word or sentence);
4. Why you are an “*Anglican*” (in a word or sentence);
5. What “*prayer*” means to you (in a few words);
6. The “*vision*” (*hope*) you hold for this “*deanery or parish*”, and its “*future 25 years from now*” (in one or so sentences) **(8 minutes)**

# *Ice-breaker (1c)*

♥ ♥ *Closer-connections with one-another*

1. Now in a few words, please share with us all what your partner shared with you...

*(7 minutes)*



# 2. CHANGING LANDSCAPE OF CHURCH

*GailMarie - (15 Minutes)*



*Quiet  
Prayer*



# 3. S-T-R-E-T-C-H

*Juliet - (5 minutes)*



*Personal  
Prayer*



# 4. STRATEGIC PLANNING AND 4 MODELS

*Tom - (25 minutes)*



Strategic Planning has a *focus* on a common future;

a shared future implicitly grounded in “*hope*” and “*opportunity*”



Strategic  
Planning:

Builds on the  
*past.*

Awareness of  
the *present.*

Creates a  
pathway to  
a desired  
*future.*

## **Group Activity (4a): *Planning for a family vacation in 2016...***

- ✓ Choose a destination
- ✓ Save money for the trip
- ✓ Arrange to take time-off
- ✓ Plan travel (e.g. transport, accommodation, food, tourist sights, sports gear, etc.)
- ✓ More

*And, what if you don't make any advance plans...???*



Life presents  
a web of  
inter-  
connections.

The strongest  
strategic  
planning  
process  
considers a  
web of  
possibilities.

This is called  
“Systems  
Thinking”.



## “Strategic planning

...used extensively in the private sector to provide corporations and businesses with long-term visions and goals, and short-term action plans to achieve these goals; ...it is seen as a means to rally...collective resources...”

*(ICLEI)*

## *“Vision*

Speaks to where an organization  
or business wants to be in the  
future...”

*(Hale)*

## Mission

“Is the action statement for an organization or company, combining the Vision and Beliefs.”

A mission is different from a vision in that the 1<sup>st</sup> is the cause and the 2<sup>nd</sup> is the effect.”

*(Hale)*

## Values

Speaks to what an organisation believes about the World -- the forces that really "drive" the organization.... Guiding principles....traditions, ethics and other standards... [The: BELIEFS.]

*(Hale)*

## *“External assessment*

Identifying factors which can impact the mission  
(SWOT analysis):

Strengths

Weaknesses

Opportunities

Threats

Competition

Constraint”

## *Strategic Goals and Objectives [Action]*

### “Objectives & Goals”:

“1. An end that can be reasonably achieved within an expected timeframe and with available resources. In general, an objective is broader in scope than a goal, and may consist of several individual goals.

*(Business Dictionary)*

Goals & Objectives must be -

**S** -pecific

**M** -easurable

**A** -chievable

**R** -ealistic

**T** -imely”

## *“Strategies and Tactics:*

Steps taken to implement ...objectives-- the right people doing the right things at right time in the right way.

Includes statements of how to apply the Five Resources:

- ✓ people
- ✓ property
- ✓ time
- ✓ money
- ✓ technology (or knowledge)”

*(Hale)*

## Metrics / Benchmarks

Concrete metrics – embedded in to goals & objectives  
- are essential, as these are how any organisation will know it has arrived at its desired future state.

“Standards of measurement by which efficiency, performance, progress, or quality of a plan, process, or product can be assessed.”



Hybrid:

Traditional  
Strategic  
Planning +  
Community-  
based  
Planning

(Model 2)

**Diocese of Algoma**

**Strategic Plan  
2009-2014**

“Community-based planning  
...is used extensively in the development  
field to engage local residents and service  
users in participatory processes to  
develop and implement local service  
projects and programs.”

(ICLEI)

# “Four Steps to Achievement

Plan purposefully.

Prepare prayerfully.

Proceed positively.

Pursue persistently.”

(p2)

## Diocesan SWOT Analysis (p.4):

The strengths of Algoma include:

- Our Anglican liturgy and Anglican traditions.
- Our Episcopal and Diocesan leadership.
- Our committed lay people and our ACW.
- Our collegial clergy.

The weaknesses of Algoma include:

- Our widespread geography.
- Our fatiguing, aging and declining congregations.
- Our numerous church buildings.
- Our lack of communication, and co-ordination."

### **Diocesan Mission:**

To share in the gathering work of Christ so that His newness of life overflows into our hearts, homes, churches, and community.

### **Diocesan Vision:**

We are joyful Anglicans, serving, growing, and proclaiming Christ's love in Algoma and beyond.

### **Diocesan 7 CORE VALUES**

1. A commitment to faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.
2. A commitment to prayer and spiritual growth.
3. A commitment to authentic and joyful Anglican worship.
4. A commitment to maintain and grow healthy churches that care for all people and practice fiscal responsibility.
5. A commitment to spreading the good news through evangelism.
6. A commitment to caring, ongoing relationships encompassing the family of God through shared ministry.
7. A commitment to social justice through mission, seeking Christ in all persons, and living in harmony with the environment."

## **Diocesan 7 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES 2009-2014**

- 1. Healthy Congregational Development**
- 2. Authentic Evangelism**
- 3. Involved Children and Youth**
- 4. Dynamic Communication**
- 5. Empowering Clergy and Lay Development**
- 6. Effective Social Action through Mission**
- 7. Inspiring Anglican Worship**

# Example of a Diocesan Objective with embedded metrics

## 5 YEAR PROJECTED TIME LINES

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

YEARS 1-2  
2009-2010

YEARS 3-5  
2011-2013

### 1. Healthy Congregational Development

Hire a Congregational Development Officer  
Develop benchmarks for a healthy parish  
Initiate workshops about maintaining healthy parishes

Implement the assessment process  
Rationalize buildings and resources  
Continue workshops

## ***“Benchmarks for Healthy Congregations”* framework:**

Worship

Formation

Common Life

Service and Hospitality

Innovation and Change

Physical Resources

Financial Resources

Initiation

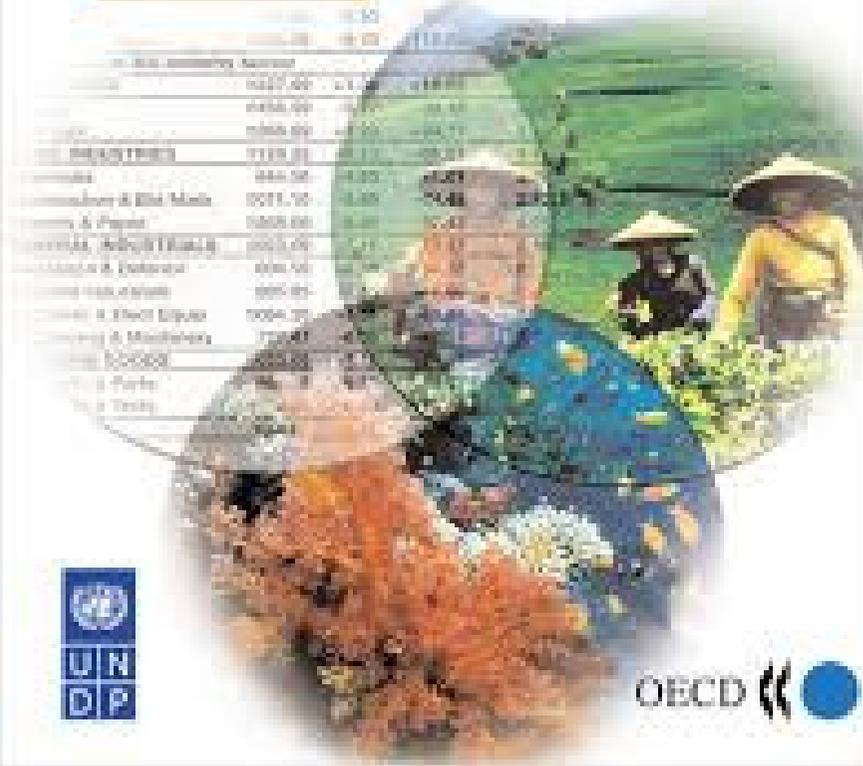
Leadership

Communication

ELB01250012

# Sustainable Development Strategies

A RESOURCE BOOK



Sustainable Development Strategies / Sustainability Strategies (SDS):

Traditional Strategic Planning + Community-based Planning + Environmental Planning

(Model 3)

**Traditional Strategic Planning (*economic*)**

**+**

**Community-based Planning (*social*)**

**+**

**Environmental Planning (*environmental*)**

**= Sustainable Development Strategy /  
Sustainability Strategy (SDS)**



Prayerful  
Planning:

Discerning  
God's will  
through an  
SDS  
framework

(Model 4)

**Parish of Muskoka  
Lakes**

**Traditional Strategic Planning (economic)**

+

**Community-based Planning (social)**

+

**Environmental Planning (environmental)**

= **Sustainable Development Strategy /  
Sustainability Strategy (SDS)**

+

**Discernment (prayer)**

= **Prayerful Planning**

Prayerful Planning intentionally incorporates a *God-centred* (over ego-driven) focus through:

- ✓ Quiet Discernment
- ✓ Individual (personal) and Group Prayer
- ✓ Contemplation
- ✓ Meditation
- ✓ Musical reflection (e.g. hymns)
- ✓ Movement or dance
- ✓ Eucharist
- ✓ Other



# 5. LET'S PRACTICE IN BREAKOUT GROUPS

*In-part based on your Parish Profile answers  
(20 minutes)*

## Group Activity (5a):

1. As a “*single individual*”, quickly think on & then answer in your group the question:

- *What do “I” (a “me” focus) think about our deanery holding one seasonal outdoor service during this summer 2015 to bring-together deanery parishioners?*

*(3 minutes)*

## Group Activity (5b):

2. As “one combined group”, take a moment to “collectively” reflect on and “collaboratively” answer the question:

- ✓ “If as a parish community we say we enjoy music, how can “we” (an “us”-focus) creatively engage with music as a tool for our parish to mission to our deanery & its many communities? (7 minutes)

## Group Activity (5c):

3. "Silently" reflect on the meditation:

- ❖ *"Be still, and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10).*
- ❖ *Then, while in stillness and silently repeating the Psalmist's "breath prayer" to yourself, quietly discern how "God's" call for our deanery's and parish's future is felt within you?*

*\*\*\*You are asked to sit in discerning silence for 3 minutes until you hear the chime ring; then, when rung, please share in your circle your discernment on this God-centred question\*\*\* (10 minutes)*

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# 6. REPORT BACK TO GATHERING ON PRACTICE

*(10 minutes)*

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# 7. Q&A

*(5-10 minutes)*



*Group  
Musical  
Prayer*

# *Day of Spiritual Companionship / Direction*

@ St. James the Apostle  
Anglican Church (Port Carling)



- ✓ Monday June 1<sup>st</sup>
- ✓ 45 minute spaces: 10am, 11am, 2pm, & 3pm

A special accessible rate offered of \$40 per session, with a portion of each session being a donation to the Muskoka Lakes Parish.



***THANK-YOU...!***

***UNTIL TOMORROW...***

***SOCIAL...***



*Tom Esakin*

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