

Planning for Tourism and Sustainable Development

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A report submitted to the School of Urban and Regional Planning  
in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of  
Master of Planning (M.PL.)

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April 1998

important factor when discussing sustainable development. Elements such as: a cultural landscape assessment, an environmental assessment, a Commemorative Integrity Statement, visions, objectives, policy, implementation, monitoring, and marketing, are introduced in terms of how they can contribute to achieving sustainability when planning for tourism. Differences between the outlined process and other planning processes are discussed in order to accentuate the goal of sustainability that is the basis behind this approach to tourism.

The third section of the report is a case study of the planning process that was used to develop the Confederation Trail on Prince Edward Island. The Confederation Trail is a rails-to-trails project that crosses the Island and passes through numerous communities. This project was made possible because the communities played a significant role in ensuring that their section of the trail was developed. The multi-purpose trail promotes healthy communities and also serves as a major tourism attraction for the province. A comparative analysis illustrates how the Confederation Trail process could have been enhanced if elements of the outlined tourism planning process had been incorporated.

Some conclusions that were drawn about tourism and sustainable development include: tourism has far-reaching ramifications and cannot be considered in isolation from other planning decisions; the role that community involvement plays in achieving sustainable development is essential; and efforts should be made to ensure that all types of tourism help contribute to sustainable development.