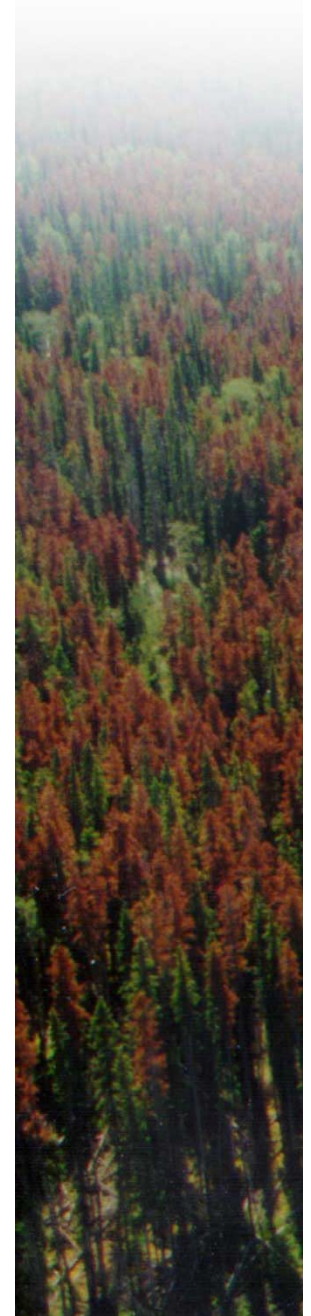




***Strategic  
Conversations Forum  
November 2010***



# Who & Where is the OBAC?

Over 136,000 people & 18 million ha  
14 Local Governments



Over 20 First Nations



# What is the OBAC?

**2005 – 2009**

Completed a well researched and credible diversification plan and strategies for the region

**Fall 2009 –**

Concentrated implementation of the diversification plan

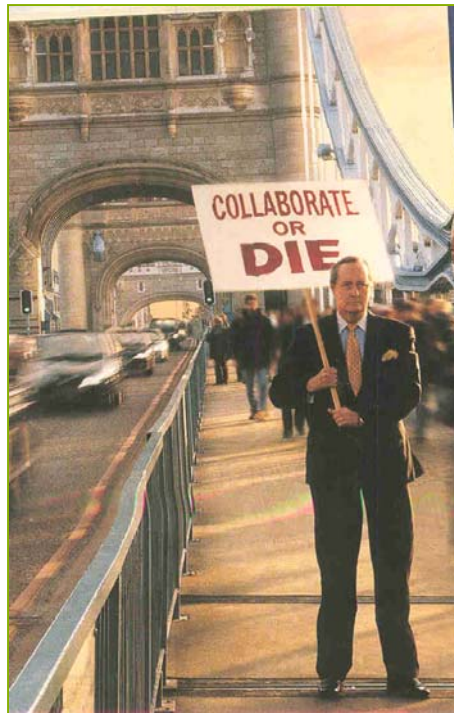
**Mandate:**

To provide oversight and leadership in the implementation of various MPB mitigation plans



## The Why of OBAC?

The Beetle Action Coalitions believe that their ability to provide leadership, oversight and, connection to community leaders, businesses and organizations during the implementation phase of MPB mitigation plans will continue be essential to success.



The Coalitions' knowledge and connections to the local communities and regional business leaders will provide ownership and meaningful transition.

# *The How of OBAC?*

## *CAPSTONE OBJECTIVES...*



- 1. Skilled and educated citizenry*
- 2. Connected communities*
- 3. Model for delivery of services*
- 4. Infrastructure to support competitiveness*

## The How of OBAC?

Armed with action plans which have been developed for each strategy, the Coalition has spent the last several months actively working with the other levels of government, regionally based groups and industries to see implementation of as many of the 42 recommendations and 246 actions as is feasible.



*By building a strong framework through  
**EDUCATED AND SKILLED CITIZENS**  
**CONNECTED COMMUNITIES** ACCESSIBLE  
**HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES**  
and **EFFICIENT INFRASTRUCTURE***

*we will become one of the most desirable rural regions in  
the country in which to live, visit and invest*

# *Purpose of OBAC Strategies*

To present...

***Who needs to do what, why and when  
to achieve responsible and  
sustainable growth in our region?***

- Identify actions for senior governments...
- Identify actions for local governments, First Nations and industry leaders...

To take individually, collectively and in concert with senior governments to achieve this goal.



# ***Blueprint For Action***

## *A Summary of our Regional Strategies Recommendations*



### ***Agriculture***

- 1. Develop infrastructure that supports the agricultural sector and removes barriers to its further development and diversification.*
- 2. Attract new entrants to the industry and enable access to training and education for existing and new members of the sector.*
- 3. Strengthen the industry by increasing collaboration across the sector and by forging partnerships and communication links with First Nations, local communities, governments, health and education agencies.*
- 4. Support value-added and specialized product development and the development of provincial, national and international markets for these products.*
- 5. Increase the demand for locally and regionally produced foods.*



# ***IMPLEMENTATION***

## ***Omineca Agriculture Working Group***

- ❖ Institute for Northern Food and Feed Systems
- ❖ From Strategy to Action – Agriculture Planning for Northern BC after the MPB Epidemic
- ❖ Beyond the Market – Growing the North
- ❖ Breaking the Ground – Local Food In Northern Health Facilities Trial Initiative
- ❖ Farm to School Initiatives



# IMPLEMENTATION

- Green Energy as a Rural Economic Development Tool
- Burns Lake Bioenergy Pilot Project
- Alternative Energy Office
- Bridges – Linking Resources for Community Forests



# *IMPLEMENTATION*

- Regional Airport Strategy Phase 2
- Rural BC Project
- Transition Toolkit Online
- Science and Technology Advancement





*Networks and Partnerships with a Common Cause*

# Thank You

For more information about OBAC go to

<http://ominecacoalition.ca/>

or contact...

Councilor Don Bassermann, OBAC Chair

or

Mayor Stephanie Killam, OBAC Vice Chair

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