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LONG TERM PRIORITY PLANNING FOR THE SETTLEMENTS

Long term planning is the documentation of desired social and material development for a period of several years in the future. (at least)

I The Necessity for Long Term Planning

1. for continuity in social and material development
2. long term plans for the citizen and his children lend some element of stability and assurance in the changing society of the citizen
3. citizens can become realistically goal oriented within the context of long term priority plans
4. students and adults can receive education and training that will maximize their participation in the community's development according to the expectations of the long term priority plans.
5. students and their parents can be aware at an early stage of their development what options are or are not available for them in the settlement in years to come
6. a new government employee will not begin work within a "vacuum", but within the current context of the long term plans
7. long term plans tend to make the development of a community less dependent on the individual differences between government workers
8. government budget needs can be anticipated with greater accuracy
9. the settlement is able to take advantage of financial "windfalls" such as Local Initiatives Programs and Opportunities for Youth because when an opportunity occurs, people are ready
10. long term programs lend themselves to social analysis and analysis of government programs, leading to better programs
11. social readjustments that often occur in conjunction with material development may be anticipated and prepared for as much as is possible by developing compensatory social dynamics

The Need for Priorities in Long Term Planning

1. Priorities decided upon by the community, their needs as they see them, may lead to a more ~~xx~~ satisfied public.
2. There is a limited supply of capital.
3. High priorities will receive closest scrutiny and preparation by government and settlement citizens and this implies a concentration of energy on the planning details and preparation.
4. Government and settlement efforts become goal oriented.

Who Prepares Long Term Development Priorities and Plans?

1. The settlement citizens via the settlement council, the band council and through individual efforts.
2. The government through its settlement employees.
3. The government through its departments at area, region and headquarters.
4. The Federal government with respect to budgeting and those programs in which both Federal and Territorial governments have jurisdiction.

Correlating of Plans and Priorities

Initial Stages

1. It seems appropriate that one regional department with broad terms of reference should correlate the plans and priorities submitted by government workers at all levels.
2. This same department may correlate the plans and priorities of the settlement, or make a composite of both "sides", that is, government and settlement. This is dependent on the skills of settlement citizens and of course varies from place to place.
3. AS the plans and priorities near completion, they must be submitted to the settlement citizens for study, comment and emendation if they so desire.

Final Stages

1. Final emending must be done in the settlement by the citizens.

2. The government may reserve the right to final ratification, especially in cases when it may be funding the development.

Why the Settlement Citizens and/or Their Elected Representatives
Must Have the Final Emending Authority

1. In order to succeed, all plans must have the support of the people who are to do the work and for whom the plans were designed.
2. There must be commitment from the citizens. Commitment depends on the real responsibility that the people, not the government, have had in the planning design and ratification.
3. If the citizens do not have the final emending authority, they may not have a complete understanding of the final plan or not support it. This is likely to lead to failure of the plan.
4. If settlement citizens have full responsibility for approval and design of the plan, then the responsibility for success is placed on them rather than on the Territorial government. Of course the government must willingly fulfill its obligation in the design of the plan.
5. With the public responsible for planning, it can only come to a greater understanding of the task facing government and tend to support it more because of this.

Using the Long Term Plan Effectively

1. Continuing and current records must be kept at all levels of government
2. Continuing and current records must be kept in the settlement by the settlement council, the band council and all interested citizens.
3. All settlement employees must have current copies of the plans and the stages of development.
4. The work of teachers and all other government employees in the settlement must be directed towards enabling the citizens to implement the plans successfully, in whatever way is possible in his or her job.
5. There must be a monthly review of the implementation of the long term plans by a combined committee of settlement workers and representatives of the citizens.