## ECACEP Scenario – Surface Tension

### Planning Factor: Nature of Community

### Theme: Community and our Environment – Controlled Growth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Force/Driver</th>
<th>Scenario Assumptions (developed by workshop participants)</th>
<th>Forces/drivers/outcomes from Consolidated Report that could support this scenario (developed by workshop participants)</th>
<th>Supportive Information from Topic and Focus papers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Population   | - Vibrant small communities                               | - Communities with population growth become regional hubs with sufficient tax revenues to supply services. | - Study area lies mostly in the Battle River Basin (BRB) (62%)  
  - Upper basin (Camrose County) – 64% urban (pop: 71,382)  
  - Middle basin (Beaver and Flagstaff counties) 60% urban (pop: 25,895)  
  - Population in Flagstaff county is decreasing (-14.5% - 1991-2006)  
  - Migration of people to urban areas is expected to continue  
  - Market value of land for non-agricultural land in urban fringes continues to increase  
  - Camrose and Camrose County has a dynamic and diversified economy that has generated high levels of in-migration and pop growth with higher incomes than the rest of BRB This area is projected to account for 71% of the BRB population growth over the next 25 years  
  - Population in the middle basin is gradually shrinking. It has the lowest levels of in-migration and the greatest percentage of people over 65. Significant economic diversification is required to provide new employment outside of the ag industry |
| Age          | - Aging population  
  - More retired people living in the community  
  - More volunteerism from retired workforce  
  - More seniors living on a fixed income, leaving less dollars to spend in the community  
  - Reduction in “baby boomer” influence on society followed by a generation of younger demographic | - 17% of residents in middle basin were 65 or older in 2001. Younger families are leaving the middle basin due to limited employment, leaving behind an older population.  
  - Upper basin has the most people moving into it  
  - BRB residents are more reliant on income from government transfers than Albertans n general |
| Community Identity/values | - Vibrant small communities | - Increased population and increased community buy-in  
  - People understand the need for environmental sustainability  
  - We choose to buy environmentally-friendly, locally grown and produced products  
  - Young people are attracted by the quality of life offered in rural communities  
  - Volunteerism is valued; fosters community identify and a strong sense of community identity |
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<tr>
<th>Community services</th>
<th>Vibrant small communities</th>
<th>Regionally centralized services in larger centres, reducing access in rural areas</th>
<th>Burden on social infrastructure and emergency services increases without a plan to improve services</th>
<th>Healthy aging requires adequate income, education, appropriate housing, satisfying relationships, safe environments and age friendly physical and social environment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Healthy communities with low disease rates</td>
<td>Preventative medicine is a priority</td>
<td>Increasing demand for housing and support services and other professional services Well-coordinated integrated services are required – homecare, community programs, continuing and hospital and palliative care</td>
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<td>Doctors are attracted to live in the region</td>
<td>Aging population requires increased immigration, social services, creates stress on the health care system</td>
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<td>More services for seniors required; less use of other facilities</td>
<td>More services are needed in rural areas</td>
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<td>Recreation</td>
<td>Lots of recreational opportunities in regional hubs</td>
<td>Healthy active lifestyles leads to development of walkable communities</td>
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<td>Built capital</td>
<td>Construction/reconstruction of social buildings (churches, community halls) in regional hubs</td>
<td>Infrastructure deficit is reduced</td>
<td>Rural residential provides increased tax base for regional hubs</td>
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<td>Housing</td>
<td>Lodging/housing pressure for seniors on families</td>
<td>Housing demand for seniors diminishes leading to cheaper housing available for young people</td>
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