

A VISION FOR COLLINGWOOD. WHY. NOW. NEXT. POSSIBLE.

A simple look at the problems we are trying to solve, what can happen first, and what could come later.



KEEP COLLINGWOOD, COLLINGWOOD.

Start with what matters. Build in the right order.

WHAT PROBLEMS ARE WE TRYING TO SOLVE?

Collingwood does not need projects for the sake of projects. The question is whether the town we have today is ready for the community we are becoming.



01

GROWTH PRESSURE

Roads, water, wastewater, stormwater, public assets and services all have to keep pace.

02

COST PRESSURE

We cannot simply add projects and pass the bill to taxpayers. We need priorities, efficiencies, outside funding and better sequencing.

03

RECREATION ACCESS

Our recreation system is effectively full. When drop-in time disappears, free skates, family skates, open gyms and public swims disappear with it.

04

HOUSING + OPPORTUNITY

Affordability is not only housing. People also need good jobs, careers and businesses that can grow here.

05

PUBLIC SPACE + NATURE

Downtown, the waterfront, parks and natural systems should work together and serve people all year.

06

BETTER DELIVERY

Town Hall should set measurable goals, improve how work gets done and publish what changed.

THE RENDERINGS ARE NOT THE VISION.

They are illustrations of what could become possible if the underlying problems are solved well.

The vision is better infrastructure, broader access, stronger public spaces, more opportunity and a town that can grow without losing what makes it home.

NOT EVERYTHING AT ONCE.

The short version is simple: start with practical improvements, build the foundations, then make the bigger choices with proper feasibility, costing, funding and public process.



CHOOSE. SEQUENCE. FUND. TEST. THEN BUILD.

The full vision is the idea bank. This summary is the order of operations.

START SMALL. SHOW PROGRESS.

Quick wins should make daily life better and show what works before bigger projects are committed.



PUBLIC SPACE

Test people-first space, seating, shade, play, markets, music and local history where people already gather.

SMARTER SERVICES

Set service goals, invite staff ideas, use technology where it makes sense and publish what improved.

ACCESS + MOBILITY

Measure parking, bike use and transit demand. Pilot changes before scaling and reinvest improvements in access.

THE TEST

Did the change make the service faster, easier, more reliable or less expensive? Did people actually feel the difference?

BUILD THE BACKBONE BEFORE WE ADD WEIGHT.

Every major idea depends on the systems underneath it. Understand capacity, coordinate the work and plan for the Collingwood we are becoming.



RECREATION CAPACITY + ACCESS

Our arenas, pools and gyms are effectively at capacity. That leaves too little room for free skates, family skates, open gyms, public swims and other affordable drop-in time. When nearly every hour is booked by leagues or paid programs, lower-income families are the first to lose access.

New capacity should create room for everyone - not just more booked hours.

INFRASTRUCTURE FIRST

Roads, public assets, water and wastewater, stormwater and mobility need clear capacity plans before major growth.

HOUSING + JOBS TOGETHER

Create more attainable housing options while also attracting careers, entrepreneurship, skilled trades and local business.

BUILD NATURE INTO HOW WE BUILD

Treat nature, mobility, parks and infrastructure as one connected system, not separate files on a shelf.

DO THE PLANNING. LINE UP FUNDING. SEQUENCE THE WORK.

SHOW WHERE COLLINGWOOD COULD GO.

These concepts are conversation starters - not approved designs, engineering drawings, costed commitments or promises.



WATERFRONT + MILLENNIUM PARK

Test how public waterfront, park space, culture, access and year-round activity could work together.

ILLUSTRATIVE CONCEPT



ARTS, CULTURE + EVENTS

Program first. Choose the site to fit the program. Build a cultural engine, not a monument.

ILLUSTRATIVE CONCEPT



CENTRAL PARK

Test whether baseball, attainable housing, curling and ice capacity, park space and trails can be coordinated rather than solved in silos.

ILLUSTRATIVE CONCEPT

THE VISION CANNOT BECOME A BLANK CHEQUE.

Collingwood's long-term financial model is a reminder that we have to choose, sequence and fund projects carefully - not simply add every idea to the tax base.

4.8% IS A WARNING. NOT OUR FUTURE.

The 4.8% scenario shows the path we need to avoid: trying to do too much at once, with too little outside funding, and leaving taxpayers to carry too much of the cost.

The response in this vision is to set priorities, find efficiencies, phase projects, pursue grants and partnerships, and find better ways to pay for what is needed.

PRIORITIZE + PHASE

Not everything at once. Sequence projects around need, infrastructure capacity and affordability.

FULL BUSINESS CASE

Show capital, operating and lifecycle costs, demand, revenue, risk and taxpayer impact before committing.

EXTERNAL MONEY FIRST

Actively pursue grants, cost-sharing, partners, philanthropy and eligible growth funding before relying on property tax.

COLLABORATE TO DELIVER

Use sport bodies, community groups, private operators, developers and institutional partners where there is clear public benefit.

A FUNDING STACK - NOT ONE SOURCE.

Different projects will qualify for different tools. The point is to combine eligible sources and reduce the amount that has to come from the property-tax base.

WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE.

Before an idea becomes a project, it should pass a simple test.



RESPECT WHERE WE CAME FROM

Does it carry something of Collingwood's story forward?



STRENGTHEN WHAT PEOPLE LOVE

Does it add to the everyday reasons for wanting to live here?



CREATE REAL OPPORTUNITY

Does it support housing, jobs, business, recreation or quality of life?



BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER

Does it create connection, access and shared community life?



FIT OUR INFRASTRUCTURE + FINANCES

Can it be built, serviced, funded and sustained responsibly?



LEAVE SOMETHING WORTH INHERITING

Will future generations be glad we made this choice?

NOW > NEXT > POSSIBLE

START SMALL. LEARN. BUILD. THEN THINK BIGGER.

The full vision contains the deeper concepts, supporting reports and execution detail. This summary is the front door: the problems, the sequence and the possibilities.

KEEP COLLINGWOOD, COLLINGWOOD.