

# **Laurentian Vision Partnership**

## **Meeting XXVII Report**

### ***"Structuring Ongoing Implementation"***



Tuesday, March 29, 2005  
Iron Range Resources, Mineland Reclamation Office  
Chisholm, MN



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Meeting XXVI**

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**Background**

The Laurentian Vision Partnership promotes the Mesabi Iron Range as a place to live and work by providing land design information, tools, ideas and a dialogue forum for enhancing future environmental vitality and economic stability. The Partnership initiatives will mutually benefit mining and community interests by pursuing ways to continue economically viable mining in the long term while reclaiming lands left behind for alternative future uses. The goals of the Laurentian Vision are to support local communities and organizations in:

- *Preserving* the ore body(ies) for current and future mining
- *Designing* the landscape for post-mining uses
- *Planning* for new mining initiatives
- *Providing* the tools to achieve these goals

The Laurentian Vision Partnership is open to all interested regional stakeholders: industry, science/academic, government and communities. The Partnership was initiated in 1999 by a core group that included landowners, Iron Mining Association (IMA), US Steel - Minntac, Iron Range Resources, (IRR), Range Association of Municipalities and Schools (RAMS), the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Minnesota Power (MP), the Western Mesabi Mine Planning Board (WMMPB), and the University of Minnesota's Natural Resources Research Institute (NRRI) and Department of Landscape Architecture (DLA). In the past five years, over 50 organizations have contributed to developing and demonstrating land design tools.

Laurentian Vision activities are supported by pooling the expertise, energy, resources, and information of partner organizations and other contributors. The work of Partnership is coordinated through regular meetings where partners discuss, analyze, introduce, identify, plan, prioritize and steer various projects and initiatives.

**Meeting Objectives**

The XXVII Meeting of the Partnership was the last of three sessions intended to develop and launch the operational priorities and sustainable structure for 2005 – 2006. Specific objectives included the following:

- 1) *Hear* progress reports from workgroups
 

Facilitating REGIONAL VISIONING	Convener:	Joe Scipioni
Delivering TOOLS and RESOURCES	Convener:	John Chell
Targeting PRIORITY PROJECTS	Convener:	Ray Svatos
LV Handbook and Primer	Coordinator:	John Koepke
- 2) *Review and confirm* 3-6 Month Partnership Work Plan
- 3) *Reach consensus* on LV support systems
  - LV coordinator and facilitator
  - Partnership operational structure
  - Funding partnership plan

## Meeting Summary

### Participant introductions

The meeting opened with a welcome to the new and former participants around the table and everybody introduced themselves by sharing their names, role and reasons for joining the Laurentian Vision Partnership meeting.

### Partnership Overview

In order to orient participants to the partnership, the facilitator briefly reviewed the history of Laurentian Vision phases and results since 1999. The 27 meetings have served as the low-overhead, administrative forum for planning and steering LV activities. See Appendix B for a list of meetings and results

<b>Partnership History and Progress</b>			
<b>Phase</b>	<b>Partnership Scoping</b>	<b>Project Implementation</b>	<b>Project Institutionalization</b>
<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>1999 -2000</b>	<b>2000 - 2003</b>	<b>2005 Onward</b>
<b>Results</b>	Built the concept, structure and <u>initial work plan</u> for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ developing information tools and</li> <li>▪ demonstrating land design pilots on the Iron Range</li> </ul>	Created and <u>demonstrated the effectiveness</u> of land design tools: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A unique and comprehensive data base of the Iron Range ore reserves and other landscape information was completed and packaged</li> <li>▪ Two land design visioning charrettes were conducted in the Eastern and Central Mesabi Range.</li> </ul>	Provide <u>providing ongoing, range-wide access</u> to land design visioning tools: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Work Plan for the priority activities and goals in 2005 and</li> <li>▪ Operating structure for a sustainable partnership of, by and for Iron Range communities, mines and organizations.</li> </ul>

### Partnership Work Plan Refinement

The 2005-2006 Partnership Work Plan was clarified and refined based on the discussions at this and the past two meetings. The full work plan is on the next page.

**A. *Facilitate* REGIONAL VISIONING**

Encourage sub-regional and regional landscape communication and visioning that will support the future economy and community vitality on the Iron Range

**B. *Deliver* TOOLS and RESOURCES**

Develop, update and deploy current and existing land design tools that help communities, companies and other stakeholders make informed and innovative land design decisions, solutions and plans

**C. *Target* PRIORITY PROJECTS**

Support land design projects that demonstrate, pilot and test LV tools in various applications, and locations

# 2005- 2006 Laurentian Vision Work Plan

Revised March 29, 2005

Action Areas	6 - 12 Month Priorities	Expected Results in 2005
<p><b>A.</b> <i>Facilitate</i> <b>REGIONAL VISIONING</b></p> <p>Encourage sub-regional and regional landscape communication and visioning that will support the future economy and community vitality on the Iron Range</p>	<p><b>1. Develop an IRON RANGE COMMUNICATION STRATEGY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop and implement a communication strategy that answers <b>what</b> needs to be communicated to <b>who</b> and <b>how</b>, including</li> <li>▪ Set up a grassroots-driven structure for fostering sub-regional/regional visioning and planning.</li> </ul> <hr/> <p><b>2. Set up a sustainable mechanisms for steering PARTNERSHIP OPERATIONS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Iron-Range based structure for steering roles and meetings</li> <li>▪ Staffing to assure steady progress in implementation</li> <li>▪ Broadly shared responsibility for funding</li> </ul>	<p>1. Every community has opportunity to use/know basic tools</p> <p>2. Move toward developing a “bottom-up” regional development vision that addresses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mine Planning</li> <li>Community Planning/Development</li> <li>Public Policy</li> </ul> <p>3. This will be done by working with/within four sub-regions: West Range, CIRI, Quad Cities, East Range.</p>
<p><b>B.</b> <i>Deliver</i> <b>TOOLS and RESOURCES</b></p> <p>Develop, update and deploy current and existing land design tools that help communities, companies and other stakeholders make informed and innovative land design decisions, solutions and plans</p>	<p><b>1. Enhance and Maintain EXISTING TOOLS Maintenance plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The DNR will continue to provide updated current and future digital mine land data and mapping.</li> <li>▪ The DNR will participate in developing custom products for future charrettes/ other land design initiatives.</li> <li>▪ LV partners will collaborate to improve and enhance the Mesabi areas mine land information</li> <li>▪ Laurentian Vision Partnership data or mapping, whether digital or hardcopy, will require source reference.</li> <li>▪ The DNR will complete development of a “standard” set of Mesabi range mine lands maps</li> </ul> <p><b>2. Develop NEW COMMUNICATION TOOLS and MECHANISMS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Package/develop Charrette information, products and accomplishments for visualization and education</li> <li>▪ Digital mine land data will be made available now and in the future to LV partners and others by request</li> <li>▪ Set up a web presence using local resources including colleges</li> <li>▪ Find funding to write a Partnership Handbook</li> </ul> <p><b>3. Set Up EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Create a workshop and product for sharing alternative approaches to stockpiling (proactive reclamation). Consider creating a mine hand book and partnering with SME for a venue and money</li> <li>▪ Explore other deployment strategies and educational opportunities regarding our data tool sets and resources.</li> </ul>	<p>1. Developed new tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hydrology</li> <li>Underground mines</li> <li>Updated mapping/with communication</li> </ul> <p>2. Shift from developing to implementing the regional atlas</p> <p>3. Central information clearing house in place</p>
<p><b>C.</b> <i>Target</i> <b>PRIORITY PROJECTS</b></p> <p>Support land design projects that demonstrate, pilot and test LV tools in various applications, and locations</p>	<p><b>1. Initiate a DYNAMIC, ONGOING PROCESS for sub-region-based project identification/implementation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <u>Quad Cities</u>: Take the Quad Cities Land Design Work to the next level</li> <li>▪ <u>Central Iron Range</u>: Support CIRI Pilot projects of the phased plan developed by the local group.</li> <li>▪ <u>East Range</u>: Work with the East Range Community Readiness Effort comprised of Aurora, Babbitt, Ely, Embarrass, Hoyt lakes, Tower and Ex-Officio Members (IRR, NRR, MPCA, DEED, DNR, IMA)</li> <li>▪ <u>West Range</u>: Support land design need of the Western Mesabi Mine Planning Board</li> <li>▪</li> </ul> <p><b>2. Pursue opportunities to demonstrate land design TOOLS and INFORMATION IN NEW SETTINGS and applications including:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Charrette opportunities that respond to <u>Ispat/Inland land design needs</u></li> <li>▪ A coordinated effort to implement the <u>Iron Range Wetland Bank</u></li> <li>▪ A charrette to identify land design options for an <u>OHV area at the Laurentian Mine</u></li> </ul>	<p>1. Conduct 2-3 additional charrettes on the Iron Range that demonstrate new applications... ... in various sub-regions and ... involving various issues</p> <p>2. An ongoing process set up for sub-regional groups to work with the regional Laurentian Vision Partnership to prioritize, propose and coordinate charrette/land design projects</p>

## Action Reporting and Steering

The Partnership has begun implementation within the three action areas in the 2005-2006 Work Plan. Current work group conveners reported on progress and partners followed up with discussion to respond to recommendations and steer the initiatives. The complete work group reports are in Appendix A.

### A. Facilitating REGIONAL VISIONING

#### Work Group 1: Develop and Iron Range Communication Strategy

See Appendix A page 11 for a complete report

Convener Joe Scipioni reported that the work group had discussed how to develop a clear, implementable communication strategy that answers **what** needs to be communicated to **who** and **how**.

Who: They identified three key audiences include the mining companies, government agencies and regional planning/development groups.

What: Promote the key message that “how we plan and what we do now will determine what we will have later on” and the need to preserve (maximizing) ore body for mining, design the landscape for post-mining activities and provide the planning tools to achieve these goals

How: *Provide* a website that lists contacts for each partner; *report* in TV public access, newspapers etc.; presentations to counties, communities, industry groups. *Develop* a LV Handbook and Primer

#### Partner comments and reactions:

- Key goals are succinctly stated
- If there is an original description of goals it needs to be disseminated (*see the Original Concept Paper in APPENDIX C*)
- Is LV limited to the Mesabi Range? *Yes. The original idea was to concentrate on the Mesabi Range and expand at some future point*
- The LV Primer is an essential piece: It needs to communicate the key goals, concepts, geographic boundaries, etc. so they don't have to be revisited and reinvented all the time. Along with the handbook, it will be a useful tool for regional/sub regional presentations
- Include contact network on the website
- Add organizations to audience lists: add federal agencies; add Industry/Trade groups/papers – SME, Skillings Review, ecological engineers
- Do presentations/communications to sub-regional communities using the pilot charrettes as a focal point

#### Work Group 2: Set up Ways to Steer Partnership Operations

See Appendix A page 12 for report details

Convener, John Chell reported recommendations for a coordinating LV -- an Iron Range-based structure for steering roles and meetings with a coordinator role. He reviewed the LV Goals and suggested the addition of a fourth -- planning new mining initiatives. Five steps were recommended for LV coordination:

- Step 1: Affirm community clusters as the basis for future LV planning efforts
- Step 2: Establish an LV Coordinator Position that reports to the LV Advisory Board and funded by IRR
- Step 3: Create an LV Advisory Committee comprised of community cluster representatives
- Step 4: Establish Technical Assistance Committee in functional issues/expertise areas
- Step 5: Integrate work groups into this organizational model

#### Partner comments and reactions:

- Formalizing the governance runs counter to the spirit of LV as a *resource vs. a policy group*
  - The role of LV is to “paint pictures of what could be” and provide inspiration for local “do” groups
  - Policy discussions and recommendations don't seem to be the right role for the partnership
  - The “bottom-up” structure is right on target as a way to organize LV operations
  - Pro's and cons of a LV Coordinator. The challenges include potential for territory building or creating “one more agency” that is not needed. The benefit include assuring progress, preventing volunteer burnout. It makes sense for IRR to sponsor the coordinator because it is a way to formalize the mineland reclamation and economic development charge of the IRR
  - Keep the big group as the main coordinating group vs. a smaller steering/advisory group
  - Work group conveners/sub-regional group leaders can help with coordination and communication: Work with facilitator to plan and develop meeting agendas; help the coordinator connect implementation
- MIRJA: IS THERE SOMETHING MISSING HERE???**

## Action Reporting and Steering

Continued

### Priority B: Delivering TOOLS and RESOURCES

See Appendix A page 13 for a complete report

Conveners Marty Vadis and Tim Pastika reported that work group refined the recommended priorities and defining specific action plans and partnership roles within three major action areas:

- A. Existing Tools - Data Maintenance: In order to take advantage of new technical data acquired to help refine the LV database, Tim Pastika will organize an effort to update the data depicting future mine development areas and time frames by working with partners who contributed previous data.
- B. Existing Tools - Data Delivery: In order to accommodate diverse needs of communities and users, mine and land data available in various formats including CDs in standard GIS formats, CDs in standardized PDF format mapping and standardized, large format hard copy plots
- C. New Tools - Data Development

Hydrology Project: A two-stage project to 1) develop data/hydrologic models for pits east of Chisholm etc., 2) conduct a generalized hydrology study from Keewatin Taconite through Minntac with future pit configurations, watershed alteration alternatives and key elevation areas. Currently part of the CIRI LCMR proposal with final work plan specific due at the end of April.

Underground Mine Workings Project: The objective is to identify the extent of underground mining from Hibbing to Buhl including where underground workings are, aren't or are uncertain. It is currently a part of the CIRI bonding proposal

#### *Partner comments and reactions:*

- Can the hydrology/underground mine workings studies expand to include the whole Mesabi Range?  
The Work Group can look into increasing the scope of the project

Perhaps the best way to expand is to complete the current sub-regional pilot and then have the stakeholders share their experience and result with the rest of the Range. This is more in the spirit of the LV process – it is not a “top down” process for land design but offers models and tools that local stakeholders can learn from and implement as they see fit.

### Priority C: Targeting PRIORITY PROJECTS

See Appendix A pages 14-15 for a complete report

Conveners Ray Svatos and other work group members reported exploration and planning regarding potential projects in all sub-regions of the iron Range including:

1. Follow up on Quad Cities Plans by inviting Terry Leoni and other players to re-ignite interest
2. Assist CIRI with follow through on projects currently targeted in bonding bills and other funding proposals
3. Support East Range Community/Readiness Effort actively once the next owner of the LTV site is known
4. Pursue ISPAT/Inland Charrette Opportunities
  - Scoping EAW in process from March 2005
  - Next step is a mandatory EIS with permitting done in conjunction
  - Outlining of the ore body in process
  - Agreements with four fee owners needs to be completed
  - Charrette proposal drafted with preliminary schedule April – December 2005
5. Support land design needs of the Western Mesabi Mine Planning Board when they are ready
6. Continue to explore a coordinated effort to implement an Iron Range Wetland Bank.
7. Tabled the pursuit of how the Laurentian Mine could be made useable for an OHV area

#### *Partner comments and reactions:*

- Work with West Range stakeholders to target project possibilities e.g. Nashwauk –Keewatin; Keetac industrial vs. residential development
- Is aggregate resource mapping something to add to our database [ Currently, the partnership is scoped to address taconite mining]

## Organizational Structure and Roles

After considering the proposed operating structure and other options, the partners decided to continue steering and coordinating regional Laurentian Vision activities through ongoing Partnership Meetings, as-needed work groups and a LV Coordinator who will coordinate/support implementation of regional activities.



### Laurentian Vision ROLES

*Drafted October 29, 2004*

At the October 2004 planning meeting, partners discussed options, challenges and considerations for implementing and supporting the partnership, and agreed on overall roles of a) the regional LV partnership group and b) local/sub-regional land design/development groups:

#### **Regional Partnership Group**

Serve as a resources provider and forum for encouraging and supporting current/post-mining landscape visioning sub-regionally and regionally

1. Offer tools that all stakeholders on the Iron Range can use. Evolve to provide tools and resources as need becomes known. LV helps develop the big picture database of topographical/environmental information that everyone on the Iron Range can benefit from
2. Keep track of land-related information and communicate the results and impacts local activities
3. Identify regional land design needs/problems/opportunities and provide appropriate resources to address the issues.
4. Provide a forum for bottom-up visioning dialogue about developing future Iron Range landscapes

#### **Local/Sub-regional Partnership Group**

Self-selected “neighborhood”/ sub-regional planning clusters such as the Central Iron Range Initiative, Quad Cities, Western Mesabi Mine Planning Board and East Range Community Readiness groups.

1. Initiate and request assistance to plan and host charrettes, maps and other tools
2. DO the pre and post legwork to implement land design ideas and plans. Help define what will be/should be built and help create a joint plan by all players
3. Apply solutions and models to local projects; Takes LV tools and uses them to address local needs

## Organizational Structure and Roles

Continued

<b>Laurentian Vision Partnership Operations</b>	
<b>Organizational structure</b>	
<b>Partner Meetings</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Laurentian Vision activities will continue to be supported by pooling the expertise, energy, resources, and information of partner organizations and other contributors</li> <li>2. The meetings provide a neutral forum or level playing field for dialogue and decision making by a diverse group of interests and stakeholders</li> <li>3. The work of Partnership is coordinated through regular meetings where partners discuss, analyze, introduce, identify, plan, prioritize and steer various projects and initiatives.</li> <li>4. Work group conveners/sub-regional group leaders will work with the facilitator to plan and develop meeting agendas</li> </ol>
<b>Action Groups</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Work groups</u> composed of LV partners will be formed as needed to address specific needs or issues as they arise and make recommendations about action or advise implementation of initiatives such as tool/information development and charrette coordination</li> <li>2. <u>Sub-regional Groups</u>: An ongoing process set up for sub-regional groups to work with the regional Laurentian Vision Partnership to prioritize, propose and coordinate land design projects               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Currently, four sub-regional groups are members of the LV Partnership --Western Mesabi Mine Planning Board (WMMPB), Central Iron Range Initiative Range (CIRI), The Quad Cities, and The East Range Community Readiness Group</li> <li>▪ New geographic alliances will be encouraged to form, join and participate.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>LV Coordinator</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The role of the position is to <u>support and coordinate</u> implementation of LV Vision activities:           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Ongoing communication as identified in the LV Communication Strategy</li> <li>b. Support the charrette planning and conducting by host organizations</li> <li>c. Set-up and enable Partnership Meetings</li> <li>d. Back up help with work group activities</li> <li>e. Other coordinator and communication duties as they evolve</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. At this time, the IRR will supply and fund the coordinator on behalf of the LV Partnership</li> <li>3. Work group conveners/sub-regional group leaders will provide communication with the coordinator pertaining to work groups and geographic group activities between meetings.</li> </ol>
<b>Meeting Facilitator</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Work with LV coordinator, partners, work group conveners and sub-regional group leaders to prepare agendas, material and procedures for the partnership Meetings</li> <li>2. Provide objective, inclusive and productive meeting leadership to assure effective dialogue, decision making and implementation coordination by partners</li> <li>3. Document the discussion and decision in promptly prepared meeting reports</li> </ol>
<b>Funding partners and strategies</b>	
<b>Staffing Funds</b>	The IRR will allocate annual funds for retaining a coordinator for LV that will support and coordinate implementations of LV activities and initiatives
<b>Meeting Resources</b>	Regular meetings will be hosted on a rotating basis by various partner organizations. Hosting includes a) providing space and meeting equipment and b) serving appropriate refreshments
<b>LV Activity Funding</b>	Funds to support the cost of tool development, information gathering, communication initiatives and other regional LV activities will be funded through partner contribution and funding through grants
<b>Charrette Funding</b>	Host communities and organizations will provide the funding and implementation resources needed charrette planning, conducting and follow-up activities including a) Providing fiscal resources to implement land design decisions and b) Forming a local partnership organization to coordinate implementation and links to local stakeholders

## Next Steps

### Work Group Action

As a result of the meeting discussion and decisions, tasks were identified for most work groups or specific individuals within them:

Action Areas	Work Group Priorities	Work Group Members	Next Steps
<b>Facilitate Regional Visioning</b>	1. Develop and Implement an Iron Range Communication Strategy	Joe Scipioni, <i>Convener</i> Marlene Pospeck, <i>website</i> Tim Pastika Doug Learmont John Koepke, <i>Primer/Handbook</i>	1. No further work in planning the communications strategy. 2. Fund and proceed to develop the Primer and Handbook ( J.Koepke, C.Carlson) 3. Coordinating the communication actions will be one of the primary roles of the LV Coordinator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The partners/work group will advise</li> <li>▪ The LV coordinator will lead implementation</li> </ul> 4. Develop a web presense for LV
	1. Set up ways to steer partnership operations	John Chell, <i>Convener</i> , Randy Lasky, <i>Convener</i> , Garrett Ous, Dan Markham Matt Sjoberg	1. Operations structure model is completed 2. Launch the staff structure Develop the position, budget and hiring process for the LV Coordinator and meeting facilitator (S.Layman/R.Lasky) 3. Develop a plan and sources for funding partnership activities (Next meeting)
<b>Deliver Tools and Resources</b>	1. Enhance and maintain existing tools 2. Develop new Communication Tools and mechanisms 3. Set up educational opportunities to know/use tools	Marty Vadis, <i>Convener</i> Tim Pastika Dennis Hendricks, Pete VanDelinder, Doug Learmont Tom Gardner	1. Develop scenario(s) for range-wide expansion and phasing for hydrology, underground mine
<b>Target Priority Projects</b>	1. Work with subregions to identify needs and support charrettes 2. Pursue Ispat Inland Charrette 3. Support land design discussion to address the need to coordinate efforts to implement an Iron Range Wetland Bank.	Ray Svatos, <i>Convener</i> Dan Jordan Doug Hildenbrand Doug Learmont Barry Lesar Delyle Pankratz Marlene Pospeck Tim Pastika Vickei Tuskan Randy Lasky Tiffany Anderon	1. Set up the ISPAT charrette <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Preparation/pre-study schedule</li> <li>▪ Budget/funding plan</li> <li>▪ Participant invitation– local stakeholders, landscape architects etc.</li> <li>▪ Other coordination steps</li> </ul> 2. Set up a process for sub-regional groups to prioritize, propose and coordinate charrette/land design projects on an ongoing basis

### Next Partnership Meeting

The next Laurentian Partnership meeting will be held June 14, 2005, 9 am - 12:00 pm at the Mineland Reclamation Office.

## Meeting Participants

Arrowhead Regional Development Commission  
Department of Natural Resources  
Eveleth Area Economic Development Authority  
Facilitator  
Hibbing Chamber of Commerce/CIRI  
Hibbing Taconite  
Iron Range Resources

Itasca County Land Commissioner  
Ispat Inland Mining  
Minnesota Power  
Northspan Group  
Natural Resources Research Institute (U of M)  
Polymet/Langdon Warren Families  
RGGS Land and Minerals  
Range Association of Municipalities and Schools  
Rendrag, Inc.  
St.Louis County  
University of Minnesota  
US Bank/Quad City CHLP(?)  
US Steel - Keewatin Taconite  
Virginia Public Utilities Commission  
Western Mesabi Mine Planning Board

John Chell  
Tim Pastika, Marty Vadis  
Tiffany Anderson  
Mirja Hanson  
Lory Fedo  
Pete Van Delinder  
Sandy Layman, Brian Hiti, Brian Hanson, Matt Sjoberg  
Ray Svatos, Dan Jordan, Delyle Pankratz  
Garret Ous  
John Arola  
Dan Markham  
Randy Lasky  
Mike Lalich  
Jim Swearingen  
Peter Heltunen, Larry Lindblom  
Ron Diklich  
Tom Gardner  
Barry Lesar  
John Koepke  
Vickie Tuskan  
Joe Scipioni  
Terry Leoni  
Doug Learmont

## Appendix A: Work Group Reports

<b>Regional Visioning Work Group 1: Communication Strategy</b>	<i>March 24, 2005</i>
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Work Group members present: Joe Scipioni, Marlene Pospeck, Tim Pastika

Charge: Develop a clear, implementable communication strategy that answers **what** needs to be communicated to **whom** and **how**

### 1. WHO

<b>A. Laurentian Vision Group</b>		
<b>Mining Companies</b>	<b>Government Agencies</b>	<b>Regional Planning/Development Groups</b>
MSI Keewatin Taconite Hibbing Taconite Minntac Ispat/Inland United Taconite Northshore Mining	IRR DNR NRRRI Army Corps of Engineers MPCA University of Minnesota County/City Planning Boards	Itasca Economic Development Corporation West Range Mine Planning Board CIRI Central Iron Range Initiative Quad Cities East Range Northshore Communities
<b>B. Key Legislators and Policy Makers</b>		

### 2. WHAT

**Goals:**

- Preserving the ore body for mining
- Designing the landscape for post-mining uses
- Providing the planning tools to achieve these goals.

The Message: How we plan and what we do now will determine what we will have later on

### 3. HOW

- Website – listing contacts for each partner
- Video on public access TV periodically
- Regional presentations – Counties, Communities, SME, IMA
- Newspaper articles
- Laurentian Vision Primer and Handbook

John Koepke or the Department of Landscape Architecture at the University of Minnesota reported on the progress made to develop two products that would a) help communities and companies utilize LV tools and information and, at the same time, b) document the results of the past LV work, landscape architect expertise and the accumulated “institutional” knowledge:

1. Laurentian Vision Primer that explains the project’s mission, purpose, area of influence etc. for current and future audiences
2. Partnership Handbook on how to conduct a charrette including steps, tips and guidelines for coordination, logistics, timing, raising/leveraging money as well as a detailed discussion of the roles and responsibilities required for making a true partnership work over the long term

## Appendix A: Work Group Reports

### Regional Visioning Work Group 2: Set up Ways to Steer Partnership Operations

Convener, John Chell reported that the work group developed recommendations for a coordination system that includes an 1) Iron Range-based structure for steering roles and meetings and 2) implications for the LV coordinator role. He reviewed the LV Goals and Expected 2005 Results in the Work Plan. The goals suggested an addition of a fourth -- planning new mining initiatives.

- Charge from Steering Group:** Set up ways to steer Partnership Operations and develop coordination systems:
- Propose an Iron-Range based structure for steering roles and meetings
  - Identify implications for an LV coordinator role
- Expected Results in 2005:** Move toward developing a “bottom-up regional development vision that addresses:  
Mine Planning, Community Planning/Development, Public Policy  
Work within the four sub-regions: West Range, CIRI, Quad Cities, and East Range.
- Action Steps:** The FOUR goals of the Laurentian Vision are
- Preserving the ore body(ies) for mining
  - Designing the landscape for post-mining uses
  - Planning for new mining initiatives
  - Providing the tools to achieve these goals.

**Step 1.** Affirm that the four community clusters are the basis for future L.V. planning efforts.

**Step 2.** Establish a L.V. coordinator position supported by the IRR. (IRR employee?) The role of the position is to work with the community clusters and their associated mining companies to determine planning goals at the community cluster level. Coordinator reports to the L.V. Advisory Board.

- a. Promote community cluster interest in L.V. processes.
- b. Ensure participation by mining companies.
- c. Identify issues associated with mining activity, integrating mining activity with charrettes , local ordinances, infrastructure and projects.
- d. Facilitate community cluster work plans.
- e. Organize the support agencies (U. of MN, St. Louis Co., IRR, DNR, Northspan, ARDC, DEED, NRRI, etc.) to provide resources and technical assistance to the community clusters.
- f. Identify and report to the Advisory Board:
  - i. Public policy issues relevant to the mining region: wetland banking strategies, reclamation processes, hydrology, permitting, transportation, community issues.
  - ii. Periodic progress reports on cluster planning, project status, funding opportunities, and budget status.
  - iii. Community Cluster work plans, Technical Committee member contributions to each work plan,

**Step 3.** Create a L.V. Advisory Committee that is comprised of representatives from the community clusters with the following authorities and responsibilities:

- Ensure all L.V. funded projects conform to the four goals of the Laurentian Vision process
- Develop a uniform planning and project management process for community clusters, recognizing that the issues are different for each cluster, each cluster is at a different stage in their development, different strategies and tools will be needed, and each cluster is has a different organizational structure.
- Planning and Reclamation budget advisory role
- Provide incentives to encourage community cluster planning and project development
- Work program oversight
- Technical committee coordination
- Public Policy review and analysis.

Laurentian Vision Advisory Committee membership: 2 representatives from each community cluster, IRR, Participating mining companies

**Step 4.** Establish Technical Assistance committee comprising the support agencies providing technical assistance to the community clusters. “Experts on tap, not on top.” Define each Technical Assistance agency role in the Laurentian Vision process.

Technical Assistance Committee issue and expertise areas (functional, not geographic):

Charrette planning and landscape design  
Economic development and project funding

Mining and reclamation technologies  
Hydrology

**Step 5.** Integrate the work of the other work groups into this organizational model.

## Appendix A: Work Group Reports

### Tools and Resources Work Group

*Notes from 2nd meeting on 3/23/05*

Work group members present: Pete VanDelinder, Doug Learmont, Marty Vadis, Tim Pastika, John Adams

Our group developed broad recommendations and priorities in our initial meeting of 1/5/05. These ideas were designed, in part, to answer the following questions...

- 1) What should the Laurentian Vision Partnership do in the next 1-2 years to develop, update, and deploy Mesabi Range area land design tools to help communities, companies and other stakeholders make informed and innovative land design decisions, solutions, and plans?
- 2) What are the implications for specific partner roles? LV meetings? LV work groups? staffing? other resources?

This meeting focused on refining our priorities and defining specific action plans and partnership roles within several chosen project areas.

#### A. Existing Tools – Data Maintenance

The group saw an immediate need to update our data that depicts future mine development areas and timeframes. Since the original development of this information, new technical data has been acquired which can help refine it. Our plan is to call upon those partners who originally provided this data, and update it to the best extent of current knowledge. Tim Pastika will organize this effort. (Note: this updated information would also be a necessary component of the hydrology studies on the range.) This data needs to be updated prior to general distribution.

#### B. Existing Tools – Data Delivery

Communities, agencies, and other stakeholders should have ready access to our updated (current and future) mine land data. Some recipients of the information prefer the data in its original GIS format, while others find hardcopy maps the most useful. To accommodate the needs of various end users, data delivery efforts will include the following...

1. Package mine land data sets to CD in standard GIS format.
2. Package mine land data sets to CD in standardized PDF format mapping.
3. Package mine land data sets into standardized, large format, hardcopy plots.

CD's can likely be offered to our stakeholders at no cost. Large format hardcopy plots can be offered for cost. Tim Pastika will coordinate this effort.

#### C. New Tools – Data Development

The group discussed 2 data projects currently proposed for the central iron range area...

##### Hydrology Project:

- part of a Central Iron Range Initiative (CIRI) Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCMR) proposal
- LCMR now looking for final work plan specifics (by the end of April)
- 2-stage project... (1) develop data and specific hydrologic models for the pits east of Chisholm, determine future stable waterline elevations, outflows, and shoreline locations. (2) generalized hydrology study from Keewatin Taconite through Minntac, develop generalized future pit configurations, study alternatives with watershed alteration issues, and identify key elevation areas within the ultimate pit extent highwalls.
- updated delineation of taconite deposits and development timeframes is necessary

##### Underground Mine Workings Project:

- part of a Central Iron Range Initiative (CIRI) bonding proposal
- objective is to broadly delineate the extent of underground mining from Hibbing to Buhl
- project identifies 3 areas... (1) has underground workings, (2) has no underground workings, (3) uncertain of underground workings. This work will indicate whether or not specific construction projects require detailed engineering analysis of underground mine developments.

An example of the current information concerning the Duluth Complex deposits was distributed. This GIS data delineates known resources of the Complex, and provides available attribute information about the deposits. Laurentian Vision work in the eastern Mesabi Range will necessarily incorporate this data.

The group briefly discussed the possibility of conducting a charrette surrounding Inland's proposed eastern (Biwabik area) mine development. While this is a few years out, the area appears to be an excellent candidate for Laurentian Vision involvement in designing post-mining landscapes *prior* to initial taconite development.

The need for mapping and GIS analysis along the range, particularly by cities, was discussed. The DNR will continue to develop and provide past/present/future mine land data and mapping for Mesabi Range land use initiatives. However, many other GIS applications exist which may be very suitable for involvement by a group such as ARDC or private consultants.

## Appendix A: Work Group Reports

### Priority Projects Work Group

Meeting March 3, 2005

Work Group Members present: Ray Svatos, Dan Jordan, DeLyle Pankratz, Marlene Pospeck, Tim Pastika, Doug Hildenbrand and Doug Learmont

The meeting started with a discussion of Laurentian Vision focus and priorities. Several ideas, suggestions and questions were raised.

- Two charrettes should be completed, one on the east range and one on the west range.
- The east range charrette would include the new ISPAT Inland Mine east of McKinley
- The west Range could be centered around the Nashwauk-Keewatin area and the expanded operation of Kee-Tac in relationship to expanded residential and industrial park expansion in these communities.
- Should the Cuyuna and Vermilion Ranges also be included in the Laurentian Vision process? Not at this time as Iron Range Resources, Mineland Reclamation Program has a means for dealing with safety and abandoned mining issues.
- The Mesabi Range needs to be the main focus of Laurentian Vision, because of the active taconite mining potential for new nonferrous mining, and to avoid spreading the group to thin and diluting our effectiveness and success.
- The Laurentian Vision process focus is; long range planning, projects and providing good information across the Mesabi Range, so that future development makes sense.
- What are the aggregate issues resource availability and consumption issues on the Mesabi. Itasca County recently completed, in cooperation with DNR Lands & Minerals, an aggregate resource map. Is there a need for resource mapping for the rest of the range?
- There is the need to complete a pilot project
- C.I.R.I. has two projects for the Central Iron Range; (1) Hydrology, (2) Underground mine mapping
- Another goal should be, obtaining other funding sources to complete projects
- Find out values and taxes paid for developed lakeshore in St. Louis County - abandoned mine pit/lakes could potentially have similar values in the future if landscaped properly

#### Follow up notes:

Lake Vermilion has a value of \$1400 front foot. Lake Vermilion has 10% of the tax base for St. Louis County, excluding the City of Duluth

- St. Louis county tax base is \$7.4 billion and the City of Duluth tax base is \$4 billion
- Miners Lake/Pit in Ely has a value of \$130 a front foot. No reshaping occurred on this pit/lake, but many lots have been sold and houses built on this steep, rugged shoreline. Values would likely be similar to nearby Shagawa Lake at \$450/foot of shoreline if reshaping had taken place

#### 3 to 6 Month Priorities

##### 1. Follow up Quad Cities Plans

- Work group members to contact charrette participants and determine their interest in participating the following-up and implementation phase
- There was an unfortunate set of circumstances after the charrette, with the closing of EVTAC, that caused progress to halt on implementing the results of this charrette.
- Get Terry Leoni to share his enthusiasm with whomever should be representing the Virginia/Eveleth area.
- Follow up note: Terry Leoni, City of Virginia, will inform John Tourville and Bill Hennis of past Laurentian Vision work in the Quad Cities area and (who will - Terry, John or Bill) will plan on attending the 3/29/05 meeting.

##### 2. Assist C.I.R.I. with follow through on their projects

- \$1.7 million in the bonding bill for sanitary sewer project
- The \$1.7 million has several pieces; including fish habitat and pit development
- The governor has commented that he would not veto the funding if passed through the legislature
- C.I.R.I. to ask for Iron Range Resource's Commissioners support for the state bond funding.

##### 3. Support East Range Community/Readiness Effort

- There currently is no active mining to shape the land
- The effort of interested parties is now focused on environmental review and permitting
- Once we know who will be using the former LTV site, then have a charrette
- Invite Jim Scott, Polymet and Ernie Lehmann, Lehmann Exploration to the next Laurentian Vision meeting
- Tim Pastika - keep the ball rolling on the East Range by providing mineral base map information.

## Appendix A: Work Group Reports

### Priority Projects Work Group (Continued)

Meeting March 3, 2005

#### 4. Pursue ISPAT/ Inland Charrette Opportunities

- Scoping EAW begins the process in March, 2005
- The next step is a mandatory EIS
- Permitting to mine in conjunction with EIS
- In the process of outlining the ore body
- Agreements with fee owners need to be completed, fee owners are:
  1. Tom Gardner
  2. RGGGS Land and Mineral
  3. Dave Mienieke, Meriden Engineering
  4. State of Minnesota
- The fee owners end up with the final product of enhanced real estate of planned and completed properly
- Invite RGGGS and Tom Gardner to the next Laurentian Vision meeting
- Royalty discussion should be completed before the end of the second quarter
- Once the permitting and royalty discussions are completed a charrette can be done.

#### 5. Support land design need of the Western Mesabi Mine Planning Board

- The Canisteo Pit Project is not ready for a charrette, until the water stabilization issue has been resolved. There currently are dollars in the state bonding bill to address the issue
- MSI, is too early in the planning stages to be considered for a charrette.
- The Nashwauk/Keewatin area may have the best potential for a charrette because of the activity at KeeTac and the continued development by the City of Nashwauk on the iron formation

#### 6. Coordinated effort to implement the Iron Range wetland bank

- Mining companies need thousands of acres
- Can tailings basin be used as wetland?
- The water depth needs to be less than 6 feet and the land can't be disturbed again.
- Too many issues and too site specific
- Laurentian Vision probably can't do much to assist with this issue

#### 7. Charrette to identify land design options for an OHV area at the ISPAT-Inland Laurentian Mine

- This issue was discussed at the last Laurentian Vision meeting and the site is not a candidate for a charrette because of the likelihood that the mine will stay open for an extended number of years and that a simple agreement with the DNR may all that be necessary for any site improvements

The work group also reviewed community based Mineland Reclamation project requests to determine how any of them fit into the Laurentian Vision Long Range Planning process.

## Appendix B: Laurentian Vision Phases, Meetings and Results



### Project CONCEPT

I.	September 2, 1999	IRRRB, Chisholm	“Clarifying Project Intents”
I.	September 23, 1999	NRRI, Duluth	“Developing a Project Workplan”
III.	November 18, 1999	NRRRI, Duluth	“Agreeing to Project Intent”

**Result: Consensus on the project scope, intent and goals**

### Project PLAN and STRUCTURE

IV.	January 7, 2000	Giants Ridge, Biwabik	“Finalizing the Project Plan”
V.	March 3, 2000	IRRRB, Eveleth	“Discussing Administrative Structure”
VI.	May 5, 2000	Giants Ridge, Biwabik	“Agreeing to Basic Operating Mechanisms”

**Result: Consensus on the coordinating and funding mechanisms**

### Project IMPLEMENTATION

VII.	July 12, 2000	USS Minntac, Mt. Iron	“The Work Begins”
VIII.	September 26, 2000	NRRI, Duluth	“Matching Resources to Results”

**Result: Working maps of mine reserves - past, present, and future**

IX.	October 31, 2000	NRRI, Duluth	“Agreement on Project Deliverables”
X.	December 1, 2000	USS Minntac, Mt. Iron	“Launching Project Deliverables”

**Result: Definition of region for regional data collection**

XI.	January 12, 2001	Giants Ridge, Biwabik	“Presenting the Partnership”
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**Result: Communication of LV key stakeholders**

XII.	February 8, 2001	NRRI, Duluth	“Implementing Specific Projects”
XIII.	March 23, 2001	Park Inn, Virginia	“Coordinating Key Efforts”

**Result: 2-year funding secured!**

XIV.	July 16, 2001	NRRI, Duluth	“Setting Up a Newly Funded Program Year”
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**Result: Pilot land design charrette in Quad Cities**

XV.	November 2, 2001	Giants Ridge, Biwabik	“Leveraging the Success of the Pilot Project”
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**Result: Pilot charrette presentation to key stakeholders**

XVI.	November 28, 2001	IRRRB, Eveleth	“Deciding the Charrette Follow-up Plan”
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**Result: Mine data mapping complete! Land design charrette selection guidelines**

## **Appendix B: Laurentian Vision Phases, Meetings and Results**

Continued

XVII. December 13, 2001 NRRI, Duluth "Full Speed Follow-up on the Charrette and Atlas"

**Result: Systematic land design presentations to partner organizations**

XVIII. February 11, 2002 USS Minntac, Mt. Iron "Setting Up Outreach and Additional Pilot Projects"

**Result: Data base complete active dialogue with other pilot land design projects**

XIX. April 11, 2002 NRRI, Duluth "Linking Land Design Tools to On-the-Ground Needs"

**Result: Mechanisms designed for citizen access to data**

XX. June 5, 2002 Iron World, Chisholm "Mobilizing Land Design Tools to Meet Needs"

**Result: Mine data completed and presented**

XXI. August 28, 2002 Iron World, Chisholm "Finalizing Partnership Deliverables"

**Result: Data Atlas products rolled out -- map, binders, CD set and handbooks**

XXII. October 15, 2002 USS Minntac, Mt. Iron "Planning the Next Land Design Collaboration"

**Result: Second charrette selected and launched**

XXIII. May 26, 2003 Iron World, Chisholm "Debriefing the Central Iron Range Charrette"

**Result: Second charrette completed**

### **Project INSTITUTIONALIZATION**

XXIV. August 19, 2003 NRRI, Duluth "Assessing the partnership Past, Present and Future"

XXV. October 29, 2004 IRR, Eveleth "Moving the Partnership Forward"

**Result: Gathered old and new partners to discuss how LV becomes a sustainable Iron Range effort**

XXVI. January 11, 2005 IRR, Chisholm "Setting Course for 2005"

XXVII. March 28, 2005 IRR, Chisholm "Structuring Ongoing Implementation"

**Result: Launched the 2005 Partnership Work Plan and local operations**

## Appendix C: Laurentian Vision Concept Paper

### Laurentian Vision Partnership Description *Revised January 2002*

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<b>The Participants</b>		
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Ensuring viable healthy communities

Reclaiming lands to ensure a healthy future for iron range communities

Providing a planning framework and vision for the future based on economic, recreational and environmental considerations

#### **The Intent: Laurentian Vision Prospectus**

#### **CONCEPT**

The Laurentian Vision is exploring opportunities for mining and former mining lands throughout Minnesota's Mesabi Iron Range. It is a voluntary and cooperative effort focused on the collection and analysis of data that will help landowners and mining companies manage and use existing and depleted mine lands in ways that will insure their usability in the future. The project will develop a framework for adding economic, environmental, scenic and social value to these lands even as value is being derived from them through present mining operations.

#### **PURPOSE**

The fundamental purpose of the Laurentian Vision is to identify alternatives for the Mesabi Iron Range as an attractive place to live and work. The Vision will provide data and information to mining companies, landowners and other stakeholders, and identify options for the thoughtful conversion of mine lands to suitable uses following mineral depletion. Examples of such uses might include public and private recreational lakes, golf courses, parks and trails, interpretive and educational sites, private industrial parks, planned communities or hunting reserves; wildlife habitat and reforestation.

The goal of the Vision is to provide information that will facilitate decisions to:

- Preserve future mining opportunities and identify areas of high mining potential
- Enhance the region's economic development and natural environment through resource management
- Create a framework for comprehensive decision-making about resource use
- Produce planning and design tools for landscape design and reuse
- Engage all affected parties in discussion and in design work that reinforces cooperation and builds effective working relationships throughout the Mesabi Iron Range

The Laurentian Vision is an exciting challenge for residents of the Range. It provides a unique opportunity for government, industry, education, citizens and community interests to build strong partnerships based on common economic and resource goals. And, it allows these interests to make creative and timely decisions about how best to sustain the region's unique natural, cultural and economic resources in the twenty-first century.

January 7, 2000

**PLAYERS**

The Laurentian Vision is being developed by an Ad Hoc group that includes landowners, Iron Mining Association (IMA), US Steel - Minntac, Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board (IRRRB), Range Association of Municipalities and Schools (RAMS), the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Minnesota Power (MP), the Western Mesabi Mine Planning Board (WMMPB), and the University of Minnesota's Natural Resources Research Institute (NRRI) and Department of Landscape Architecture (CALA). However, the process is inclusive and all other stakeholders will be convened once the project's scope is clarified.

As an organizing team, the Ad Hoc group believes a high level of expertise is available, commitment is strong and the time is right to create a vision that could:

- Maximize the value of existing mineral lands and create alternatives for their future
- Connect existing mining operations to a positive legacy for future generations
- Integrate existing and future planning, design and development activities throughout the Range
- Encourage working relationships among diverse interests that could leverage individual efforts and foster protocols for continued collaboration
- Build connections between the region's present and future economic bases

**PROCESS**

A systematic analysis of existing and future mining operations and their opportunities, an understanding of current and future adjacent land use activities, and active participation by stakeholders will identify alternative uses for former mine lands. Suggested activities for a project work plan include:

- Collective and synthesis of all current data related to mining
- A regional resource inventory
- The production of up-to-date maps identifying future mineral reserves and other resources
- Reclamation and alternative use workshops
- The formation of technical work groups to develop and evaluate potential mining and other resource scenarios
- Open houses, workshops and other communication tools to inform the public

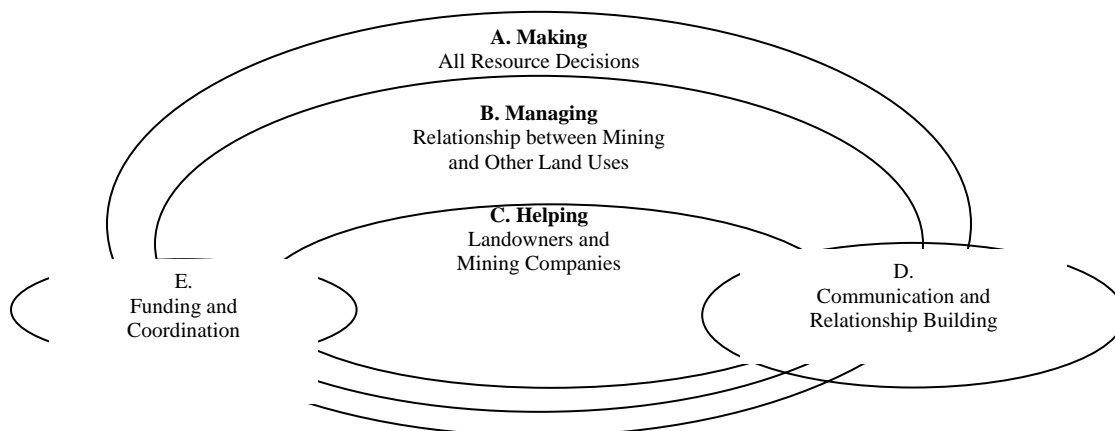
January 7, 2000

**PRODUCTS**

The Laurentian Vision will promote the Mesabi Iron Range as a place to live and work by providing information and options for its future that can enhance environmental vitality and economic stability. The data and concepts generated will mutually benefit mining and community interests by providing ways to continue economically viable mining in the long term while reclaiming lands left behind for alternative future uses.

Four important but practical implementation tools will result from the project. First, a cooperative planning framework within which stakeholders can make individual resource decisions. Second, a variety of planning and design tools focused on landscape design and reclamation, and on understanding the relationship between mining activity and other land use demands. Third, clear technical information and assistance for landowners and mining companies on how to create landscapes that provide economic, recreational and other opportunities in an environmentally compatible and economically viable manner. Fourth, a communication program that will build relationships among affected parties, provide the public with information, and coordinate ideas, resources, money and people.

**The Laurentian Vision Project will produce TOOLS for many uses:**



**THE OVERALL APPROACH**

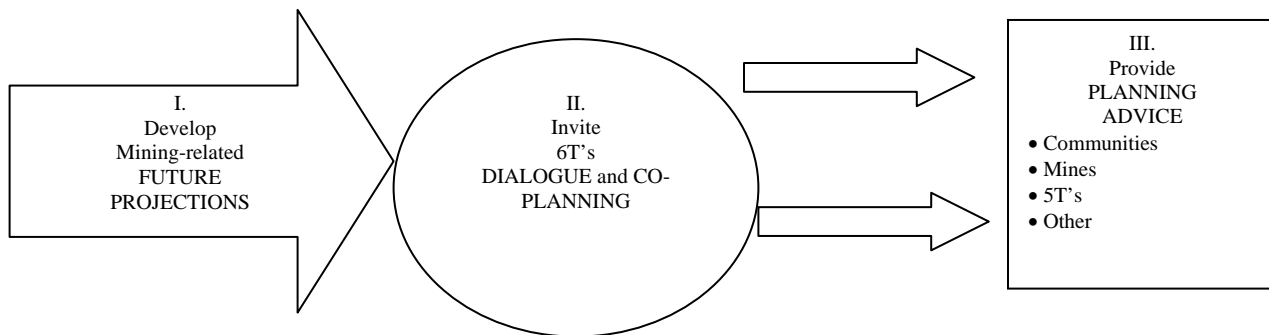
*What is a feasible approach to implementing the project intents?*

We need to start the process by developing mine-driven future scenarios. As we do so, we need to keep our eyes on the future after mining. Since mining has a major impact on all other economic and environmental factors, we need to...

- ... keep the other 5T's in mind as we proceed
- ... coordinate dialogue between all 6T's in the near future

**The 6T's**

- **Taconite**
- **Timber**
- **Tourism**
- **Transportation**
- **Technology**
- **Transformed Communities**



- Keep eyes on post-mining future
- Keep 5T's in mind
- Whole system review
- Plan across boundaries
- Long term deliverables
- Launch ongoing, iterative process

**Laurentian Vision Land Design Partnerships**

September 23, 1999



**The Working Principles**

*What are we trying to show or teach as the partnership?  
What are the key principles of the Laurentian Vision?*

**☐ Foster Multi-Interest Land Design: Mining and More**

- There are many options for the future. There are many ways to productively manage and shape the land during and beyond mining
- Show how land design can serve multiple goals, reveal new uses and offer many benefits to many stakeholders
- 

**☐ Show that Collaboration is Key to Success:**

- Show that collaboration is the way to get substantive activities done
- Show that each site has unique assets that lead to unique land use approaches. There is no “cookie cutter”
- Show that joint work can enhance outcomes for individual players

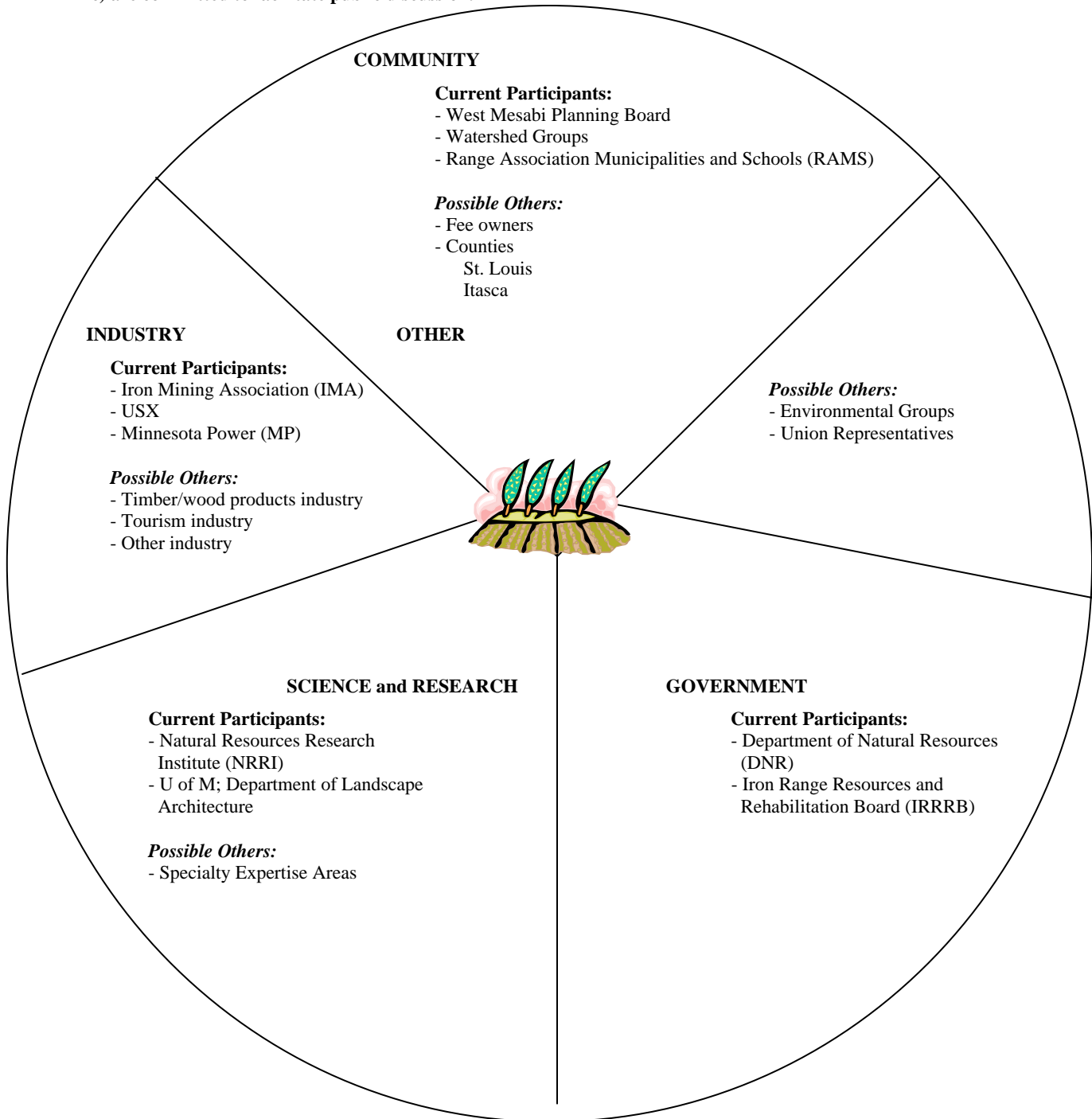
**☐ Build Long Term Regional Sustainability Now!**

- Show where mining might go in the future; the steps to ensuring future mining possibilities
- Show how we can share the land and leave a long term legacy for future generations

## The STAKEHOLDER Community

The **current core of stakeholders** are those who

- a) are related to the sector related to the mining land-forms drive sector
- b) have land management responsibilities
- c) are committed to facilitate public discussion.



The **future stakeholders** in the effort will be identified and listed according to the needs and activities called for in the work plan.

**THE SPONSORS:**

Organizations from the public, private, and non-profit sector have joined forces to support the project financially and through inkind services.

**Pilot Project Sponsors**

Blandin Foundation  
City of Virginia  
Department of Landscape Architecture  
EVTAC Mining Company  
IRRRB  
Mesabi Daily News  
Minnesota DNR  
Minnesota Power (Allete)  
Northland Foundation  
Quad Cities Alliance  
University of Minnesota  
USX Foundation  
Virginia Economic Development Authority (VEDA)  
Virginia Foundation  
Virginia/Gilbert/Mountain Iron Chamber of Commerce

**Regional Sponsors**

Blandin Foundation  
Legislative Commission of Minnesota Resources/Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
Iron Mining Association  
Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board  
Minnesota Legislative  
Minnesota Power - Allete  
Northland Foundation  
University of Minnesota Department of Landscape Architecture  
University of Minnesota Natural Resources Research Institute  
US Steel Foundation



**Laurentian Vision Land Design Partnerships  
WORKING GUIDELINES:**

We will work with land design projects that have the following elements:

**PHYSICAL SITE Factors:**

- A. *Land use focus that includes mining and other land resources*
  - Maximize past, present, or future mining activity;  
Enhance lands needed to sustain taconite mining for the future
  - Other land forms such as water, forests etc.
  - Involved land design interests of multiple “T”s
- B. *Critical resource /planning information available for land design*
  - Data availability and access
  - Willingness for parties to share data
  - All types and levels of data
- C. *Uses the physical resource skills available in the partnership*
  - Uses the land design expertise of partnership
  - Utilizes the available local expertise

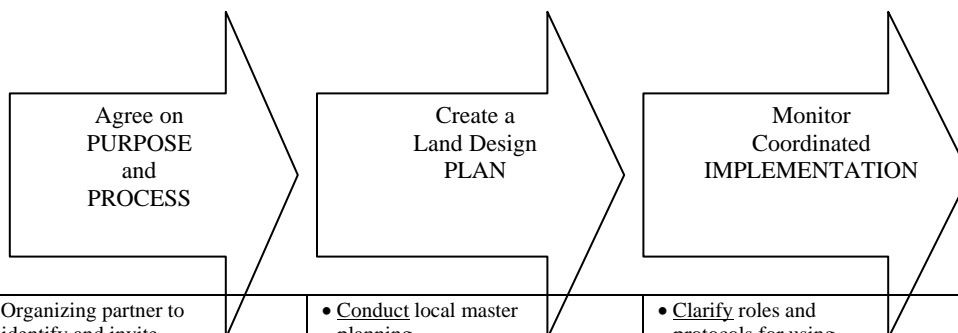
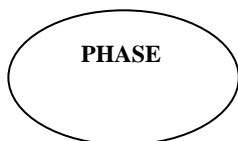
**COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP Factors:**

- D. *Critical need or opportunity that requires attention and action*
  - A need that is urgent to resolve
  - Involves a combination of land design issues and interests
  - Can involve controversial issues if local leaders are ready to “front” them  
(The partnership does not have the capacity to become the champion or take on a long term “peace keeping” mission)
  - Openness for new thinking and options for land design
- E. **Local commitment demonstrated by various factors:**
  - Local sponsors willing to provide real assistance
  - Local momentum and interest in the project
  - Clear measures for success that provides real incentives for all
  - Intent to incorporate results into long term community plan or planning process
  - Formal agreement indicating capacity to implement the charrette results
  - Willing and identified local “doers” to lead the project
- F. *Multiple stakeholders willing and ready to collaborate*
  - Engaged companies or other commercial/industrial partners
  - Engaged citizens/public sector leaders and entities
  - Benefits and ownership for all stakeholders
  - Belief in the merits of a team approach
- G. *Funding and authorization available for planning and follow-up*
  - Political leadership to build options and make public choices
  - Staff and fiscal resources to implement land design decisions
  - Partnership organization to coordinate implementation





**LAND DESIGN PARTNERSHIP PROCESS**

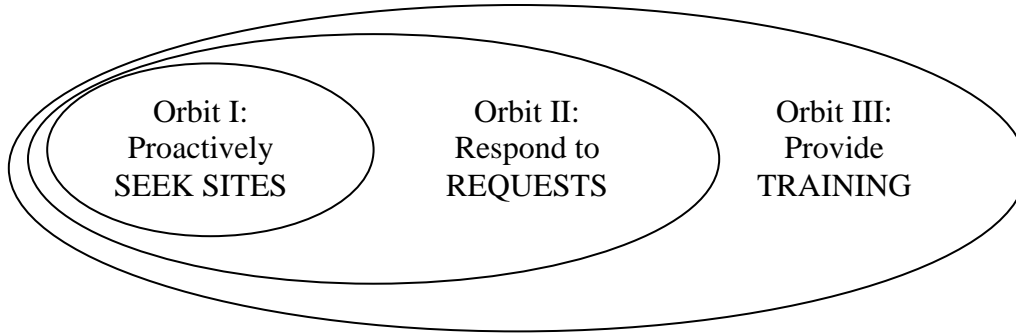


<p><b>LOCAL ROLES</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organizing partner to <u>identify and invite</u> stakeholders</li> <li>Establish a formal partnership</li> <li>Come up with:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>purpose</u></li> <li>geographic <u>scope</u></li> <li><u>resources</u></li> </ol> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Conduct</u> local master planning</li> <li>Involve all <u>stakeholders</u> who need to be part of the buy-in</li> <li><u>Agree</u> on final land design plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Clarify</u> roles and protocols for using the plan</li> <li><u>Monitor, communicate,</u> and <u>coordinate</u> ongoing planning efforts</li> <li><u>Refine, adjust,</u> or <u>expand</u> partnership effort</li> </ul>
<p><b>LAURENTIAN VISION ROLES</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Help <u>identify</u> stakeholders</li> <li>Facilitate stakeholders planning meeting to launch the partnership</li> <li>Advise with <u>ideas</u> and <u>land design process</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Offer</u> land design <u>options</u> (charrette)</li> <li><u>Advise</u> the planning process</li> <li><u>Train</u> local facilitators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Consult</u> as needed</li> <li>Pass-on <u>lessons</u> and learnings to Iron Range</li> </ul>
<p><b>QUESTIONS</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Who wants to do what together?</li> <li>How will they go about it?             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Decision process</li> <li>- Players</li> <li>- Resources</li> </ul> </li> <li>What are incentives for stakeholder participation?</li> <li>What are measures of success?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What values, needs, expectations must be met by the plan? Short term and long term?</li> <li>What are the options and possibilities?</li> <li>What criteria do we use to select/synthesize a plan all can live with</li> <li>Who needs to participate/buy-into the plan?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What other plans and decisions will the plan guide or inform?</li> <li>What planning and implementation activities need to be communicated and coordinated between stakeholders?</li> <li>How do we progress?</li> <li>How do we use and adjust the plan?</li> </ul>
<p><b>OUTCOMES</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Formal <u>partnership</u></li> <li><u>Process</u> for land design master planning</li> <li>Clear <u>action</u> roles</li> <li>Local <u>resources</u> for planning</li> </ol>		

## The LV Regional Charrette Expansion Process :

What are approaches for finding and selecting land design projects?

The Laurentian Partnership seeks to develop a fair and effective way to support all Iron Range communities in their land design needs and efforts through the following 3-orbit approach:



- A. Orbit I Communities: Proactively SEEK SITES
- Choose sites that demonstrate important land use situations
  - More resource-intensive for the Partnership (like Quad Cities)
  - Communities meet the partnerships project criteria
  - Current candidates – Canisteo, LTV site
  - Specific local/LV roles and responsibilities to be developed
- B. Orbit II Communities: Respond to REQUESTS
- Work with sites that show strong incentive
  - More resource-intensive for the local partners
  - Communities meet the partnerships project criteria
  - Current candidates – Buhl, LTV site
  - Specific local/LV roles and responsibilities to be developed
- C. Orbit III Communities: Provide TOOLS and TRAINING
- Sponsor workshops on land design partnerships and charrettes
  - Provide tools for self-service action (videos and manuals)
  - Offer advice, contacts, tips, and other training support
  - Specific local/LV roles and responsibilities to be developed

