The state of sustainability in our region cannot improve unless all of us make a commitment to change the way we do things. We recognize that many residents have already made that commitment. The report *Prospering Today, Protecting Tomorrow: The State of Sustainability of the Regional District of Nanaimo* could not have been produced without the extensive public feedback provided at the 2004 Sustainability Workshop. Once the public input was provided, our committee set to researching, and over an eighteen-month period, we compiled the information that became this important report.

Now that we have a blueprint for change, we must take steps to ensure that the change actually occurs. In the coming months, the Regional Growth Monitoring Advisory Committee will host another Sustainability Workshop.

A second report will be prepared to show how the RDN can progress toward a sustainable region. Once we have mapped our common path to sustainability, we will establish a regional sustainability awards program so that we can recognize individuals and businesses that show a commitment to change.

We cannot accomplish these tasks without your help. Questions and comments can be emailed to growthmanagement@rdn.bc.ca or forwarded to Paul Thompson, Manager of Long-Range Planning, at 390-6510.

We encourage you to attend the Sustainability Workshop we will be hosting on Saturday May 5 at the Grand Hotel in Nanaimo. It is only through personal choices and personal commitment that we can truly prosper today and protect tomorrow.

**Regional Growth Monitoring Advisory Committee**

Bill Holdom (Chair)
David Bartram (Deputy Chair)
Brian Anderson
Douglas Anderson
Gordon Buckingham
Betty Collins
Janet Farooq
Adele McKillop
Sylvia Neden
Ross Peterson
Sharon Thomson