

CLEANING UP THE PAST – BUILDING THE FUTURE

THE GENESIS OF THE NRTEE REPORT

PRESENTATION TO THE CBN SUMMIT

RYERSON UNIVERSITY

JUNE 13TH 2018

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TIMELINE

- **1996 - CREATION OF FINANCIAL SERVICES TASK FORCE**
- **1997 - PUBLICATION OF 4 BACKGROUNDEERS**
- **1998 – PUBLICATION OF “GREENING CANADA’S BROWNFIELD SITES**
- **2001 – BUDGET REQUEST BY PAUL MARTIN, MINISTER OF FINANCE, TO NRTEE TO DEVELOP A NATIONAL BROWNFIELD REMEDIATION STRATEGY FOR CANADA**

TIMELINE

- **FEBRUARY 2002 – TASK FORCE IN PLACE**
- **NOVEMBER 2002 – TASK FORCE WORK COMPLETED**
- **FEBRUARY 10TH, 2003 – “CLEANING UP THE PAST – BUILDING THE FUTURE” PUBLISHED**



NRTEE

THE STRATEGY OF THE 1996 FINANCIALSERVICES PROGRAMME

- **SURVEY OF THE FINANCIAL SERVICES INDUSTRY**
- **2 MAIN CONCERNS**
 - **EXAMINE BARRIERS TO BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT**
 - **IMPROVING SITE-SPECIFIC DATA ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITION OF LAND**



NRTEE State of the Debate Report - 1998

ELABORATION OF 4 BACKGROUNDEERS:

- **CONTAMINATED SITE ISSUES IN CANADA**
- **REMOVING BARRIERS – REDEVELOPING CONTAMINATED LAND FOR HOUSING**
- **THE FINANCIAL SERVICES SECTOR AND BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT**
- **IMPROVING SITE-SPECIFIC DATA ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITION OF LAND**



NRTEE

PROCESS

- **5 MULTISTAKEHOLDER MEETINGS**
 - TORONTO – OCTOBER 1996
 - MONCTON – OCTOBER 1996
 - VANCOUVER – NOVEMBER 1996
 - CALGARY – FEBRUARY 1997
 - MONTREAL – MARCH 1997
- **SYNTHESIS OF THE 3 WORKSHOPS’
RECOMMENDATIONS PROVIDED TO THE
PARTICIPANTS AT CALGARY/MONTREAL**
- **DRAFT REPORT CIRCULATED TO ALL PARTICIPANTS
FOR COMMENT**
- **APPROVAL OF THE FINAL REPORT BY THE NRTEE**
- **PUBLICATION OF THE FINAL REPORT**



NRTEE – BROWNFIELD ISSUES

- **1. LEGAL UNCERTAINTY**
- **2. LIABILITY ISSUES**
- **3. SCIENTIFIC STANDARDS**
- **4. INSURANCE PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT**
- **5. ORPHAN ISSUES**
- **6. DATA ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITION OF LAND**
- **7. PUBLIC INFORMATION AND PUBLIC EDUCATION**
- **8. LEADERSHIP BY EXAMPLE**
- **9. GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES AND PARTNERSHIPS**



The Budget Mandate



DECEMBER 10TH, 2001 BUDGET



“Mr. Speaker, across Canada, as in most countries, contaminated land lies unused and unproductive. Such sites, known as brownfields, may have the potential for rejuvenation, bringing both health and economic benefits to local communities.

Therefore, responding to the Government, the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy has agreed to develop a National Brownfield Redevelopment Strategy in order to ensure that Canada is a global leader in remediation.”



NRTEE Brownfield Task Force

- Federal Govt. Departments
- Provincial Governments
- Municipalities
- Federation of Canadian Municipalities
- Lawyers
- Developers
- Brownfield Owners
- “Green” NGO
- Canadian Bankers Association
- Remediation specialists
- Canadian Chemical Producers Association
- NRTEE members





NRTEE Brownfield Task Force

Addressing three main areas:

- Liability issues
- Financing and funding
- Stakeholder education

Target date:

- Completion by November 2002





Three strategic directions



1. Applying strategic public investments to address upfront costs



2. Establishing an effective public policy regime for environmental liability and risk management



3. Building community awareness of and capacity for brownfield redevelopment



1. Financing and funding



Taxation



Liens and tax arrears



Insecure mortgages



Lending possibilities



Grants



2. Liability and risk assessment



Transfer of real property and liability



Civil and regulatory liability



When liability ceases



Protecting the public



Site specific assessments and approvals



3. Building community awareness and capacity



Raising awareness of brownfields benefits



Increasing capacity to undertake projects



Demonstration of innovative processes

PRESENTATIONS IN 12 MONTHS FOLLOWING REPORT PUBLICATION

**Winnipeg, Calgary, Vancouver, Toronto, Halifax,
Moncton, Prime Ministers Advisory Committee on Cities,
Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, Montreal, Ottawa
GTA Infrastructure Summit, Latornell Conference,
International Working Group on Contaminated Soil,
Edmonton - provincial ministers meeting,
Victoria - provincial ministers meeting,
Niagara Falls – Smarter Niagara Summit, Americana,
Friday Group, LIUNA Local 183, Industry Canada**

Why did the National Strategy succeed where Greening Canada's Brownfield Sites didn't?

1. Focus on 3 areas, not 9
2. There was a Federal champion
3. There was a compelling economic argument
4. There was a comprehensive media strategy
5. There was immediate provincial and municipal buy-in