

Town of Spanish  
**Summary of Public Input Session**  
Saturday morning, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
Four Seasons Complex

In response to an invitation by the Spanish Town Council for public input to assist with planning and priorities about 20 people gathered to share their ideas. The meeting moderator was Shawn Heard, the General Manager of the East Algoma Community Development Corporation (EACFDC).

**Snapshot of our Community**

This list is not in any particular order nor is it necessarily complete. If readers notice something missing please let me know at [brent.st.denis@ontera.net](mailto:brent.st.denis@ontera.net) .

- 2 elementary schools but few students
- Lack of rental housing
- Limited Hydro north of village area
- Great volunteers but limited number
- No industrial base
- Internet service not 100%
- Cell service not 100%
- Official Plan needs updating
- Uncertain Great Lakes water levels
- Solid Town finances
- Rail
- Trans-Canada Hwy (#17) access
- Landfill in good shape for many years to come
- Good sewer system (village area)
- U.S. border not far away
- Good water system (village area)
- Progressive First Nation neighbours (Serpent River and Sagamok)
- Town has municipally-owned land for development
- Government Dock (at Mitchell's)
- Hwy #17 traffic volume
- 1<sup>st</sup> successful Rock Concert 2010
- Potential for inland waterfront (housing) development

- Funding available CFDC, ELNOS
- Residential Schools (Garnier and St. Joseph) history and heritage
- “Hub” midway between Blind River, Elliot Lake and Espanola
- 30,000 people within 30 minute drive
- Medical-Dental-Chiropractic Clinic
- Sudbury (1.5 hours) and Sault (2+hours) within a “reasonable “ drive
- Great Lakes Waterfront and Marina (North Channel of Lake Huron)

## **Summary of Ideas Session** (with informal vote count in brackets)

Not in any particular order.

### **Municipal Infrastructure**

- (3) Expand water system to allow for more housing (eliminate “brown water”).
- (7) Downtown landscaping (eg. old CPR water tank, CP building). Improve “first impressions”.
- (12) Link Noranda Townsite to downtown, more street-lighting and sidewalks.
- (5) Bicycle friendly.
- (5) Rural Roads need more work (eg Crab Lake Rd.)

### **Business and Commercial**

- (8) Communicate and promote what we have (ie. new media, website)
- (2) Trail maps and maintenance
- (9) Look for ways to share 2 elementary schools with other initiatives
- (2) Renew Official Plan
- (5) Talk to local lodge, motel and other business owners to get their feedback
- (1) Industrial Park with SRFN
- (3) Another Business building like Gignac Square
- (6) “Business” promotion of Spanish enterprises (Why stop in Spanish?)
- (8) Marina Signage beyond Sault and Sudbury
- (11) Seniors Housing as an economic development initiative
- (2) Water, sewer landfill as attractions for “light industrial development”.

- Town and Shedden Corp to cooperate on an economic development office and/or staff.
- (9) RV Park at/near municipal waterfront
- (1) Restaurant at Town Marina
- (9) “Be” Investment ready
- (4) Public washroom facilities for travelers (also, meals, rooms etc)
- (2) Small variety store for goods and services (eg Tim Horton’s type coffee, Stedmans style store)

### **Residential**

- (6) better cell and internet to improve home business and residential development
- (3) more waterfront lots and “North Channel view” housing
- (3) Try to develop subdivided lots such as “Fielding Subdivision
- (7) Attract developers for needed rental housing
- (9) “Baby Boomer” and Seniors housing

### **Service Sector and Quality of Life**

- (13) Medical Clinic with long-term care in one facility
- Build on social economy – public non-profits working with Town on projects like Rock n’ Roar concert
- (5) “Health Care” As an economic development initiative
- In-home care
- EMS and OPP services in rural area

### **Other**

- (5) Upgrade cemetery including niches (for cremated remains)