

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS TO THE STATE SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

September 2002

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(Please note: quotes from submissions are indicated by italics)

COMMUNITY

Community Services and Development

The Environmental Alliance 200206616	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Research requirements</i>• <i>Identification and understanding of social issues involved</i>• <i>Understanding the causes of community decline</i>• <i>Develop principles of equity and transparency</i>• <i>Recognition and understanding by all sectors of the extent of change that is needed</i>• <i>Recognition and understanding of the impact on communities of the change required.</i>• <i>Action</i>• <i>Make information available and locally relevant</i>• <i>Develop and implement a comprehensive capacity building program</i>• <i>Process to involve community in decision making</i>• <i>Commitment of resources</i>• <i>Develop with community participation Social indicators of progress</i>• <i>Provision of advisory services, locally developed and delivered</i>• <i>Provision of local facilitators to assist communities to explore options and become involved</i>• <i>Development and implementation of an incentives program</i>	<i>Sustainable communities:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Social issues must be given equal consideration with economic and environment issues when developing the Strategy.</i>• <i>Government must make a significant investment of resources to address social issues in the sustainability process.</i>• <i>A communications strategy is required as part of the Sustainability Strategy.</i>• <i>The Strategy should include the establishment of focus groups to identify and scope community issues that need to be addressed.</i>• <i>Government should work with stakeholders including Unions WA, industry and community groups to identify 'green job' opportunities.</i>• <i>Government should provide incentives to facilitate the development of green jobs.</i>• <i>Government should support, encourage and fund free, community-based, non-consumption activities such as festivals, performances, family events, sport, cultural activities, recreation and eco-tourism.</i>• <i>Planning of public infrastructure, city design and all new buildings should aim to improve quality of life and reduce the impact of consumption.</i>• <i>The Strategy should specifically promote and market the value of experience above consumption.</i>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Support in dispute resolution</i> • <i>Support group processes</i> • <i>Initiate policy options for restructuring assistance where change is necessary</i> • <i>Encourage and engage business and industry groups to have a role in building partnerships to initiate and maintain change</i> • <i>Provision of funding assistance to enable involvement of non-government organisations</i> • <i>Facilitation of partnerships between community, NGOs sectors, business and government.</i> • <i>Build capacity of government and non-government to better manage and deal with the issues</i> • <i>Establish Social Assessment Authority and assessment process</i> • <i>Integration of decision making scales</i> • <i>A comprehensive community engagement process must be established including a communications strategy.</i> • <i>See page 101 for further comment.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Strategy should encourage and fund projects that develop a sense of community ownership, responsibility, sharing and participation.</i> • <i>Government should ban or significantly limit the amount of commercial advertising permitted or visible from major public areas, especially natural areas, heritage buildings, places of cultural significance and areas designed primarily for children.</i>
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Housing and Sustainability (Public Housing)

Sustaining Healthy Communities

George Kailis 200204235	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are a number medical of benefits of Trancendental meditation (TM) and AyurVeda which bring sustainable social, economic and environmental outcomes, reducing costs to Government and brings benefits to all walks of life.• Benefits of TM include: Reversal of age (long term practitioners more than 12 years younger than chronological age); Improved health; Reduced need for medical care; Lower blood pressure; Reduced anxiety; Decreased stress; Increased relaxation; Deeper rest; Improved quality of life; Increased self concept; Improved perception; Broader comprehension; Increased creativity; Intelligence growth and Decreased drug abuse; greater longevity and higher rates of survival• TM has been demonstrated to reduce health care costs	
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<p>WA Association for Mental Health 200206716</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twenty percent (20%) of the population in Australia can expect to be affected by a Mental Illness each year (Sane: 1998). Anxiety and depression are the most common disorders. The more serious disorders of schizophrenia and bipolar affective disorder affect 3% of the population each year. These disorders cause profound suffering and persistent disablement. As the major burden of care is carried by family members there are a great number of Australians who are affected by mental illness each year. • The World Health Organisation has determined mental illness as one of the largest contributors to disability in the world. Projections predict this burden of illness will continue to increase and by 2020 depressive illnesses will become the second leading cause of disease burden worldwide (Murray & Lopez: 1996). • Economically, the burden is substantial. Rather than hospital beds, the dollars need to continue to be spent effectively by investing in a strong system of community supports. • In WA today, it is not unusual for people living with a mental illness to be living in poor living conditions, have inadequate financial resources and be socially isolated (MMHS ARG: 2001). • Recent Australian research findings suggest up to 75% of people who are homeless also have a mental illness (Soc. of St Vincent de Paul: 2001) and 48.7% of people in WA's SAAP Services have a diagnosed mental illness (Stanton & Cameron: 2000). Most People living with a mental illness have significant housing and income needs. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The need to Address both Mental Health and Mental Illness as Separate Issues. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The WA Health Care system needs to continue to have a comprehensive and effective means of treating mental illness and it also needs to have the means to protect and promote the mental health of the entire population. Doctors and other clinicians are a very necessary component. A healthy and productive community sector is also essential. To ensure the protection and promotion of community mental health there is a need to get messages out to the community about healthy lifestyles, strategies to prevent the occurrence of mental illness and where and how to seek help early enough that it can make a difference. <p>Recommendation: Public education initiatives to be held on a continual basis to enhance awareness and understanding of mental illness, community knowledge of prevention strategies and the importance of early help seeking.</p> 2. The need to Recognize that Mental Illness has Unique Elements which Distinguish it from other Health Concerns. These Elements are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poverty - Homelessness - Social Isolation • To achieve a quality of life, sustain community tenure, people who live with a mental illness require a range of affordable, stable accommodation with access to flexible support services (WAAMH: 2001). <p>Recommendation: There is an increase in short to medium term accommodation options, including a step up/down facility in each Metropolitan Health Region, and an increase in the allocation of Independent Living Program properties.</p> 3. The Parameters for the Policy for Services for Mental Illness need to be Broad and, as well as Hospitals and Clinical Services, continue to Include and Develop: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of supported and independent housing options to match individual need • Access to appropriate Disability Support in a range of settings • Specialist recreation and social network programs • Advocacy programs
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Environmental Alliance 200206616		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Encourage participation in sport and physical activity through prioritising project funding, providing outstanding facilities and raising the profile of appropriate role models.</i>
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Education and Community Awareness for Sustainability

Athol Barrett 200203227	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education Dept Regulations require total clearing of land before finance is available only on teacher housing land • Selective clearing on Education Dept land is encouraged. • Proposed redevelopment of Melville Primary School within an optimum community land use framework emphasising the role of nature in educational programmes, buildings and ground management 	
Alex Growden 200204544	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governments managing regions must be accountable. Combined education accountability and enforcement can contribute to sustainable long term use of land resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education of younger farmers to ensure the full impacts of salinity (e.g. loss of native flora and fauna) are appreciated, not only loss of productivity
Brett Ranford 200204126	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of the biggest challenges will be to convince the public of the value of long term solutions to problems. The public is in general more concerned and interested in solutions to problems and policies that can be implemented in the short-term, to invest in the well-being of Western Australia's future. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>For the strategy to work the government needs to make people more aware through various media, of the environmental and sustainability problems of our state, by providing bare facts. Then it is the obligation of the government (to begin with) to make sure of the full implementation and integrity of the strategy when it is brought into practice.</i>
Paddy Weaver 200204121		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NASA compilation map could be an excellent item for inclusion in the educational material and displays on sustainability as it illustrates clearly the bulk of the continent is basically desert
K.D. Walsh 200204451		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing education and promotion of sustainability to government workers and the general public will ensure that sustainability remains on the government's agenda.

Kim Reid 200204452	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government funded research programmes focussing on salinity in rural areas could assist farmers to gain a better understanding of land management practices that prevent problems associated to salinity and possibly produce more employment opportunities • <i>Sustainability is a concern that should be taken more seriously. Public awareness and education play a large part in enabling this to happen.</i> • Increased education in schools on environmental problems will make children aware of the things they can do now that can make a difference in the future. Examples of this sort of activity include revegetation, recycling and water management. • Presentations from CALM and DEWCP could assist in getting children and adults interested in environmental issues. • Extra publicity for voluntary community based groups will encourage more people to become involved in such projects • <i>Education will help everyone to realise that what we do today will affect our children's lives and further generations to come.</i> 	
Stuart Hawkins 200204122		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability life skills should be included in primary and secondary education as core units. These skills can be used throughout life and have value for the greater community
M.J. Norman 200204690	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More education is desperately needed, for the public at large 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State government should consider running an advertising campaign on the importance of living in a more sustainable way, with examples of simple actions that everyone can take to help achieve this • State Government develops a 'Living Sustainably' , a basic life skill for study and discussion in public primary and secondary schools

Men of Trees 200204767		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiate an ongoing media education programme ' the road to Kyoto and beyond' • Make environmental values a significant part of the schools curriculum • Rent space at Perth Airport to inform passengers of the carbon deficit factor of their ticket (e.g. a single return ticket to London will account for an additional 5 tonnes of CO2 in the atmosphere)
Darralyn Ebsary 200204764	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education of our community, especially young people about sustainability and how we can support this is important • Education of the whole community at all levels is important • Honesty and realism about achievement of project goals should be seen as part of the journey and learning in moving towards a viable and sustainable future. 	
John Snowden 200204671	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better awareness of sustainability within WA would benefit all through a cleaner environment and a healthier lifestyle. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government should initiate an educational programme on Sustainability at all levels of community
Gerrard Mullen 200204664	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are potential increased employment opportunities in research and development if sustainability is pursued 	
Jodi Ogilvie 20025061	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Our society has to be informed of our environmental issues through different avenues of education e.g. schools, training, seminars and local government.</i> • Education of what sustainability is must target business, local government, schools, community and indigenous groups • Understanding sustainability will result in it being taken more seriously enabling community to be involved in protecting the environment for future generations. 	
Wetlands Conservation Society (Inc) 200205351	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Community education is vital if sustainability is to succeed. Unless the public is convinced of the necessity to change its lifestyle nothing will happen</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funds should be allocated to sustainability education in schools and community groups. • A sustainability grants program which schools and community groups can apply for support would be the best way to achieve this

Danielle Brown 200204665	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a major need for Education and Community liason to be a key factor in the Sustainability Strategy. Public support and interest is essential to ensuring sustainability is economically viable on a large scale, otherwise key issues and opportunities for sustainability will not be addressed to the full extent. • <i>If the public are aware of the factors and issues that contribute to sustainability, with correct research, management and implementation added to a balance of social and economic demands, sustainability is achievable</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertising sustainability would make the public aware of what sustainability is and how to achieve it, both locally and globally. • Education of lower and middle school students in natural environmental studies, natural resource management and offering more opportunities to be involved in these subjects (e.g the Ribbons of Blue Program) • To further enhance the opportunity to achieve sustainability, all schools (including University and TAFE campuses) could be held accountable for their level of sustainability (e.g. actions such as native seed collection and planting, reducing paper use through on-site reuse and recycling, and collection of water runoff from gutters in rainwater tanks for watering gardens)
Maxine Dawson 200205139	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting the message that sustainability is important through to the general public and getting them to take it on board will be extraordinarily difficult. <i>We know a lot about living a healthy lifestyle, but so many continue lifestyle practices that are not in the interests of their personal health. I do not think that sustainable living practices will be any more popular</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop programs for schools and homes • Disseminate well researched information on the issues, and on technical best practices as they are developed
Ruth Balding 200205374	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Leadership and education are prime ingredients to influence people's attitudes and beliefs</i> • Western Australians are unlikely to adopt sustainable practices unless there is education programs in place. <i>People require guidelines on what they could be doing, thinking about and why, what are the benefits and what the alternative would be if we continued with our unsustainable practices</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability could be incorporated into the school curriculum to progress the issue of sustainability and the role everyone can play in achieving this

<p>Clint Garrett 200205462</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The media have an important role to play in promoting sustainability. At the moment much of what we see and hear is focussed on maximising consumption yet in the past, during wartime, advertising's emphasis was on less consumption. It is possible for the media to sing a different tune. The question is how do we teach them this new tune? • Individual actions have power but the community as a whole has significant power. <i>Until Government, business and the media lead the way and provide means for people to live more sustainably, individual action will be limited to a few committed people.</i> 	
<p>Jeanette Conacher 200203853</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department of training report should be referenced. It is society/people who do the damage. There is a huge amount of data being generated under the Land and Water Audit. It is disappointing that government agencies appear to be unaware of what others are doing (even within their own agencies). This problem should be addressed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>More investment in public education to communicate objectives, policies etc as an aid to modifying behaviour (eg Watercorp water-conservation model)</i>

R&S Cleverley 200206725	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long term sustainability depends on education of public at large of all facets of the concept 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The establishment of permanent Office of Sustainability whose primary purpose would be to implement and oversee inclusion of sustainability into primary-secondary curriculum and into adult education
South West Environment Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public educational strategies are vital to achieve change and must be sufficiently funded and supported alongside other strategies such as regulatory changes • Best practice examples: primary schools involved in Ribbons of Blue, Waterwatch and other environmental initiatives (see submission for examples) • More activities of this type need to be encouraged in communities – grass roots level environmental education • Education beginning at a young age enables them to make informed decisions as adults in later life, therefore developing a more socially and environmentally responsible society for the future 	
South West Environment Centre 200206721	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media education in WA regarding sustainability is generally inadequate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Council for Sustainability could support training for journalists to encourage them to facilitate greater understanding of issues and stimulate specific and timely responses from the general public • Train community leaders to make network for discussion of sustainability issues • Involve local focus groups in decision-making processes such as for housing development, water consumption, mining practices, forestry, eco-villages, urban planning fisheries, national parks, population, and transport

Teresa Tompkins 200207497	•	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educate and make the community aware that our consumerist society is destroying our living and non-living environment. Ensure public awareness that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Pollution of waterways and oceans kills marine life and habitats; Polluting our atmosphere will result in depletion of our ozone layer, a build-up of greenhouse gases and health problems in our community; Deforestation causes air and water pollution, soil degradation, erosions, salinity; Deforestation and urban sprawl causes loss of natural habitats and rare and endangered species, and eventually extinction. Education is vital at all levels. Governments, business and community must be educated in working together for a sustainable future.
Uniting Church (WA) 200204672		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christian congregations and churches provide great opportunity for education for sustainability.
Sustainable Population Australia (WA) 200207135		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Definition for community and educational use: <i>Sustainability is harvesting the apples without harm to the apple tree.</i>
Chamber of Commerce and Industry WA 200206964		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Help education and training sectors develop for a sustainable economy. This is a vital role for government at all levels of formal education. Appropriate education will ensure that Western Australia can participate in the knowledge economy, foster innovation and maintain its competitiveness.</i> <i>Education of the community at large is also important and government has a role here too. The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) identified an informed community as one of the prerequisites for maximising business contribution to sustainable development. WBCSD noted that an informed, responsible and knowledgeable consumer can help achieve sustainability through the market via a triple-win: by improving quality of life for consumers, by reducing environmental and social impacts, and by increasing the market share of sustainable development minded companies.</i>

<p>Lisa Clarke 200204546</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I believe the best way to educate is by example. The Government should be leading us in the area of sustainability.</i> • <i>Public awareness is the key.</i> • <i>Utilise the media as an educational tool - in order for sustainability to work we must all understand how important it is.</i> • <i>Sustainability should be taught at all levels of education to emphasise the importance of maintaining our resources while achieving a brighter future for everybody.</i>
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<p>Sylvia Tetlow 200206685</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>An education program is needed to raise people's awareness that over-population is the fundamental pressure on the earth's environment and to raise awareness and educate people of their ecological footprint their impact on the environment and their interconnectedness with the environment.</i> • <i>This should take the form of programs within the education system from years one to 12 and in Local Government initiatives and in Government funded television advertising.</i> • <i>To raise people's awareness that they are a part of their environment - (not the environment is something out there separate to them) will encourage them to appreciate how their activities impact on the environment.</i> • <i>This education program is more than the recycling campaign which has led to a change of behaviour but not in an understanding of their interconnectedness and impact on the environment.</i> • <i>Local and State Government should support a scheme to educate people to use native vegetation in their gardens instead of maintaining European style gardens. This would have advantages in reducing water use and providing habitat for native birds and animals.</i>
<p>Cesira Leigh & Glen Ryan 200206726</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Establishment of compulsory sustainable development training/awareness-raising for Government staff at all levels such as the draft Sustainability training package developed for newly elected members of the WA Local Government Association.</i> • <i>Consideration should also be given to developing sustainability programs for use within local industries, community and schools. Suggestions for awareness-raising programs in the community would be:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Why do we need to live sustainably?</i> ○ <i>Our over-consuming lifestyles – what we can do better!</i> ○ <i>Transport and your role as the commuter</i> ○ <i>Energy and how to save money at home, at school, at work...</i>

<p>Notre Dame - Edmund Rice Centre 200206397</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Education for sustainability to curb our consumption based lifestyles</i> • <i>A significant component of the Sustainability Strategy should focus on education for sustainable living, as well as focus on a reduction in consumer-oriented lifestyles.</i> • <i>Additionally, the concept can be explored at schools and young people can provide creative ideas to further develop the concept of sustainability.</i>
<p>Tad Zalewski & Associates 200206631</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Achieve a very high level of literacy for WA; our education standards are definitely falling with respect to the rest of the World</i> • <i>Introduce an Institute of Advanced Learning concept to the environs of WA</i> • <i>Midland – establish a university with specialisation in transport, ie road, rail, air, space, tunnel (gravity trains) and its infrastructure. etc...</i> • <i>Fremantle - a similar concept but concentrating on marine transport and its necessary industries.</i> • <i>Northam - concentrate on Advanced Agriculture and Land Management, with campuses at York, Beverley, etc...</i> • <i>Broome / Derby – Advanced Agriculture Technology, Land and Water Management. etc.... eg a Food Basket for Asia. and especially China.</i> • <i>Port Hedland / Karratha – Water and Land Management, Gas and Oil. Mineral Processing, etc...</i> • <i>General - Create an Open Learning University, with community-wide participation.</i> • <i>Schools - facilities open for longer periods of time together with open learning courses available on the inter-net..</i>

Perth Zoo 200206072	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over the past 2 years, Perth Zoo has worked positively to promote a sustainable site - developing an environmental management plan in conjunction with Murdoch University, implementing recycling programs and environmental best practice programs, and working with the University of Western Australia's Centre for Water Research to develop a preliminary sustainable management plan. These approaches have been with an emphasis on ground water management, energy management, resource minimisation, waste-water treatment and re-use, and e-business opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perth Zoo has a vision for becoming the World's first "Sustainable Zoo", consolidating Perth Zoo as a world leader and providing the Western Australian public with a leading cultural institution, that educates, entertains and undertakes vital conservation work and breeding programs. Our aim is to use Perth Zoo's popularity and success in Western Australia to increase support for world conservation, sound environmental practices and sustainable business modelling. The Zoo will continue to provide excellence in public education about issues of conservation and of life on earth. Perth Zoo plans to achieve a vision for a sustainable approach to its own management and development, using environmental management systems, water recycling, waste re-use, conservation and community education and maintaining a focus on sustainable eco-systems within Zoo enclosures. Perth Zoo plays a vital role in community education and conservation and has great potential as a community and industry leader in sound environmental management and business sustainability. Please see attached a summary of Perth Zoo's achievements in the previous year as submitted for an environmental award in 2001(including waste minimisation). I believe that these and other initiatives indicate the opportunity Perth Zoo presents to government for a specially-funded project/exhibition area to demonstrate sustainability in action.
Andrew Thomson 200206383	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Education in schools leaves a lot to be desired. Generally, teachers lack knowledge about environmental issues, apart from recycling, and do not wish to display their ignorance to their students. With a few notable exceptions, there is a lack of recognition of the importance of environmental education especially among principals. Often teachers feel intimidated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To help change the "growth" mentality of the community and politicians, time is needs to be set aside each night on ABC television to inform people on sustainability issues (say 10 minutes). The public needs to be made aware of the concept of "development" (improving efficiency, using energy smarter) instead of "growth" which is more of the same (Ken Robertson, UWA).
Kath Mathwin 200206626		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools: First teachers need to be trained, so that they appreciate the need to aim for sustainability, then they need to pass this appreciation on to students, (not always easy if the parents lack this understanding)

<p>Rosa de Graaf 200206617</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Many more Schools are becoming more involved in environmental activities and awareness. But not enough as yet. It should begin at – pre-primary - simple ecology-“you treat the environment and all the creatures in ti with respect – give animals, creatures their space and interfere as little as possible – but observe as much as you can”. In return, the environment will sustain our needs!</i> • <i>Schools could help each other out – team efforts- bus trip for one School – to a School which is in desperate need of rehabilitating their grounds. Local Shire could supply the expert.</i> • <i>This would also give children/young adults –a sense of togetherness – achievement, gain respect/ knowledge a sense of morality and responsibility. May be some students will discuss these matters rather than where to hang out and what mischief (damage?) they would get into. May be give a yearly tropine? Such as a....nice bonsai tree? Just a thought.</i>
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<p>The Environmental Alliance 200206616</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any initiative to incorporate sustainability across Government and throughout society, must also explicitly address awareness raising, education and public participation. It will be impossible to institutionalise sustainable approaches and practices within state government, the private sector and the wider community, without simultaneously building understanding, support and capacity for sustainability outside Government and across Western Australia. <p>Awareness raising vs education vs involvement Developing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> information and awareness programs for the general community; more targeted and specific educational programs; and processes of public participation in the development and implementation of the sustainability strategy, are all elements along a continuum of public engagement in the movement towards sustainability, as illustrated in the diagram below. <p>Each of these approaches is useful depending on the desired outcomes, resources available and so on.</p> <p>All of these approaches – awareness raising, community education and community participation – are essential tools for achieving sustainability, sitting alongside more traditional tools of regulation, policy and taxation.</p> <p>Why are they essential?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raising awareness of sustainability and providing education for sustainability will be critical in changing the behaviour of individuals, organisations and governments, which in turn will be essential for a shift to a sustainable society; Capacity building and participatory processes are a fundamental part of the people / social / community aspect of sustainability; Sustainability is not a “Government” or an “Industry” or a “Community” endeavour or problem, it affects our entire society, and therefore our entire society should be aware, engaged and participating. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Strategy must acknowledge and reflect the importance of three approaches: awareness raising, community education and community participation. The Strategy should work with existing groups and networks as much as possible; audit and coordinate existing resources, tools and techniques that will contribute towards education and awareness raising for sustainability; and look at what can be expanded or amended to be suitable for education and awareness raising for sustainability. The Strategy should find innovative ways to engage the community and to develop some shared understanding of what sustainability might mean for Western Australia, eg social marketing, ‘learning communities’, ‘learning circles’ and roundtables / seminars. The Strategy should seek to ensure that a sustainability element is present in all relevant educational institutions, resources, packages etc. This should include working with universities and other higher education institutions to maximise integration and coordination to enable us to find solutions to complex, multifaceted problems. Education for sustainability must also be central to all Government agencies and private sector activities and include Government-wide education and discussion opportunities on sustainability. Public participation must be comprehensive and genuine. It is important for the Government to acknowledge community input and demonstrate that contributions have been heard and considered. Public participation should target regions as well as focussing on communities of interest (eg Aboriginal communities, youth, elderly and ethnic communities). In the latter case, the Government should adopt culturally appropriate methods of communication and involvement. The Strategy should include regionally appropriate community consultation processes. The Government should look to engage existing community groups and processes for both informing the community about sustainability and for seeking their input, rather than set up yet a completely new process requiring time and resources. Community-based, representative stakeholder groups (such as the Conservation Council of WA and the WA Council of Social Service) should be involved at all stages of the development and implementation of sustainability policies.
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Sustainability through Culture and the Arts (including Cultural Identity)

<p>Community Arts Network WA (CAN WA) 200204773</p>	<p><i>CAN WA's mission: To grow partnerships with, and provide training for communities, artists, government and community service organisations and business to contribute to sustainable community, environment, social, cultural and economic development.</i></p> <p><i>Benefits of sustainability:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Valuing of local knowledge, local strategies and local identity (through the inclusion of concept of culture) might thereby empower local communities to take a more active role in their local 'environment' and local sustainability groups.</i> <i>Improved physical and mental health.</i> <i>Healthier communities.</i> <i>Civic consciousness.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>See submission for list of CAN WA's achievements</i> <i>See submission for best practice examples.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Include CAN WA as a partner in the development of the State Sustainability Strategy.</i> <p><i>Strategies for sustainability:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Creating cultural opportunities;</i> <i>Facilitating community ownership and participation in long term cultural planning , implementation , review and evaluation;</i> <i>Researching, developing and documenting cultural identity with and for communities;</i> <i>Integrating oral tradition (community spirit) and urban infrastructure (corporate systems);</i> <i>Encouraging the unfolding of self through community, imagination and creativity;</i> <i>The valuing of all different experiences redefined to include a sense of expanded identity</i> <i>Cultural planning become a core strategy and process for sustainability across all sectors. Cultural Planning is a catalyst for social, environmental and economic development. It is about building vital, safe and prosperous communities.</i> <i>That more research be conducted on the impact of CAN WA's educational models towards sustainable community culture. CAN WA's Learning programs are experiential and bridge oral tradition (community spirit) and urban infrastructure (mechanical, technical and corporate systems). These programs employ simple and holistic cycles of being, reflecting, creating, networking, planning, mentoring, delivering, documenting, assessing and celebrating.</i> <i>Government ought to provide a leadership role and develop/promote models and examples of sustainability through collaboration and participation of local communities. This point was taken up in Agenda 21 and was further re-integrated in Local Agenda 21.</i> <i>Combined with the above point is the need for governments to value local knowledge, local strategies and local identity in their cultural contexts through programs and policies aimed at empowering local communities to take an active role in local community sustainability issues.</i> <i>Governments also need to recognise that community consultation and participation is a process that requires community involvement in all stages of the process including the development of models, programs and policies. CAN WA's cultural planning program works to this end.</i> <i>Communities need to take a more active role in voicing local strategies, local knowledge and local identity needs to be part of</i>
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Kath Mathwin 200206626		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Television particularly could have an enormous role to play, remember Harry Butler, and so much is known about overseas animals etc because of David Attenborough. Top quality programs featuring the flora, fauna and scenery of Australia would get to a bigger audience, of all ages, than all the trained teachers and professional lecturers can ever hope to.</i> • <i>There used to be more clubs and magazines, aimed at imparting knowledge about our natural heritage to children than there are now</i> • <i>Our only daily newspaper could be encouraged to resume the good journalism which used to be 'Eureka', now whittled down so much that it is quite hard to find.</i> • <i>Promote Australian Bio-diversity in tourism products and crafts.</i>
Environmental Alliance 200206616		<p><i>Support and encourage free community based festivals, performances and family events by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>providing funding;</i> • <i>making public space available at no charge;</i> • <i>providing promotional support and signage opportunities; and / or</i> • <i>providing information and support to organizers.</i> <p>• <i>Encourage participation in the arts and cultural activities through prioritising project funding, providing outstanding facilities and raising the profile of appropriate role models.</i></p>

Exploring the Ethics of Sustainability

John Baldock 200204370	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To make sustainability operationally viable it must be willingly accepted at the grass roots level. The accepted and conventional way to deal with sustainability is to promote the physical and mental and lastly the social and spiritual. Sustainability should be approached firstly from the social and spiritual and then the physical and mental, otherwise it will founder 	
Christine Heal 200205705	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reason that so many people want material possessions, despite what they already have, is because of their own internal (psychological and spiritual) poverty 	

Uniting Church (WA) 200204672	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability has spiritual implications as well. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability must continue to be explored at practical, theoretical, theological levels. • Christian congregations and churches provide great opportunity for education for sustainability. • Spiritual communities can build “social cohesion while addressing key economic and environmental issues”. • A new relationship with the rest of creation is a major challenge facing humanity in the 21st century. • See submission for the Uniting Church Social Justice Commission’s recommendations for the Synod to foster sustainability.
George Kailis 200204231		<p><u><i>Sustainability Creed</i></u></p> <p><i>Nature has created Man and Woman, as the highest form of life, and as life’s guardian.</i></p> <p><i>Our survival depends on the fragile balance of nature and living organisms.</i></p> <p><i>We must ensure the purity of the water. We must not poison the air. We must not poison the soil.</i></p> <p><i>We are interdependent on all other forms of life.</i></p> <p><i>To maintain nature’s equilibrium, depends on our ability to live in harmony with our external universe, and our ability to live in harmony with our internal universe, ourselves.</i></p>

Lisa Clarke
200204546

MOTHER NATURE - DYING

*This precious land we live on.
The atmosphere & beyond.
Will we ever stop abusing her?
Mother Nature with her throng.
Is it true that she is dying?
By the thrust of our own hands?
Will we unite to protect her?
We all must make a stand.
This world that we call home,
So needed & so nice
We must all surrender something,
Now's the time to pay the price.
Work with your governments.
Please, don't be delayed.
It's the future we look forward to,
Not the past, where powers played.
The games they play are costly,
We are dealing now with life!
If we continue to rot our resources,
Our kids will be in strife.
The choice we have is simple,
While the price for life is high.
Change your ways right now,
Before you see a smog-filled sky.
Your efforts will be rewarded,
Look to the children - you'll see hope.
Must they beg for their future?
Where they can barely cope.
You may think that dramatic –
& You just might be right.
What do you think would happen?
If we gave up this fight?
Stand up while you can,
& Please, give it all you've got.
Don't listen, when they talk money.
Compared to life that's not a lot.
Learn new ways - you're capable.
Turn that many-sided teat.
Give our kids some kind of future

Some kind of hope & relief.*

Heal the World Incorporated 200206618		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See submission for Eutopian thought (eutopia meaning 'place of wellbeing') and the New Wave of Understanding.
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Strategies for Social Cohesion and Inclusion

Peel Preservation Group 200205797		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The bogey of the future young generation having the burden of supporting an increasing ageing population should immediately be dispelled by allowing people, who would otherwise have no alternative but to go on the pension, to chose when to retire and not making retirement for them compulsory at 65.</i> • <i>Better health and living conditions will result in a fitter old age for most.</i> • <i>It is, therefore, waste of the worst kind to throw people on the scrap heap who would prefer to continue working, when they are capable of supporting themselves and benefiting from the dignity that brings. These days many older people are expending time and effort doing voluntary or charitable work for the community. In fact, all levels of government expect it and would be worse off without it.</i> • <i>Allow them to get off government support and earn a living wage if they prefer to do so.</i> • <i>Through education, the removal of stigma towards physical work; a strategy to promote health and reduce obesity.</i> • <i>Counter to advertising that promotes 'big label' goods produced at below living standard wages in third world countries.</i> • <i>Ensuring disadvantages faced by country dwellers are not reinforced by legislation guaranteed to increase the drift to the cities.</i> • <i>Remote settlements are ideal for the implementation of alternative energy sources with resulting improvement in economic benefits, health and well being.</i> • <i>Western Australia's climate, clean seas, marine life, diverse and profuse flora, fauna and migratory bird life, makes it an ideal eco-tourism destination which should be promoted as such with precautions in place for the protection of all elements.</i> • <i>Ecologically sustainable housing, will promote health and wellbeing and, in the long term, be of economic advantage</i>
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		<p><i>because it requires less energy to keep it livable and should achieve lower maintenance.</i></p> <p><i>The whole community must ask itself, if it is willing to accept a much lower standard of living in order to continue the religion of consumerism by an uncapped population ?</i></p>
<p>Ruah Community Services 200206632</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>In Western Australia, there are few, if any, programs that provide income generation and social inclusion benefits for marginalised people. In this submission, microenterprise, particularly The Big Issue homeless street magazine project, is discussed as a innovative approach which has demonstrated a capacity elsewhere to contribute to social cohesion, hope and income generation for disadvantaged people.</i> <i>Sustainable jobs growth, pathways from poverty, and environmental sustainability are being increasingly addressed overseas, in the first and particularly in the third world, through micro-enterprise and microfinance for the most disadvantaged people. (Microenterprise Innovation Unit http://www.mip.org accessed 24 April. 2002; The Virtual Library on Microcredit (search for 'microenterprise' on:) http://www.gdrc.org/icm accessed on 15th April; The Big Issue http://www.bigissue.co.uk/intro.html 21 Dec 01.)</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Government, non-government sector and business community all have a useful role in the development of micro-enterprise projects, because each has particular strengths to contribute in the achievement of the social justice; welfare and entrepreneurial goals of microenterprise.</i> <i>There is evidence that microenterprise can contribute to an increase in social cohesion. Paid work and supported self help for homeless people can lead to crime reduction and greater hope.</i> <i>See submission for details on how The Big Issue has helped homeless people.</i> <i>Ruah Community Services currently has a funding submission before the Lotteries Commission to establish The Big Issue in WA.</i> <i>Given the benefits that this type of microenterprise project have provided to homeless people in many countries (see links to other overseas homeless street papers at: http://www.realchangenews.org/links/index.html accessed 15 January, 2002); this project has potential to break new ground direction in WA with respect to sustainability, hope for the future and income generation for people experiencing social exclusion.</i>
<p>Environmental Alliance 200206616</p>		<p>See submission under heading Community Services and Development.</p>