

# The Futures Game

## Simulation Learning Tool

*An innovative new regional and community planning tool*

### What is 'The Futures Game'?

*The Futures Game* is a 'stand-alone' workshop tool designed to explore how regional and local decisions can shape long-term economic, environmental, and community well-being. It is a great way to stimulate meaningful discussion and debate about future regional and community scenarios, and to explore decision pathways.

The highly interactive and participatory game provides an enjoyable and accessible way for citizens and community leaders to engage in robust discussions about contemporary challenges of community and economic development. Over 98% of people who play the game report it as a challenging and enjoyable experience which provides real benefit to critical thinking about the future and local decision making.

This "futures simulation" approach can also add extra depth and strength to regional planning efforts and helps hone regional leadership and decision-making skills.

### The Futures Game Workshop Kit

*The Futures Game* comes in a ready-to-use self-contained kit which includes instructional DVD, facilitators guide and enough maps and materials to host a workshop of 10 teams with 5-7 people per team. It is specifically designed as a stand-alone workshop tool which is easy to facilitate and use in a range of settings and situations.

The Futures Game is now available in BC with the contributions of the following sponsors: The RuralBC Secretariat, the Southern Interior Beetle Action Coalition, Community Futures British Columbia and the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary.

### The Futures Game – 4 versions available

There are a series of games available; each set in a different region around the world. Versions of the game now available include:

**Pacific Northwest** – This game is set in the forests, lakes and farmlands of the Pacific Northwest region, and deals with issues of resource management, tensions between development and preservation, and community building.

**Midwest USA** – Set in the open farming land of the Midwest USA, this game lays out decision-making challenges such as investment in renewable energy, workforce development and local economic growth.

**Western Australian Wheatbelt** – Based in this vast agricultural region, the game presents decision making challenges around regional collaboration, environmental decline and building viable small communities in the Australian outback.

**'The Rez'** – Modelled on a Native American Tribal reservation, this game challenges participants' skills in balancing cultural and economic demands, and shaping a positive future for a typical Great Plains Tribal Reservation.

### For more information contact:

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'The Futures Game' concept has been pioneered by Innovative Leadership Australia, in collaboration with key partners. For more information on the games and services of Innovative Leadership Australia, please visit the website: [www.ila.net.au](http://www.ila.net.au)