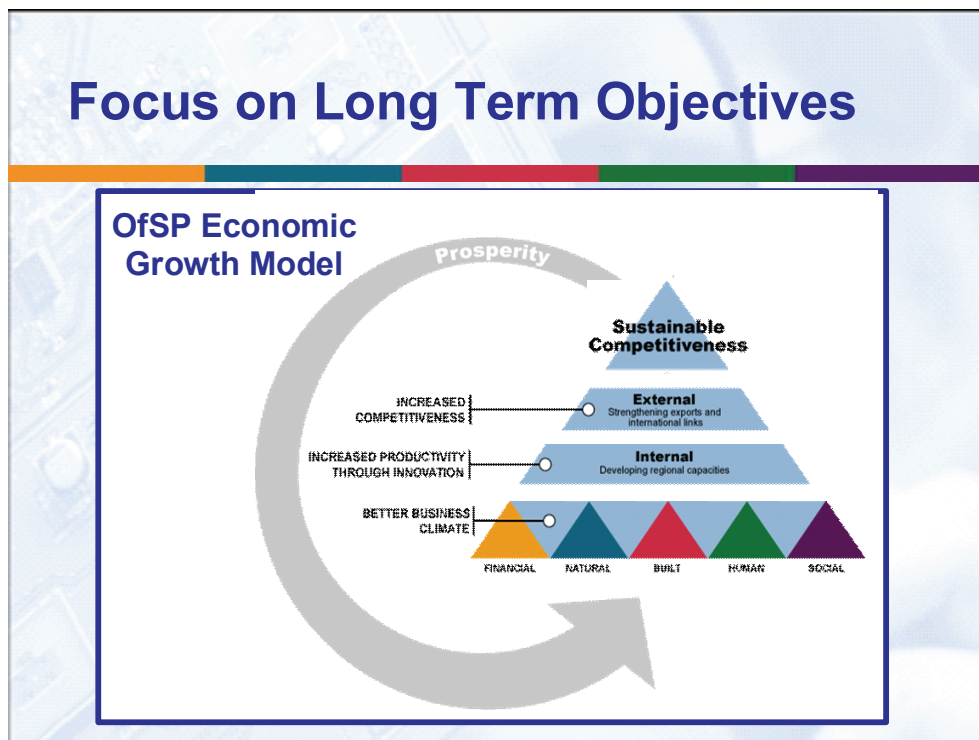


# Opportunities for Sustainable Prosperity: a Role for Mining?

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Nova Scotia's updated provincial economic growth strategy, *Opportunities for Sustainable Prosperity*, was released in 2006. The strategy was built around the concept of sustainable competitiveness, which says that true prosperity comes when economic, social and environmental systems work in co-ordination and consensus. The strategy drew heavily on the ideas of William McDonough, author of *Cradle to Cradle*, which highlighted the need for a "no waste society."



The strategy focuses on “five capitals” – financial, natural, built, human and social – as the foundation for economic development. It also highlights the need for a better business climate, increased productivity through innovation and increased trade and competitiveness. The strategy spells out a series of “government priorities” in the management of the five capitals and for progress in improving the business climate, our productivity and competitiveness.

The release of the strategy led to the provincial *Economic Goals and Sustainable Prosperity Act*, which includes two overarching economic and environmental objectives and 21 goals. Since the release of the strategy and the passage of the act, considerable progress has occurred. New structures have been put in place to manage the implementation of the strategy and the act. Annual reports have catalogued progress.

Times have changed – economically and politically - since 2006 and challenges have arisen. Work has begun on defining what a successor strategy might look like.

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