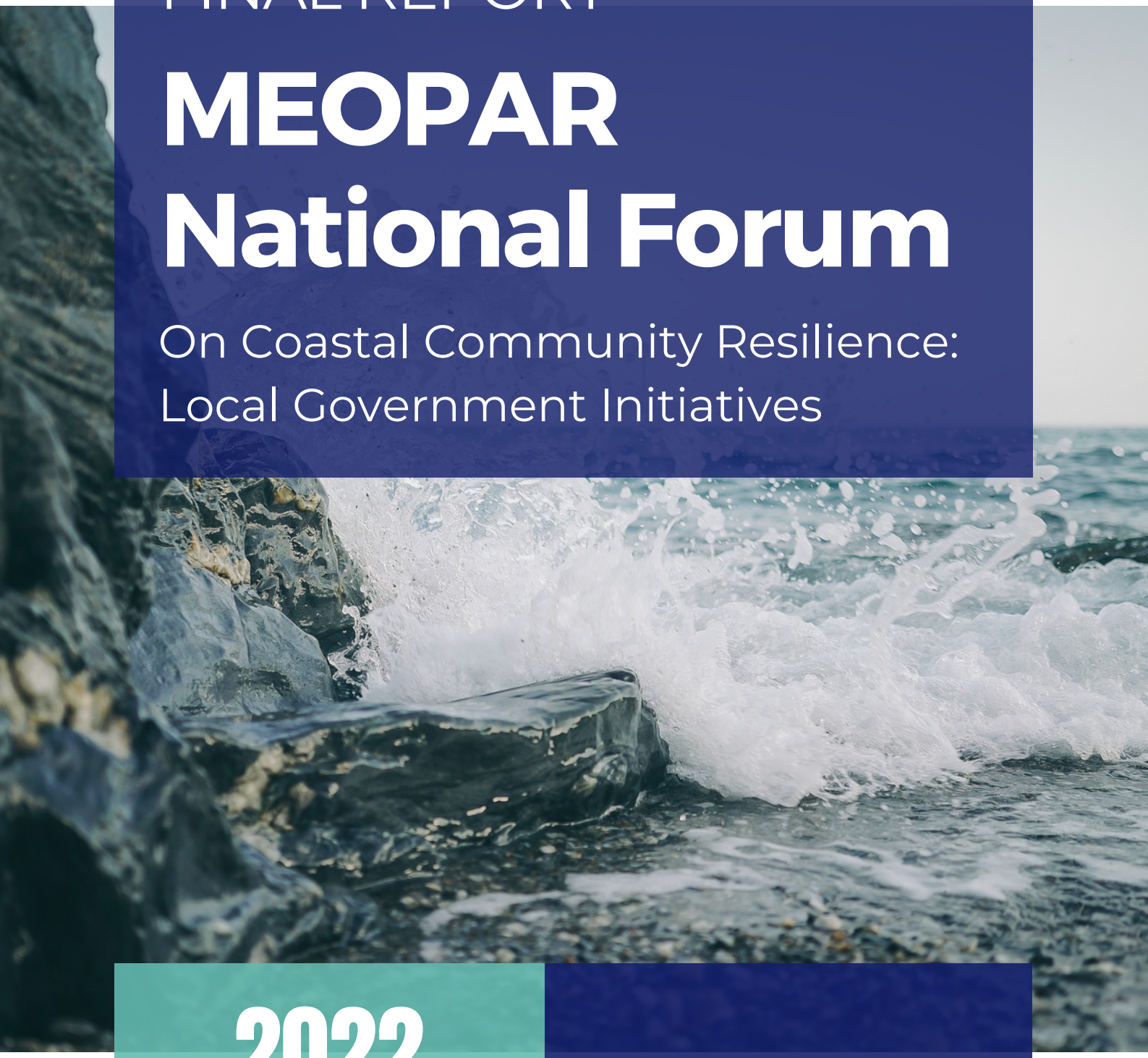
FINAL REPORT

MEOPAR National Forum

On Coastal Community Resilience: Local Government Initiatives



2022

Virtual Event

May 25 - 26, 2022

MEOPAR

Organizing Committee Members

Prof. Stephanie Chang, University of British Columbia
Brittney Wong, University of British Columbia
Prof. Jason Thistlethwaite, University of Waterloo
Andrea Minano Goldring, University of Waterloo
Shaieree Cottar, University of Waterloo
Prof. Tony Charles, Saint Mary's University
Prof. Ronald Pelot, Dalhousie University
Prof. Joel Finnis, Memorial University of Newfoundland
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Student Note-Takers

Devon Jones, University of Waterloo
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Tira Okamoto, Simon Fraser University
Alexa Tanner, University of British Columbia

MEOPAR

The Marine Environmental Observation, Prediction and Response Network (MEOPAR) is a national Network of Centres of Excellence linking top marine researchers and highly qualified personnel across Canada with partner organizations and communities. MEOPAR funds leading-edge research, overcomes barriers to collaborative research and helps to train the next generation of marine professionals.

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Executive Summary

Coastal communities around Canada are taking action to address issues of coastal flooding, erosion, and sea-level rise – yet many challenges remain. The 2022 MEOPAR National Forum sought to broaden the conversation, enable knowledge sharing, and facilitate networking connections among practitioners and researchers involved in coastal community adaptation. The online event on May 25~26 brought together over 120 participants, of whom 44% were from the East Coast, 26% from the West Coast, 24% from Ontario, and 6% from other regions. Panelists discussed federal government initiatives such as the National Adaptation Strategy, provincial and local government perspectives, NGO and network initiatives, and academic research on coastal adaptation. Initiatives by local government – from small, remote coastal towns to large coastal cities – were shared through a series of short presentations. In all, participants heard about coastal adaptation activities in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, the Arctic, and British Columbia. Breakout sessions on each day provided opportunities for discussions on key themes such as data, funding and coordination, and online resources, as well as more in-depth presentations on specific local initiatives.

Several themes emerged from the Forum. When participants were asked at registration about the most pressing challenge they faced in their work, the three most common themes were: funding and capacity; political will and public support; and awareness, communication, education, and engagement. Other common challenges included inter-jurisdictional coordination and governance, and data. These themes were also raised by many speakers. Although these challenges persist, there is encouraging and inspiring work being facilitated across all levels of government, as well as within non-profit and academic spaces, that has demonstrated the importance of collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and building alliances. Across the presentations and discussions, several key messages emerged:

- **Need for transformational change and new ways of working** – Several speakers, from federal to local levels, emphasized that while current governance structures support incremental activities, incremental change is not enough. For example, simply providing information is not sufficient for adaptation or action. There is a need for governance structures that enable broad shifts in practice, such as regulations and rules about avoiding risks going forward.

- **Need for a mixed suite of adaptation solutions, including managed retreat** – Many speakers raised the importance of transitioning away from small-scale, traditional grey infrastructure projects to new approaches that meet the complex, dynamic challenges of coastal adaptation. A mixed suite of adaptation solutions is valuable to more effectively transition between short-, medium-, and long-term objectives. In particular, there is a need to have hard conversations, such as about relocating infrastructure and properties away from high hazard areas.

- **Need to address funding challenges that impede effective adaptation** – Speakers noted that many jurisdictions look to the federal government for funding support for coastal adaptation. While new funding streams have become available, there is a need for greater support and alignment of funding sources. Small municipalities in particular face capacity challenges. Municipalities and NGOs alike encounter difficulty in continuing adaptation work after project funding ends, jeopardizing the knowledge and progress gained.

- **Need for greater inter-jurisdictional coordination** – Several speakers emphasized that better coordination is needed between jurisdictions to build capacities, strengthen partnerships, and allow for innovative solutions to emerge. Regional collaborations can leverage resources and support local governments, particularly smaller municipalities, by enhancing access to funding, expertise, and better data.

- **Need for partnerships across sectors** – Speakers also referred to an urgent need to clarify and redefine the allocation of responsibilities across federal, provincial, and municipal levels of government, leveraging their respective strengths and aligning priorities across them. Furthermore, the agility of NGOs and networks allows them to play an important role in supporting local adaptation and regional collaboration.

While these messages were common across locations, the many examples of local government initiatives presented at the Forum highlighted how the specific challenges and possibilities vary from place to place. Local context is important: localities differ in the specifics of their hazards, as well as in their needs, challenges, capabilities, and public expectations. The issues highlighted in the Forum – the need for new governance structures and regulations, new adaptation solutions including nature-based solutions and managed retreat, better funding supports, inter-jurisdictional coordination, and inter-sectoral partnerships – are important to enable local governments to be effective in taking action for long-term coastal community resilience.

Participants

Some 121 participants attended the Forum from 9 provinces across Canada (plus a few internationally). Overall, a little less than half the attendees were from the East Coast, while the West Coast and Ontario each accounted for roughly one quarter of attendees (Table 1). Speakers at the Forum were similarly distributed geographically.

Table 1. Attendees by Location

Region (province)	Share of Attendees (n=121)	Share of Speakers (n=26)
West Coast (BC)	26%	23%
East Coast (NL, NS, PE, NB, QC)	44%	46%
Ontario (ON)	24%	27%
Other (AB, MB, international)	5%	4%
Total	100%	100%

Participants also represented many sectors involved in coastal community resilience (Table 2). Government representatives were most numerous, with federal, provincial/regional, and municipal governments together accounting for 42% of attendees and 58% of speakers. NGOs/networks and the private sector comprised roughly a quarter of both attendees and speakers.

Table 2. Attendees by Sector

Sector	Share of Attendees (n=121)	Share of Speakers (n=26)
Academia	30%	15%
Government – federal	20%	15%
Government – provincial / regional	7%	12%
Government – municipal	15%	31%
NGOs / networks	17%	19%
Private sector	7%	8%
Unknown	6%	0%
Total	100%	100%

SESSION SUMMARIES

Day 1: May 25, 2022

How the federal government is advancing climate change resilience in coastal communities

12:10-1:00pm (EDT)

The federal government has recently prioritized climate change adaptation and coastal resiliency through the creation of several policies including the development of a National Adaptation Strategy, climate resilience databases, and high risk flood insurance and relocation program. This session will describe the evolving role of the federal government in the governance of coastal resiliency to hazards and climate change. Panelists from Public Safety Canada, Infrastructure Canada, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), and Natural Resources Canada will discuss the range of programs offered by the federal government to other governments and communities across Canada. The intention is to showcase the federal government's role in advancing climate change adaptation and discuss how intergovernmental coordination can improve the design, implementation, and outcomes of local coastal adaptation.

Moderator: Jason Thistlethwaite
Associate Professor
School of Environment,
Enterprise and Development
University of Waterloo

Panelists:

Alexandre Beaulieu
Senior Director of GeoBase Division
Canadian Centre for Mapping
and Earth Observation
Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)

Roberto Figueroa, MA, SCR®
Climate Risk Advisor
Canada Mortgage and Housing
Corporation (CMHC)

Chris Jennings
Director, Climate Change Impacts and
Adaptation Division
NRCan

Matt Godsoe
Director of the Resilience and Economics
Integration Division
Public Safety Canada

Lo Cheng
Director General, Environment and
Infrastructure Policy
Infrastructure Canada

Summary

The panel's key themes include addressing the interconnectedness of both hazards and solutions, focusing on groups of systems rather than isolated assets, and clarifying responsibility and facilitating collaboration. The federal role in climate adaptation is primarily directed toward supporting provincial and municipal actors through coordination (as through the National Adaptation Strategy), funding (as with the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund), and data collection and mobilization (e.g., with the Flood Hazard Identification and Mapping program).

This National Adaptation Strategy is building on 20 years of work, and some identified key changes include: 1) better aligning policies and tools, 2) solutions at appropriate scales, 3) doing more to leverage and encourage innovation, 4) adopting a longer-term adaptive management approach, 5) working with Indigenous knowledge holders, and 6) reflecting inter-jurisdictional perspectives. Infrastructure is an area of both risk and opportunity. Particularly, Infrastructure Canada's Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF) was highlighted as a funding program from the federal government to support lower levels of government.

Participants are highly encouraged to engage with the feedback portal for the National Adaptation Strategy (letstalkadaptation.ca).

Provincial & Local Perspectives

1:00-1:50pm (EDT)

Canadian provinces and local governments are on the frontlines of climate change. Provinces are responsible for planning and developing disaster risk reduction in Canada, while municipalities take on a significant role in implementation and enforcement. Many of these governments are pioneering solutions that align with local contexts including the geography, frequent hazards and vulnerability of the population. But, barriers remain, including a lack of financial, technical and human resources needed to implement effective adaptation. This panel will explore perspectives from provincial and local governments on the emerging solutions and challenges associated with coastal climate adaptation. Panelists will have an opportunity to discuss the role of their governments in adaptation, respond to the preceding federal panel, and consider how improvements in intergovernmental coordination can empower and enable local adaptation.

Moderator: Tony Charles
Professor and Senior Research Fellow
Saint Mary's University

Panelists:

Amir Taleghani
Senior Flood and
Drainage Planning Engineer
City of Vancouver

Mike Doyle,
Mayor of Harbour Main-Chapel's
Cove-Lakeview, NL

Hope Parnham
Senior Adaptation Policy Advisor
PEI Department of Environment,
Energy and Climate Action

Jennifer Graham
Manager, Climate Change Adaptation
Leadership Program
Nova Scotia Environment and Climate
Change

Summary

The panelists called attention to the fact that climate change impacts are not in the future. They are happening now. Politicians are not eager to address climate change, and climate adaptation is often a political, rather than risk-based issue. Overall, the key themes that the panelists highlighted include: the need for a multi-hazards approach, and the need for coordination across government levels.

For municipalities specifically, panelists highlighted that municipalities are limited in terms of capacity and jurisdictional power. As well, they highlighted the need for increased regional coordination for smaller municipalities.

Local Snapshot Presentations Day 1

2:10-2:30pm (EDT)

Residents of Canada's extensive coastline face a diverse array of challenges, ranging from transient & acute marine hazards (such as storm surges and coastal flooding) through to pervasive impacts of climate change (sea level rise; receding ice; coastal erosion). This session showcases a few specific efforts to build local resilience. Presenters include representatives from coastal communities who are exploring new planning processes, building regional resilience partnerships, responding to environmental concerns, and exploring natural infrastructure opportunities.

Moderator: Joel Finnis
Associate Professor
Department of Geography
Memorial University of Newfoundland

Presenters:

Nikki Elliott
Manager, Climate Action Programs
Parks & Environmental Services | Capital Regional District
Vancouver Island, BC

Eileen Grant
Emergency Program Manager
Municipality of Oak Bay,
Vancouver Island, BC

Vincent Leys
Senior Coastal Engineer
CBCL

Victoria Fernandez
Water Resources and Coastal Engineer, CBCL

Summary

Nikki Elliot:
Presentation concerning the projects at Victoria's Capital Regional District, home to more than 400,000 people across many municipalities and First Nations groups. There was a mandate to work collaboratively across sectors in order to prepare for climate change impacts related to sea level rise, storm surge and tsunamis. Funding was received in 2018 to get information, mapping, tsunami modelling, DEM development and coastal flooding analysis. Information is available online on some of the outputs here.

Eileen Grant:
Expanding on Nikki's presentation, the presentation had a focus on the collaborations and partnerships related to projects in the CRD. There has been a lot of mutual learning. There have been good outcomes and consideration of multiple scenarios with tsunami modelling. Descriptive example of Oak Bay, which is a wealthy municipality, but relatively small in size. As such, the resources available to the municipality are relatively limited and partnerships have been key to advancing projects. The partnerships have received endorsement by all 13 municipalities, and there is a notion that it is better to work together than to go at it alone.

Vincent Leys:
Presentation on Mahone Bay's (NS) long-term plans to protect the waterfront against erosion and flooding. The proposed solution incorporated Nature-Based Solutions; the transect profile has a raised trail, bank vegetation, a salt marsh and rock sill. Construction is slated to start soon (June or July 2022) for a pilot section. A website is available to visualize how the project will look like, and it can be found here.

Victoria Fernandez:
Presentation on actions taken at Truro (NS). The community faces flooding at an alarming frequency (almost every year). The project has involved consultation with stakeholders, review of historical information, field data surveys, and compilation of data.

Technical analysis included Hydrodynamic 2D modelling, and analyzing ice jams was incorporated. Local stakeholders validated some of the model results related to the extent of flooding. Looking at Protect/Accommodate/Retreat/Avoid strategies, more than 40 options were analyzed, including widening the river for increased conveyance. However, dyke realignment is a complex process and requires careful consideration of issues such as upstream water control, sediments and fish passage.

Breakout Room Discussions
2:30-2:55pm (EDT)

Room 1 - Data availability and access
Moderator - Joel Finnis, MUN

Room 2 - Funding and coordination across jurisdictions
Moderator - Tony Charles, SMU

Summary

Breakout Room 1: Data availability and access

This breakout session focused on the gaps in current data needs. There is limited availability of data for storm surge modelling. Available data were noted to be relatively sporadic and requiring a standardized national approach or a (national) repository of information. As well, real-time open access to data on ocean conditions would allow for a better approach to hazards.

There was also discussion around publicly available LiDAR and how it can help inform citizens and property owners. Data are being made available (600,000 sq. km), and there is significant collaboration across provinces. There is also work to have more bathymetric data available (around 200,000 sq. km). However, having data available is just a first step since the data may not be used immediately. The discussion concluded with the consensus that there are different approaches to how data can be used (e.g., references, modelling techniques), stored and shared in order to provide effective guidance for communities.

Breakout Room 2: Funding and coordination across jurisdictions

This breakout session focused on the challenges associated with funding, intergovernmental collaboration, and jurisdiction when addressing adaptation issues. There is a need for better coordination across and between jurisdictions to build capacities, strengthen partnerships, and allow for innovative solutions to emerge. Moving forward, it is important that the allocation of responsibilities across different jurisdictions (local, regional, provincial, federal) are well-defined and build on the synergies across levels, while simultaneously seeking to strengthen the capacity and negotiation power of local level governments.

Regional collaborative initiatives allow for smaller municipalities to pool resources and develop innovative new strategies for broader issues, such as flood management. Without this regional support network, municipalities often must rely on higher levels of government, local activists/champions, or non-profits to support and fund larger-scale projects. It is also important to reconsider scale and clearly (re)define the roles and responsibilities across jurisdictions. While higher levels may provide a plethora of resources and data, there is often a gap between information and implementation at the local level. There is a need to bridge these gaps, re-examine what scale of governance is most appropriate for each role, and ensure that there is top-down capacity-building support. The governance toolkits and technical data provided by higher levels of government may be ineffective if smaller municipalities/local level actors lack the capacity or resources to implement new policies.

SESSION SUMMARIES

Day 2: May 26, 2022

NGO & Networks Perspectives

12:10-1:00pm (EDT)

Non-governmental organizations and networks across Canada have been playing a key role in supporting and facilitating local governments as they address coastal hazards and adapt to climate change. These collaborations are needed to not only coordinate planning across neighbouring jurisdictions, but also to share knowledge, build capacity, and leverage limited resources. Speakers in this session will highlight the value of NGOs in advocating for local government needs and facilitating access to resources, and will illustrate what regional partnerships can accomplish. They will also call attention to gaps in governance and funding that are posing barriers to effective coastal adaptation.

Moderator: Ryan Reynolds
Postdoctoral Research Fellow
University of British Columbia

Panelists:

Christina MacDonald
SIKU Outreach Coordinator
Arctic Eider Society

Sara Jane O'Neill
Policy Advisor, Policy and Public Affairs
Federation of Canadian Municipalities

Steve Litke
Director, Water Programs
Fraser Basin Council

Susan Drejza
agente de recherche
Laboratoire de dynamique et de gestion intégrée des zones côtières,
Université du Québec à Rimouski

Summary

The panelists identified several ways that NGOs and networks can support collaboration efforts. NGOs' nimbleness, agility, and responsiveness were unanimously noted as advantages, compared to government. Other suggestions included providing new information or data and acting as impartial conveners of other actors. One barrier to this support is the time and resources dedicated to meeting funding requirements instead of work. To overcome this, panelists mentioned the need to have a dedicated staff person in municipalities to make use of the data being provided, the utility of open-source tools to improve access, and the need to have end users leading the work. There was a consensus about the difficulty of continuing work after funding ends, and the need to find ways to provide support so that knowledge and progress loss are as minimal as possible.

To conclude, the panelists highlighted a few different things: that adaptation is not like mitigation and can't be handled within municipal borders, making NGOs critical to facilitate collaboration between groups; that the agility of NGOs can be helpful in navigating shifting external contexts like policy changes; that data collection needs to be an ongoing process; and that end-users need to be put first, which means that relationship-building and careful listening are not wastes of time.

Researcher Perspectives

1:00-1:50pm (EDT)

Over the past decade, the frequency of disasters has increased almost three-fold as a result of climate change and continued urbanization in high-risk areas. Post disaster rebuilding and recovery provide an opportunity for communities to assess their vulnerabilities and implement a variety of disaster risk reduction strategies that can be used to increase the community's resilience. In this session, researchers will share insights about retreat/relocation plans in the US and Canada, discuss the role of quick response research immediately following disasters, and highlight lessons learned and adaptations that can be used to support communities planning for future climate risks. A moderated discussion will tie common themes together raised by researchers, which could lead to a reflection that other municipalities in Canada could learn from to build climate resilience.

Moderator: Brent Doberstein
Associate Professor &
Interim Director, Climate Change Programs
University of Waterloo

Panelists:

A.R. Siders
Assistant Professor
University of Delaware, USA

Shaieree Cottar
PhD Candidate
University of Waterloo

Greg Oulahen
Assistant Professor
Toronto Metropolitan University

Adam Fenech
Associate Professor
School of Climate Change and Adaptation
University of Prince Edward Island

Summary

This panel session focused on applied research supporting coastal community adaptation and resilience, with an emphasis on monitoring and preparing for planned relocation and managed retreat. Panelists touched on a variety of points, including the role of new technologies like drones to support with documenting coastal changes and the effectiveness of shoreline protection strategies; the importance of funding, taking a holistic approach, thinking about mid-term strategies, and centering equity within relocation; lessons learned from Canadian case studies of relocation following precipitation flooding; and the role of quick response disaster research in responding to flooding disasters in Canada.

Some key themes from this panel were:

1. The need for greater coordination amongst researchers, government partners, and communities with a focus on funding and governance structures.
2. Best practices on relocation utilize place-based holistic approaches as well as lessons learned on fragmented and disjointed relocation that may perpetuate existing inequities or risk.
3. Time was also emphasized, whether related to the need for more up-to-date technology to monitor sea-level rise and erosion changes more frequently or the speed at which university researchers can receive ethics approvals for rapid response research following a flood disaster.

Local Snapshot Presentations Day 2

2:00-2:20pm (EDT)

Local governments are facing an urgent need to address hazards in a changing climate. Floods and other disasters often spur political and public support, yet this window for change can close quickly. This session features several local government efforts to innovate and accelerate flood risk reduction – alongside furthering economic and social objectives. Speakers will present snapshots of a values-centred coastal adaptation process, a strategy to retreat from flood-prone lands, waterfront enhancement to mitigate erosion while supporting tourism, and integrating emergency response lessons with climate adaptation planning.

Moderator: Stephanie Chang
Professor
University of British Columbia

Presenters:

Angela Danyluk
Senior Sustainability Specialist
City of Vancouver, BC

Graham Watt
Manager of Strategic Initiatives &
Flood Recovery
City of Grand Forks, BC

Lisa-Marie Gagnon
urbaniste chargée de projet
Ville de Percé, QC

Bailey Brogan
Climate Change Project
Coordinator, ACAP Saint John

Summary

Angela Danyluk:

Presentation on Vancouver's Sea2City design challenge, focusing on adaptation along the shoreline at False Creek. The project used input from previous engagement processes looking at community values. There have been partnerships with artists (e.g., Laiwan and Theater presentation on climate anxiety and hope), as well as with host nations to help decolonize the planning approaches and incorporate indigenous knowledge (western concepts have been reimagined: resist -> protect, accommodate -> host, retreat ->restore). The project considers a potential restoration (retreat) at the Olympic Village. (See also breakout room summary below.)

Graham Watt:

Grand Forks is a small inland community in southern BC (around 4,000 people). Vulnerability related due to snow-melt flooding. Significant flooding events in the community in 2018 led to major recovery needs and social trauma. Rapid risk assessment analyses were followed to make decisions, leading to a managed retreat project in part of the community. A grant was secured for $50 million total. Property values dropped following the disaster. Additional actions were taken in order to determine appropriate compensation for expropriation, including fair market value, and good will supplement. The project is advancing on other implementation measures.

Lisa-Marie Gagnon:
Percé is very sparsely populated (low density) with high vulnerability to submersion and erosion. A major storm in 2010 caused widespread damage and erosion. This led to the development of the boardwalk rehabilitation project in 2017-2018, which required rapid action as this also had significant implications for the local tourism industry. The previous concrete boardwalk was removed. Over 100,000 tonnes of pebbles were used to rebuild and replenish the beach. There was a partnership with Ouranos to develop the project (concept design and choosing the material for nourishment), while the works were executed by Tetratech. The new beach profile includes vegetation and riprap. The project was supported by the Ministry of Public Safety. However, the city is alone in carrying out monitoring and maintenance. There is no agreement with the government to help in this. There is a need for more long-term financial solutions, as there are other municipalities facing this situation.

Bailey Brogan:
ACAP is a local environmental organization (non-profit), working collaboratively with the City of St. John (NB) on a climate change adaptation plan. St. John experienced significant flooding events in 2018 and 2019. The adaptation plan was submitted in 2020 and accepted by the local council. The recommendations included: integrating climate impact into public education; raising roadway elevations; and installing bioretention infrastructure. The City is working on an asset management program strategy, vulnerability assessments, and other infrastructure projects including seawall refurbishment, utilities relocation and retrofitting pumping stations. Next steps are establishing a climate change committee, implementing the adaptation recommendations, and integrating the adaptation plan into the next municipal plan update. (See also breakout room summary below.)

Breakout Room Discussions
2:20-2:45pm (EDT)

Room 1 - Vancouver's adaptation initiatives: Centering public engagement on community values and decolonization
Moderator - Angela Danyluk, City of Vancouver

Room 2 - Online resources for coastal adaptation
Moderator - Stephanie Chang, UBC

Room 3 - Saint John flood and climate resilience initiatives
Hosted by the City of Saint John, NB.

Presenters: Bailey Brogan, Climate Change Project Coordinator, ACAP Saint John; Mike Carr, Deputy Fire Chief & Director, Saint John Emergency Management Organization; Monica Boudreault, Operations Manager, City of Saint John

Summary

Breakout Room 1: Vancouver's adaptation initiatives – Centering public engagement on community values and decolonization

This breakout room discussed the successes of radical approaches to engagement. The City of Vancouver has had great success creating multi-disciplinary teams that include creatives, landscape architects, biologists, and a cultural advisor from the Host Nation. Relationship-building was a central theme, as was the importance of language. Water, rather than humans, was placed in the centre of understanding sea-level rise and stages of change were used to discuss how infrastructure will change over time.

Breakout Room 2: Online resources for coastal adaptation

Valerie Côté provided a brief presentation on the Canadian Centre for Climate Services (CCCS). The platform's website serves as an access point with a support desk, a library of climate resources, resources specifically to local governments, and introductory information on climate change (www.canada.ca/climate-services). Will Balser (from the Ecology Action Centre in NS) shared The ECoAS platform (sealevelrise.ca) in collaboration with DFO. They and other participants mentioned several useful tools, including:

- Climate data (ClimateData.ca) - High resolution climate data with modules on health, agriculture, buildings and transportation.
- Changing Climate (Changingclimate.ca) - Interactive map of examples of adaptation actions
- The ECoAS platform (sealevelrise.ca) - There are mapping tools where users can submit SLR impacts they have observed, such as inundation, erosion, storm surge, and saltwater intrusion.
- Ecology Action Centre's website, including resources on coastal erosion (https://ecologyaction.ca/livingshorelines).
- For nature-based solutions on the East Coast, landscaping recommendations from the government of Massachusetts (https://www.mass.gov/service-details/coastal-landscaping-in-massachusetts-plant-list).
- Decision trees developed by the Atlantic Adaptation Solutions Association (https://atlanticadaptation.ca/islandora/object/acasa:decisiontreeresources) and the Centre for Coastal Resources Management.
- Tool on sea-level rise projection from the IPCC (sealevel.nasa.gov) and IPCC Sixth Assessment Report's interactive atlas with regional information on climate impacts.

Breakout Room 3: Saint John flood and climate resilience initiatives

This breakout session provided an overview of the climate change risks projected to impact Saint John, New Brunswick and the local climate leadership opportunities that the City has engaged in. The session started with an overview of the hydrological interactions of the Saint John River and Bay of Fundy, and how climate change is altering the dynamic in the Reversing Falls Rapids, thus influencing the overall flood risk for the municipality. Then the conversation continued to discuss the City of Saint John's collaborative process for developing its Climate Change Adaptation Plan, which included extensive community engagement and feedback, as well as public-private and intergovernmental partnerships.

Saint John will be contending with the impacts of rising sea levels, increasing precipitation, increasing storm severity, and increasing temperatures. To adapt to these challenges, the city has identified 80+ action items, characterized by 8 primary objectives. The next step is to establish an interdisciplinary climate change committee to put these action items into practice. Finally, a variety of strategies were highlighted that the municipality is concurrently engaging in to meet local climate needs, including the Climate Change Mitigation Plan, Climate Change Adaptation Plan, and the Asset Management Program Strategy.

Concluding Remarks

2:45-3:00pm (EDT)

Ron Pelot
Professor, Dalhousie University
Associate Scientific Director, MEOPAR

2022 MEOPAR NATIONAL FORUM ON COASTAL COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

MEOPAR

Day 1 - Wednesday, May 25, 2022

12:00pm(EDT)	Welcome - plenary
12:10pm(EDT)	How the federal government is advancing climate change resilience in coastal communities NRCan, Infrastructure Canada, Public Safety Canada, CMHC
1:00pm(EDT)	Provincial & Local Perspectives NS, PEI, Harbour Main-Chapel's Cove-Lakeview, NL, City of Vancouver
1:50pm(EDT)	Audience Q&A
2:00pm(EDT)	BREAK
2:10pm(EDT)	Local Snapshots Day 1 - presentations Oak Bay, BC; Mahone Bay, NS; Capital Regional District, BC; and Truro, NS
2:30pm(EDT)	Breakout Room Discussions Data Availability and Access and Funding and Coordination Across Jurisdictions
2:55pm(EDT)	Concluding Remarks Day 1 - plenary

Day 2 - Thursday, May 26, 2022

12:00pm(EDT)	Welcome - plenary
12:10pm(EDT)	NGO & Networks perspectives - panel Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Fraser Basin Council, Arctic Eider Society, Projet Résilience Côtière
1:00pm(EDT)	Researcher Perspectives - panel University of Delaware, University of Waterloo, Toronto Metropolitan University, University of Prince Edward Island
1:50pm(EDT)	BREAK
2:00pm(EDT)	Local Snapshots Day 2 - presentations Vancouver, BC; Grand Forks, BC; Percé, QC; Saint John, NB
2:20pm(EDT)	Breakout Room Discussions Vancouver's Adaptation Initiatives: Centering Public Engagement on Community Values and Decolonization, Online Resources for Coastal Adaptation, and Saint John Flood and Climate Resilience Initiatives
2:45pm(EDT)	Concluding Remarks Day 2 - plenary

Thank You!

https://meopar.ca/knowledge-mobilization/national-forum/

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