

Who is he anyway?

What would he have to say?

So what?

How can we meet the gap?

So what am I saying?

A few questions





# Background



Me

30+ years

Experience at Federal, Provincial and Municipal level

13 years with Irish Loop Development Board

5 years as mayor/councilor and some time as a CAO

My Company

Planning, governance and development

Over 120 projects since 2011

Over 50 municipal related projects - large planning to small governance sessions

Edited update of the Municipal Council Handbook in 2014



A significant shift in the role and expectations of local government

Implications for local governments on their operations and their capacity to meet these emerging needs

Consider the following:



# Crime is spiking

Crime is spiking in Conception Bay North, and the RCMP's pleas are getting a cool response

Justice minister slams door on increased funding, saying the RCMP needs to address vacancy rates.

CBC News · Feb 21, 2024





# Multi-pronged solution needed for housing

Corner Brook cannot solve 'acute' housing crisis on its own, mayor says

Jim Parsons says a multipronged solution is needed to tackle housing issues

CBC News · Feb 21, 2024





#### Coastal Erosion

Trepassey's breakwater was built last July with emergency funding. It lasted only a few months Project cost about \$900,000 through federal emergency funding

CBC News · Feb. 27, 2024





#### Tent Encampment

Toilet brought to mayor as students aim to keep park bathrooms open for tent encampment

CBC News · Nov. 27, 2024



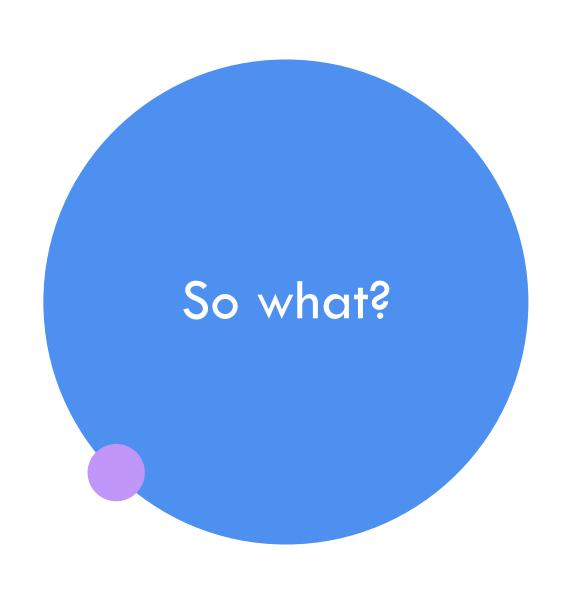


# A few questions

 Are there other emerging program areas where you're a seeing need?







So where is this going?





Do we have sufficient capacity to meet these new emerging requirements?

Not all of it, but we have some.



#### Regional Government is not on

N.L. government says no to regionalization plan

CBC News · Apr 27, 2023



#### Seven dirty words you can't say in government...

I understand this is a continuative newspaper and I am not allowed to use dirty words. Let's see if we can sneak this one past the editor.

Rendy? Regionalization, Olioy, so maybe it's net one of George Carlin's seven famous words, but in proviocial politics it supr is.

Regionalization is the word government uses for its plan to make people who live in smaller communities, or in unincreposated areas, pay fax or in some cases more tax.

The problem is those people-dow't want to

Most municipalities and stress in question say government should give them more torsey.

The problem there is government doesn't want to either.

The latest Liberal Minister of Municipal and Provincial Affairs joined a long line of former ministers in February announcing big plans for regionalization. It's going to happen, she said with confidence and authority. Government has a plan.



Work in Progress By Ivan Morgan

got o-mails between the premier's office and the Department through an access to information request. Officially, government says full speed ahead. Privately, o-mails from the department indicate there seems to be no "appetite" for change.

In the immortal words of a former Promier, "You betcha."

Make no mintake, it's a dirty word that will raise more its in the public than any of the customary cross-

Yours ago, a buildy of mine who was a small-town mayor told one all about that direct of words. A socially minded fellow, he would oner a month hold a mayor's

on regionalization reight lives things up.

It sure clid. Building capacity was excreded an hour before it started. The BCMP had to be called for traffic and courd control. Most had to stand emilde. They made themselves aboundantly clear —no thanks.

I know all the reasons for warring to implicate or gionalization. Scene of them are good reasons. More reporting all the second part the power bill for the few streetights they have. They need more thoray. Some see reactly unincorporated accommonsties or a tax has be done the procurate governation.

The problem is the people living in these areas really, really don't mare it. Really don't.

Many MIDAs have hold the privately they are vary secreted about forcing that dirliest of words on folks in their district who don't want it. The word "undersocratic" has been used.

It's a political nightnare. The Liberals are using tough talk hoping to make this hap-

us they were renaming Red. Indian Lake, that was that. Done deal, Take it or leave it

You'd think they'd learn. Forcing things on people even good ideas - is a very tisky move politically.

How risky? Allow me a short anecdote. Many years ago, there was a government plan alout to analgemate (arother dirty wood). Fortagal Cove and St. Phillips. Government arranged a public meeting, I listed in St. Phillips and the practically every one of my tenglibuous Lisad to take time from my very bong life to attend the meeting.

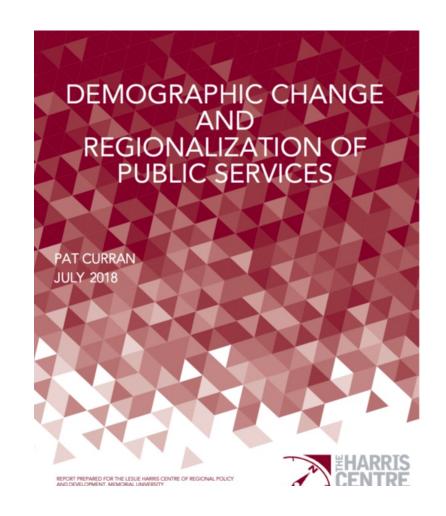
T got three early, but the room seen tilled. There was a delay while speakers were booked up for the crowds outside. No one was there in support. The local MHA of the time bravely stood at the podium, a nervous seale on this insenty face. He was very unhappy. How unhappy?

While we all not writing, I noticed nonnecess go out the back door of the community centre, which was behind the stage. When the door operand, I now the MOLA's

#### Regionalization Benefits Unclear

"Will greater regionalization save rural Newfoundland and Labrador? No. However, it might enable rural areas to adapt to the new reality and challenges facing rural and remote communities in the province."

Pat Curran



# What about local capacity?

In recent months PCA has assessed municipal uptake across three (3) separate capacity building program open to local government including:

- CCBF (former Gas Tax Fund)
- CCB (DIET)
- CAS (CBDCs/ACOA)



# Canada Community Building Fund (CCBF)

- \$136,983,065 total budget
- 99 capacity building projects in total
- \$4.0 million total for capacity building projects (2.92%)
- \$717,353 (.52%) actually spent



# Community Capacity Building (CCB) Fund

- 190 project between 2019 and 2024
- 20 municipal project (10.53%)



# Consultant Advisory Service (CAS) Program

- 735 projects since 2014
- 37 municipal projects (5.0%)



# General Approaches to Planning

MNL Municipal Census 2021 - mixed approach and lack of an overall planning culture

- 76.25% without an economic development plan
- 65.38% without an asset management plan



# So what am I saying?

- Municipalities are under increasing pressure for a broader range emerging service requirements
- You have asked for increased authority and have been given it within the new legislation
- You have a need to plan yet you appear to not be using all the resources available to support you





# A few more questions

- Do you believe you have the capacity to address some of these challenges?
- Have you used any of the programs above, or other programs, to support planning in your community?
- Were you aware that these programs existed to support capacity?







Pat Curran, CMC 709 687 8774

pat@patcurran.ca