

Emerging Considerations on Municipal Capacity and Governance





Overview

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



Who is he anyway?



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

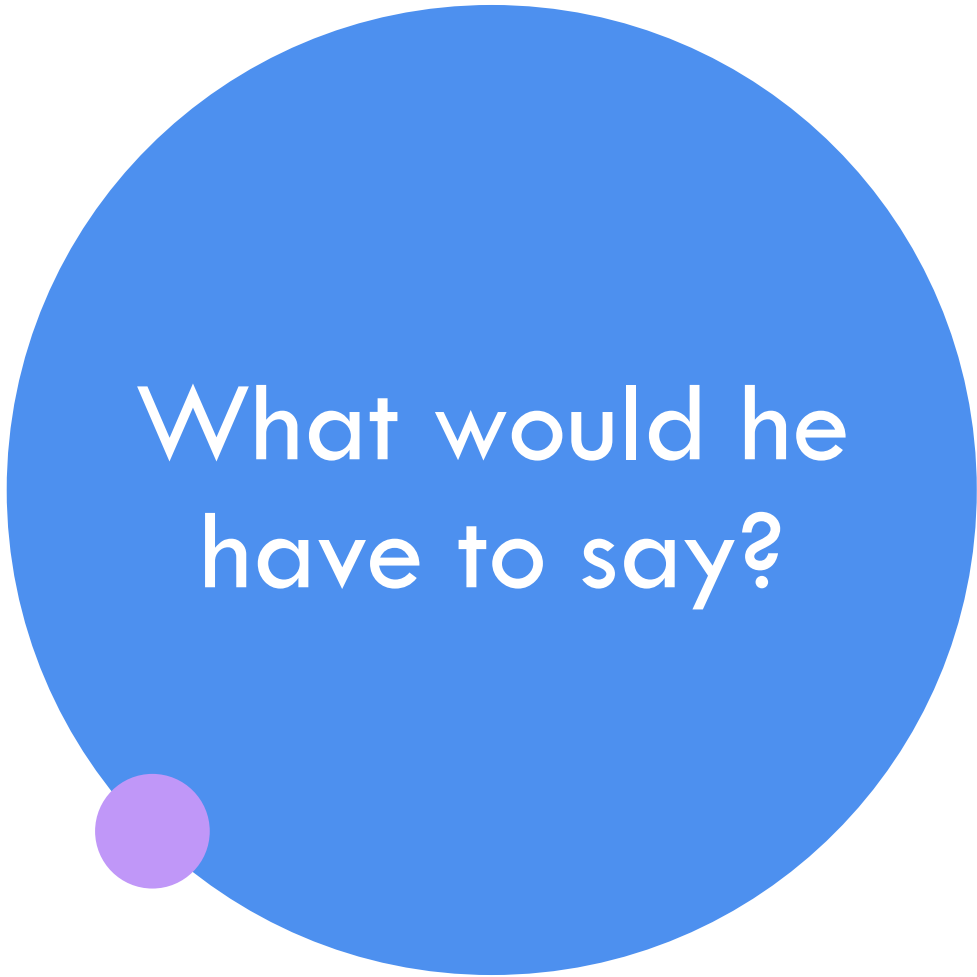
My Company

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



What would he
have to say?



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 multi-pronged 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 what?




So where is this going?





How can we meet
the capacity gap?



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

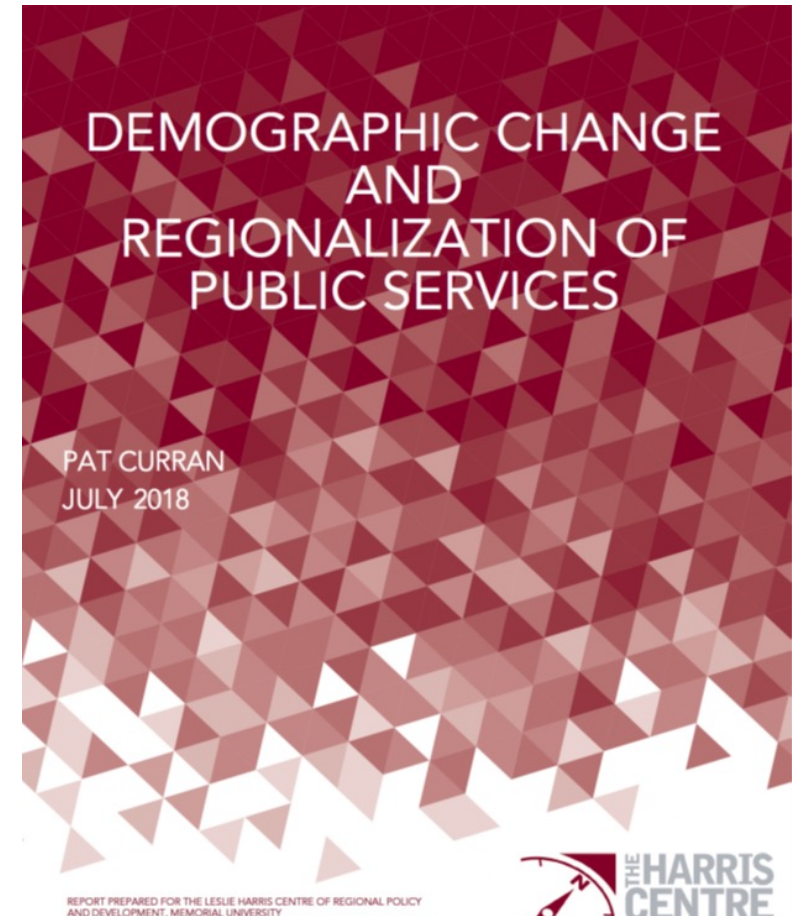


Regionalization Benefits Unclear

“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?





Thank you

Pat Curran, CMC

709 687 8774

pat@patcurran.ca