

AGENDA

MEOPAR National Forum

On Coastal Community Resilience:
Local Government Initiatives

2022

Virtual Event
May 25 - 26, 2022



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

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Day 1: May 25, 2022

Welcome Day 1

12:00-12:10pm (EDT)

Stephanie Chang
Professor
University of British Columbia



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.

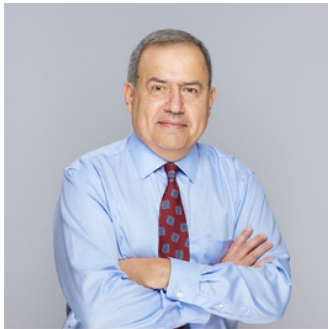


Moderator: Jason Thistlethwaite
Associate Professor
School of Environment,
Enterprise and Development
University of Waterloo

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

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

Audience Q&A

1:50-2:00pm (EDT)



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

Local Snapshots 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.

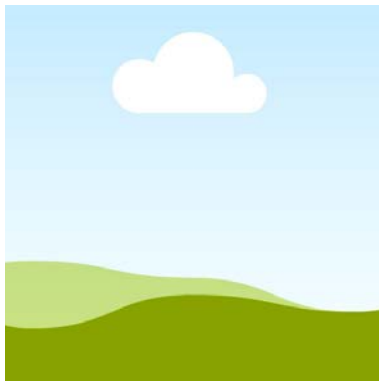


Moderator: Joel Finnis
Associate Professor
Department of Geography
Memorial University of Newfoundland

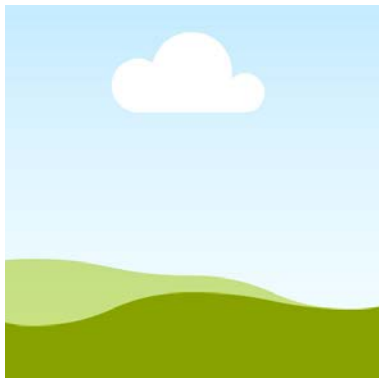
Presenters:



Eileen Grant
Emergency Program Manager
Municipality of Oak Bay, BC



Vincent Leys
Senior Coastal Engineer
CBCL



Victoria Fernandez
Water Resources and Coastal
Engineer, CBCL



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

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

Concluding Remarks Day 1

2:55-3:00pm (EDT)



Stephanie Chang
Professor
University of British Columbia

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Day 2: May 26, 2022

Welcome Day 2

12:00-12:10pm (EDT)

Ron Pelot
Professor, Dalhousie University
Associate Scientific Director
MEOPAR



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

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



Shaierree Cottar
PhD Candidate
University of Waterloo



Greg Oulahan
Assistant Professor
Toronto Metropolitan University



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

Local Snapshot Presentations

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

Breakout Room Discussion:
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, and Monica Boudreault, Operations Manager, City of Saint John

Concluding Remarks Day 2

2:45-3:00pm (EDT)



Ron Pelot

Professor, Dalhousie University
Associate Scientific Director, MEOPAR

Thank You!

For more information, please contact
meoparnationalforum@meopar.ca

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

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.

