

CLIMATE ACTION IN NL COMMUNITIES

Summary of outreach & engagement, Feb-Mar 2022

respondents

incl. 3 Indigenous communities & 19 one-on-one interviews with municipal staff & elected officials

33 unique communities self-identified 9 anonymous respondents

There are 276 incorporated municipalities in NL* This survey sample captures 12-15%

*https://municipalnl.ca/about/

More than 20,000

POPULATION OF COMMUNITY 100 - 250

% of respondents by

251 - 500 500 - 1000 20% 1001 - 3000 3001 - 6000 6001 - 10,000 10,001 - 20,000

REGION 5% 2%

5%

% of respondents by

GEOGRAPHIC

Climate change is at the forefront of our minds. We want to use our resources effciently and do things right, for the long term. **CURRENT LEVEL OF CLIMATE ACTION**

never been discussed 24% 10% We have a climate Mostly larger communities (more than 6,000 people)

45%

27%

action plan but have not implemented any actions yet

opportunities such as this survey

% of respondents

Climate change has

Climate action planning has begun Disclaimer - Potential data bias: communities that have begun to think about or act on climate change are more likely to participate in related engagement

CLIMATE PRIORITIES % of respondents that selected

discussed, but no planning or action has been taken Mostly smaller communities . (less than 6,000 people)

We have a climate action plan and are actively

implementing it

Climate change has been

as a community priority **COASTAL FLOODING** (e.g. sea level rise, erosion, storm surge concerns)

(e.g. composting and recycling programs)

FOOD SECURITY

IN-LAND FLOODING

(e.g. stormwater management)

80% **WASTE REDUCTION & DIVERSION**

80%

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & PUBLIC EDUCATION (e.g. surrounding climate change, personal action, community initiatives, etc.)

WILD FIRE

(e.g. wetland and forest conservation)

Higher priorities for larger communities (more than 3,000 people)

BUILDING ENERGY RETROFITS 48%

VULNERABILITIES TO CULTURAL IDENTITY 27%

(e.g. protection of ways of life, traditions)

Our community has seen effects of climate change more acutely over the past 5-10 years. This includes flash flooding, highway washouts, a forest fire that cut the community off to the outside. We know climate

change is a contributing factor to these events, but as a small

27%

50%

48%

RENEWABLE ENERGY INSTALLATIONS

VEHICLE ELECTRIFICATION

(e.g. solar panels or wind turbines)

34%

GREEN SPACE & ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION

(e.g. switching from fuel heat to electric, increasing insulation)

LOSS OF SEA ICE 9% priorities for all

(e.g. public charging stations, fleet EV procurement)

PUBLIC & ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION (e.g. bus systems, ferry systems, bike lanes) **Labrador respondents**

municipality it is a daunting task to address.

BARRIERS TO ACTION

respondents ranked a list of barriers

VULNERABILITIES TO BUILT HERITAGE (e.g. protection of momuments, historical buildings/sites) priorities for all Bonavista Peninsula/East Coast respondents

People with houses near the water... their own personal property is being swallowed, flooding often. Fisherman with stages... wharfs

that their grandfather's built have up and floated away.

39%

from Very Significant to Not Significant Last year, flash rain caused washouts that cost more than our entire annual budget to fix... We're basically putting a band-aid on the problem because no one has the hundreds of thousands of dollars to come up with an assessment and

> and Somewhat Significant by 27% **UNABLE TO PRIORITIZE DUE** TO 'MORE PRESSING' ISSUES Ranked Very Significant by 34% and Somewhat Significant by 43%

and Somewhat Significant by 37% LACK OF STAFF/COUNCIL SUPPORT Ranked **NOT** Significant by **59%** and Somewhat Significant by 27% SUPPORTS NEEDED

respondents ranked a list of supports from Very Helpful to Not Helpful at All

SUPPORT FOR COMPLETING

FUNDING APPLICATIONS Ranked Very Helpful by **61%** and Somewhat Helpful by 32%

FACILITATION OF PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN COMMUNITIES

Ranked Very Helpful by **61%** and Somewhat Helpful by 32%

ASSISTANCE WITH PUBLIC

ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS

Ranked Very Helpful by 60% and Somewhat Helpful by 25%

> Ranked Very Helpful by **60%** and Somewhat Helpful by 23%

If municipalities had a one-stop-shop to find all the federal, provicinal, and private funding programs so we don't miss anything, that would be great.

money to go after them. We can do

studies forever, but what comes next?

(ie. email notifications, an online portal) Ranked Very Helpful by 84% and Somewhat Helpful by 14% **FACILITATION OF CLIMATE ACTION-RELATED TRAINING**

Bigger barrier on the Avalon Peninsula

(40% of Avalon respondents ranked as

Somewhat Significant, 15% Very Significant)

SHARING OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

ASSISTANCE WITH INTERPRETATION OF CLIMATE SCIENCE AND PROJECTIONS

> **GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION INVENTORIES COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENTS MUNICPAL BUILDING ENERGY RETROFITS**

COASTAL MONITORING & PROTECTION WIND ENERGY EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANNING GEOTHERMAL HEATING

EV CHARGING STATIONS WATER CONSERVATION PUBLIC TRANSIT

significant, urgent problems with

hyper-constrained resources.

PROGRESS + DIRECTION Respondents provided examples of projects they have completed, are working on, or would like to implement. For most of the projects listed, all three apply - a community has done it, another is trying, and another wants to.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLANNING

WATERSHED MODELLING

ECO-ASSET MANAGEMENT

has been enormously helpful.

WETLAND STEWARDSHIP **FLEET ELECTRIFICATION**

Municipalities have a very wide range of

But lots of problems means lots of opportunities for win-win-win solutions...

BIKE LANES & TRAILS

fundamental

SOLAR PV ON MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS SOLAR AREA LIGHTS COMMUNITY GARDENS/GREENHOUSES COMMUNITY OR REGIONAL COMPOSTING

SUPPORT FOR RESIDENTS TO RETROFIT HOMES

MANDATORY RECYCLING

Climate action can pursue multiple objectives at the same time.



