

# WHO IS READY FOR NEW GOVERNANCE IN RURAL CANADA?

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# ROADMAP

- “The revolution no one noticed”
- Case study of governance in rural Newfoundland
- Emerging implications - Who is ready for new governance?





# GOVERNANCE

new governance is the revolution  
that no one noticed

Reimer (2004)

# IS GOVERNANCE NEW?



# WHAT IS GOVERNANCE?

**“a change in the meaning of government, referring to a new process of governing; or a changed condition of ordered rule; or the new method by which society is governed” (Rhodes, 1996)**

- Set of institutions and actors drawn from, but also beyond government
- Identifies the blurring of boundaries and responsibilities
- Identifies power dependence
- Autonomous self-governing networks
- Recognition of the capacity to get things done without resting on the power or command of government

# GOVERNANCE AND NEW REGIONALISM



“Government will work with regional leaders  
to explore collaborative forms of governance  
that advance regional sustainability”

*2009 Speech from the Throne*



# NORTHERN PENINSULA REGIONAL COLLABORATION PILOT INITIATIVE

- To provide advice to government decision-makers
- To create an inclusive forum in the region for discussions of challenges and opportunities
- To provide advice on how government can development innovative regional collaboration





# WHO IS READY FOR NEW GOVERNANCE?

Community and  
Local  
Stakeholders

Government  
Agencies

Private Sector

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# WHO IS READY FOR NEW GOVERNANCE

- **Recognition the status quo does not work**
  - **Local stakeholders ready for governance ... but not sure what they are signing up for**
  - **Challenge to think and act regionally**
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# WHO IS READY FOR NEW GOVERNANCE

- **Recognition the status quo does not work → uncertain how to move forward in the current context**
  - **Hesitations focused on legitimacy and accountability of governance initiatives**
  - **Challenges of sharing and/or transferring power**
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# WHO IS READY FOR NEW GOVERNANCE

- Keen to be engaged in discussions of new governance
- Small enterprises challenged to participate in governance initiatives due to lack of time
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# IMPLICATIONS

- Governance initiatives developed from existing organizations and relationships
- Governance does not come easily
- Challenge for communities and local stakeholders to think regionally
- Pilot Initiative was a real attempt at changing the status quo

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**Canadian Regional  
Development**  
A Critical Review of Theory,  
Practice, and Potentials



**Développement régional  
canadien**  
Une recension critique des  
théories, des pratiques et des potentiels

# FURTHER INFORMATION

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