

PHILANTHROPY

A Saviour to Regional Development in Rural Areas?

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Overview

- Financial dependency trap present regional development
- Explore philanthropy as mechanism to overcome funding dilemma
- Discuss how to adapt to changing economic circumstances

A common theme ... and dilemma

- Regional development initiatives and processes highly dependent on government funding
- Problematic
 - in periods of austerity
 - during changing political priorities
 - Limited financial resources causing competition among local actors

Key questions addressed today

- How can regional development overcome this 'trap' of financial dependence?
- How can regional development policy and practice adapt to changing economic circumstances?

Overcoming Financial Dependence

External Resources

- Increase/diversify government funds
- Grants and contributions
- Natural resource royalties

Internal Resources

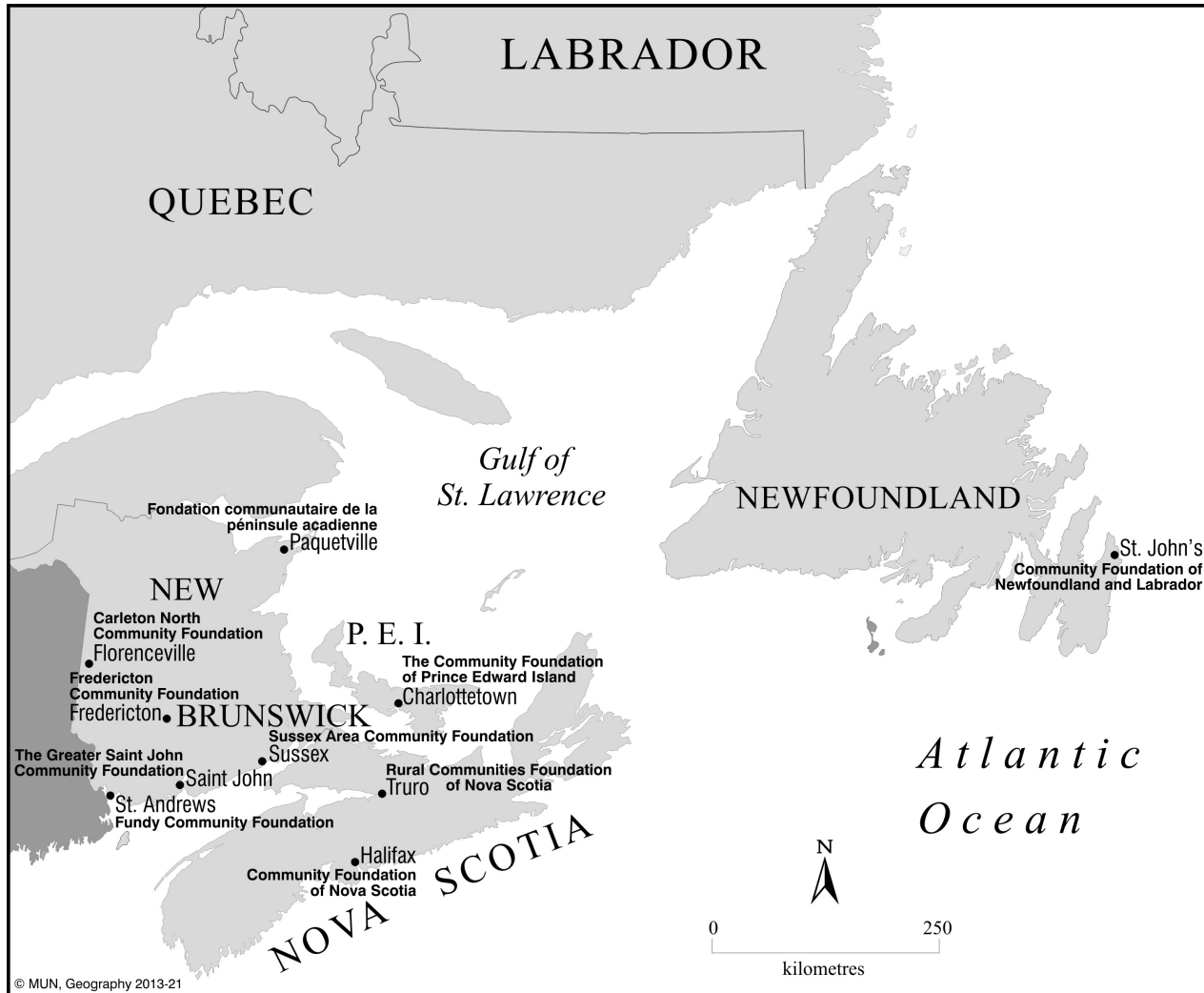
- Taxation
- User fees
- Philanthropy



Philanthropy to Overcome the Financial Dilemma?

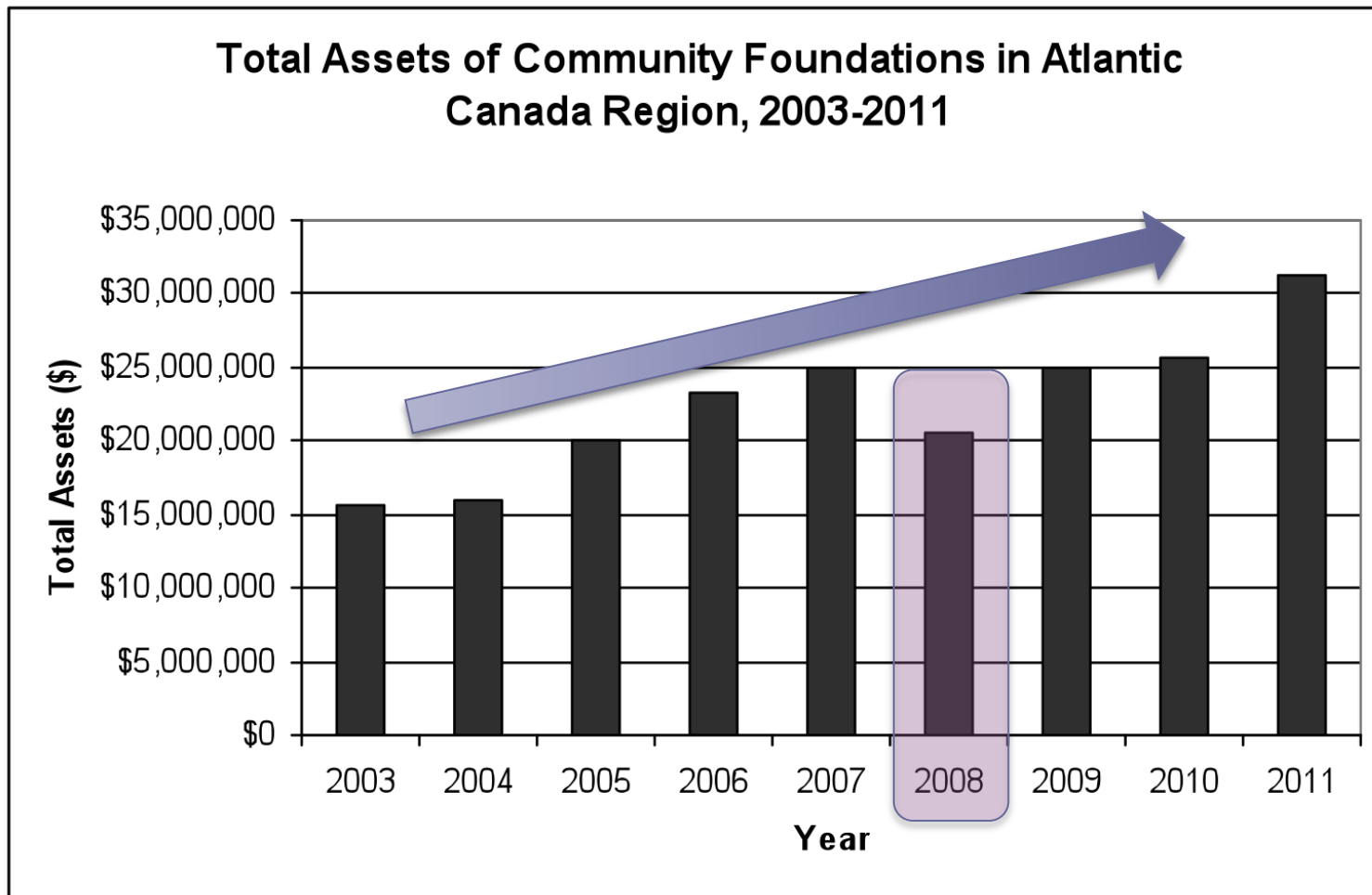
- Opportunity to utilize existing resources within the community/region
 - Private foundations
 - Community foundations
- Community Foundations in Canada (as of 2012)
 - 185 Community Foundations
 - \$3.35 billion in assets
 - \$143 million in grants

CFs in the Atlantic

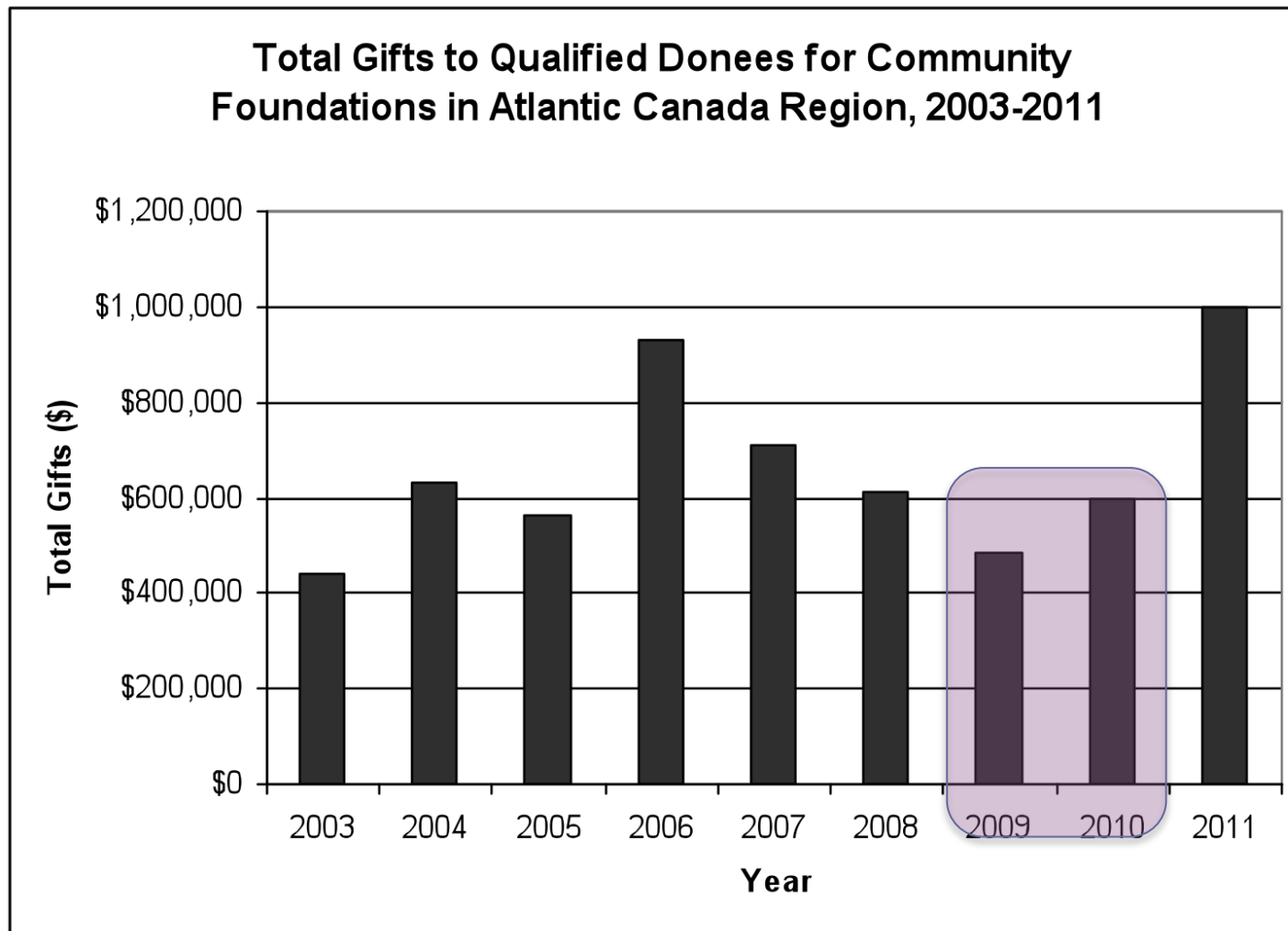


Financial Assets of Community Foundations in Atlantic Canada

- II



Total Gifts Provided to Atlantic Canada Communities



Philanthropy in NL

- Highest charitable giving rate in Canada
- Low donation value per donation
- Religious organizations lead as recipients
- Role of a strong sense of identity

The Role of Philanthropy in Regional Development

- Diversify existing funding
- Creates funds with less 'strings' attached
- More localized decision-making
- Sustained long-term funding solutions
- Engagement of residents
- Place based attachment

Limits to Role of Philanthropy

- Recipients must be qualified donees
- Limited knowledge of philanthropy
- Endowment building time consuming
- NL high rate of donors, low amounts

How to adapt to changing economic circumstances?

- New levels of wealth in many rural regions
- Opportunities to harness connection to place
- Governments could encourage philanthropy
- Inter-generational wealth transfer

Summary

- The status quo of regional development funding not sustainable
- Philanthropy holds promise
- Opportunities to adapt and benefit from changing economic circumstances; many time specific
- Philanthropy facilitates place base development and movements towards moving decision-making to the region

More Information

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