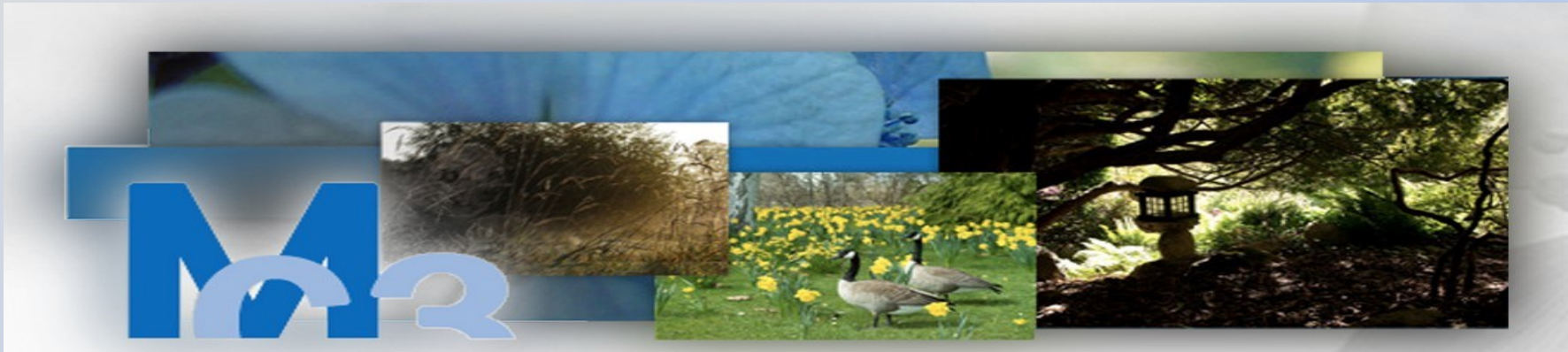


LESSONS LEARNED FROM BC'S CLIMATE INNOVATORS

October 8, 2019 - Ecocity World Summit 2019

Professor Ann Dale
Dr. Robert Newell
Dr. Francois Jost



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12 Research Partners (policy-makers, practitioners, private sector, NGOs)

CASE STUDIES

- Campbell River
- North Vancouver
- Dawson Creek
- Eagle Island
- Prince George
- Vancouver
- T'Sou-ke First Nation
- Revelstoke
- Surrey
- Carbon Neutral Kootenays
- Victoria

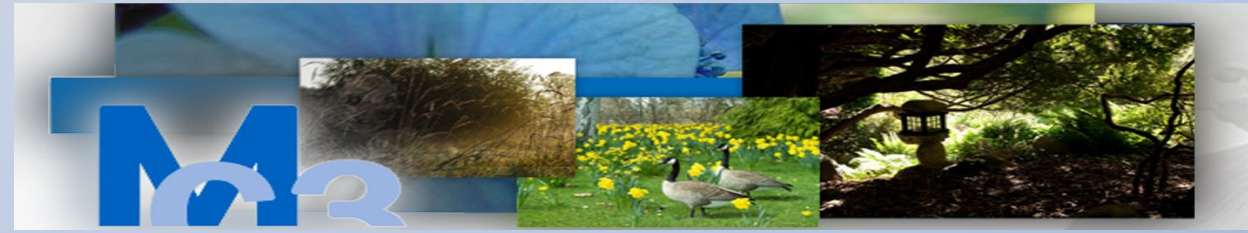


CO-BENEFITS OF CLIMATE ACTION

- Community benefits occur from acting on climate change that extend beyond mitigation and adaptation (e.g., walkability, car emissions, and health)
- Climate action strategies with co-benefits can result in 'win-win' situations



CO-BENEFITS MODELS



METHODS

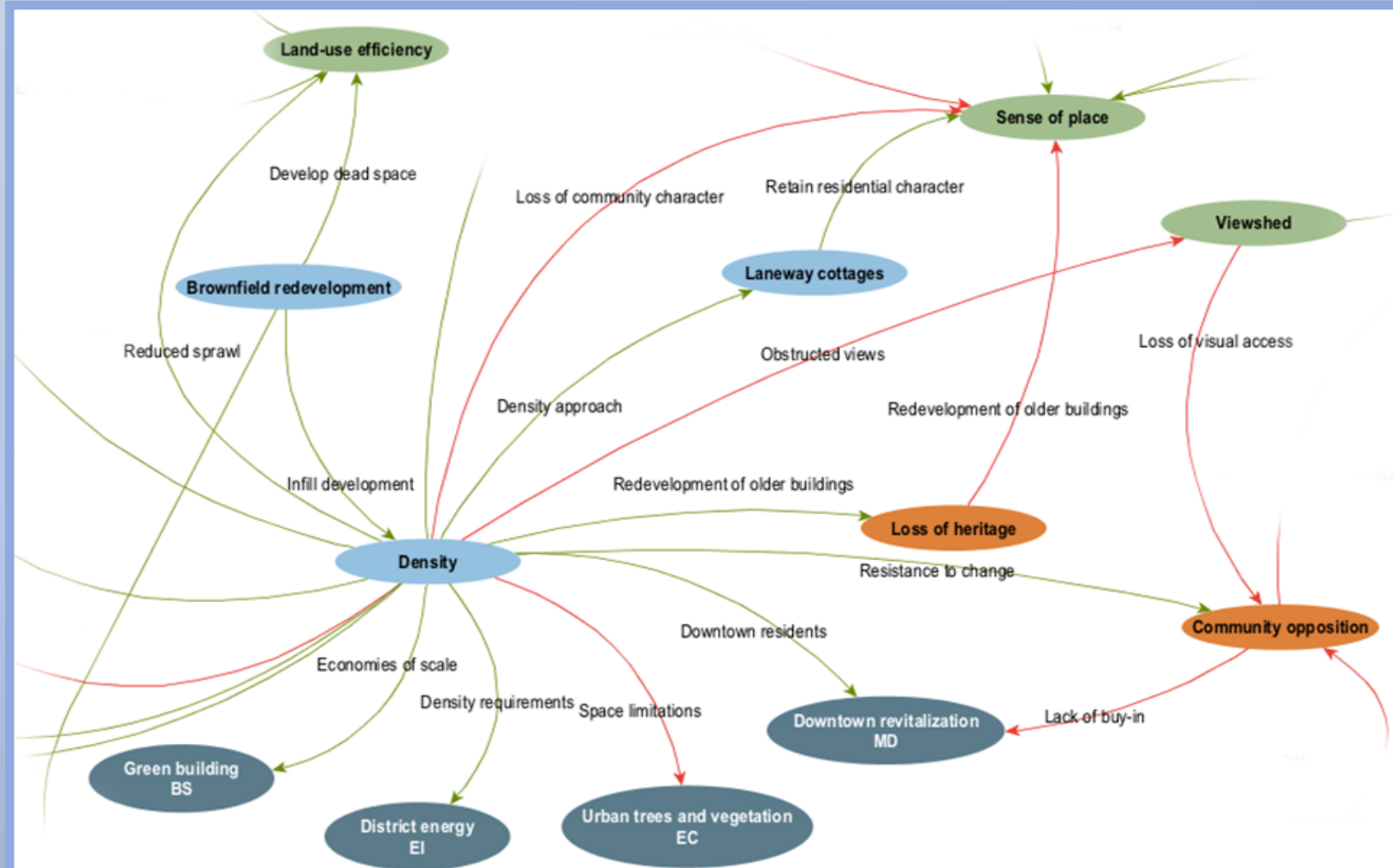
Case study community data

OUTCOMES

Co-benefits models

VALUE

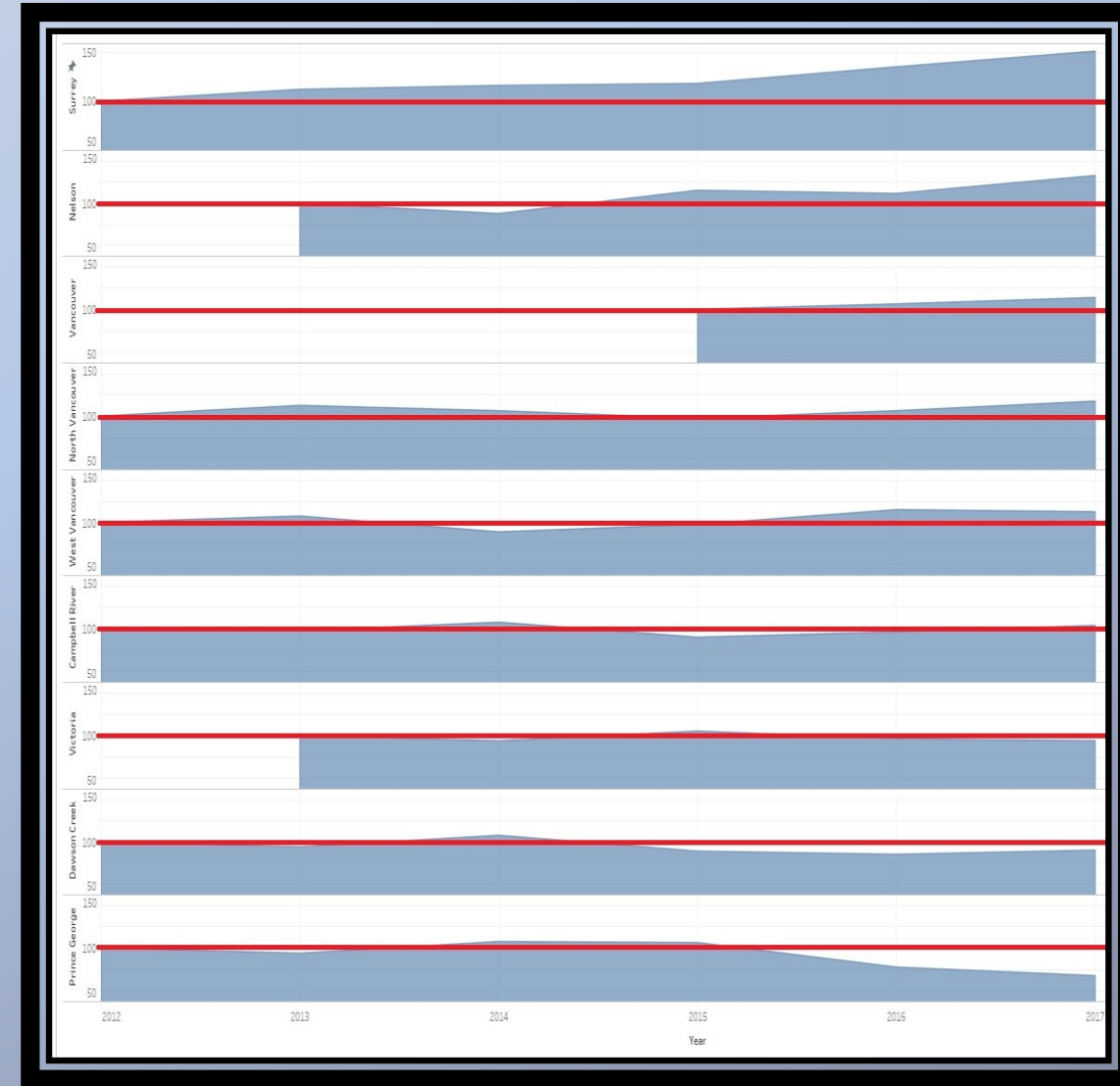
Integrated planning tools



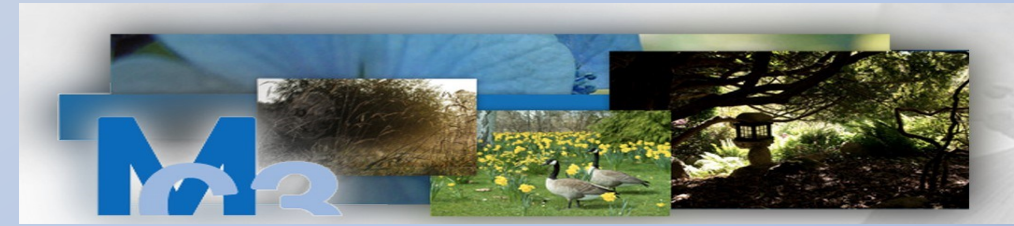
SENTIMENT ANALYSIS

Official staff attitudes towards “Change”

- **Positive** sentiments regarding provincial government & external support for **strategic planning**.
- The misalignment of provincial & federal government goals and policies was identified as a **barrier for change**.



INDICATORS OF CHANGE



Local Government Climate Action Assessment Framework

34 action areas organized into 6 categories:

- Agenda setting/strategies,
- Policy/plan formulation,
- Implementation,
- Feedback/evaluation,
- Dissemination,
- GHG emissions.

Action Areas	Incremental Actions	Reformative Actions	Transformative Actions
Agenda Setting and Strategy 1. Strategic Approach	Climate-related initiatives/programs are framed as either efforts to mitigate or adapt to climate change.	Climate-related initiatives/programs are seen to contribute to multiple LG departmental strategies.	Climate-related initiatives/programs are framed as vital parts of a more holistic sustainable community agenda/narrative/strategy.
2. Champions	Sustainability / Environmental manager, supported by loosely organized community activists	Small, impassioned, but dispersed group of social entrepreneurs within LG, supported by developed local network of external stakeholders	Majority of elected officials and senior staff, supported by research/policy/activist networks operating at multiple levels
3. Motivational drivers	Response to legal requirement or desire for competitiveness or clean environment; vision of ecological modernization	Innovation leading to green jobs, energy independence, and economic diversification and competitiveness	Improved human health and community liveability; improved quality of local environment; reduced adaptation costs
4. Mandate	Little to no alignment leading to diminished capacity to succeed on meaningful climate action	Active participation in voluntary inter-governmental sectoral (e.g. Water, building codes) committees	LG roles clearly defined within an integrated regulatory framework optimized for climate action
5. Integrated planning and programs	Lack of agreement leading to weak / uneven consideration of climate principles by departments wrt operational or investment decisions	Environment-related departments understand risks/opportunities and try their best to include principles in their work	Institution understands climate change risks/opportunities integrates these into all local government decision-making criteria
6. Mitigation and adaptation	Adaptation primary focus, with mitigation given only cursory attention	Strategies or plans developed for both, but considered as largely separate issues	Synergies and contradictions of mitigation and adaptation understood by institution and reflected in climate action plans, OCPs and ICSPs.

INDICATORS OF CHANGE CON'T.



- Framework has been applied to 6 case study cities.
- **Partnerships have been critical** for supporting engagement in climate action.
e.g. agenda setting & planning
- **Framing** actions in terms of incremental, reformatory & transformative actions for assessing progress is **useful** to policy-makers.

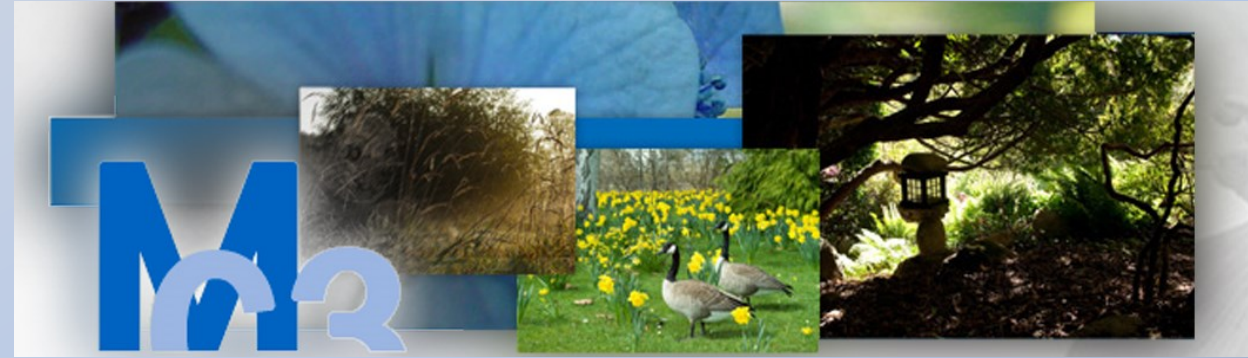
TRANSFORMATIVE CLIMATE GOVERNANCE



Key factors for accelerating shifts in current development paths:

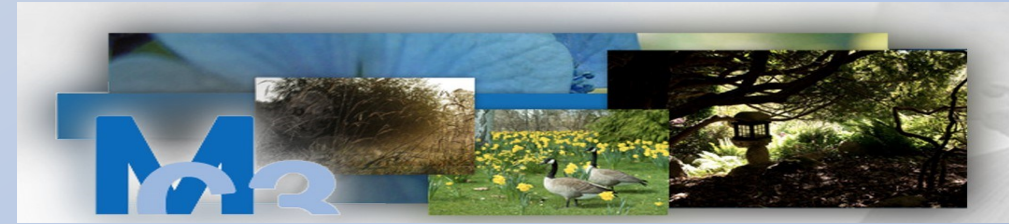
- when the three levels of government are working congruently with one another
- Internal alignment within and across each level of government
- Alignment between political and official staff

KEY POLICY INSIGHTS



- Local governments are on the front line of identifying **indicators of change** in current development paths and **policy innovations** to effect the necessary changes for transformation to carbon neutral economies.
- **Barriers** to transformational change: include **lack of coordination** or concerted action **across multiple scales** of governance, **electoral cycles and large swings** in leadership, and **lack of policy coherence** across governance levels.
- **Drivers** of climate innovation: include **leadership at multiple levels** of governance.
- Understanding the **co-benefits** (and trade-offs) of climate actions is **important for integrated strategies** that achieve broader sustainability goals, as well as **accelerating more innovations** on climate change.

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THANK YOU

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