

COASTAL PROTECTION ACT

A FUTURE SCENARIO ANALYSIS OF COASTAL POLICY IN NOVA SCOTIA

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The Nova Scotian Coast



Coastal Policies

BY-LAW

- Secondary law enforced at municipal level
- Town of Yarmouth

STRATEGY

- Non-binding guideline
- Newfoundland and Labrador

ACT

- Legally-enforceable policy
 - Coastal Protection Act
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What's Taking So Long?

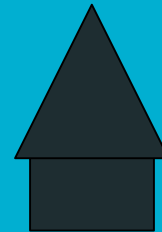
- History of failed attempts
- Complicated jurisdictional landscape
- Competing stakeholder interests



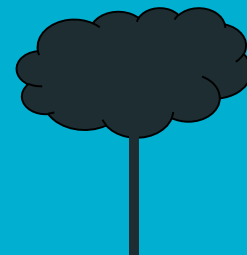
Fagstein, 2008

3 Key Issues

Coastal
Development



Coastal
Ecosystems



Coastal Hazards



My Thesis

“
How might the implementation and application of a provincial Coastal Protection Act influence the future sustainability of coastal areas in Nova Scotia?”



Methodology

POLICY ANALYSIS

23 provincial Acts related to coast

STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS

*Perspectives from government,
industry, non-profits, aboriginal law*

FUTURE SCENARIO ANALYSIS

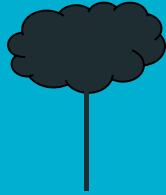
*Development and analysis of four future coastal
policy scenarios*



Policy Analysis

Baseline Protection

Ecosystem protection from humans, not climate change



Development powers of municipalities

Selected Policies

- Environment Act (EA)
Coastal ecosystem protection
- Municipal Government Act
Coastal development regulation
- Health Protection Act (HPA)
Coastal hazards management

Stakeholder Interviews

Barriers

- Lack of provincial role
- Burden on municipalities

Comprehensive coastal policy needed to support municipalities

Opportunities

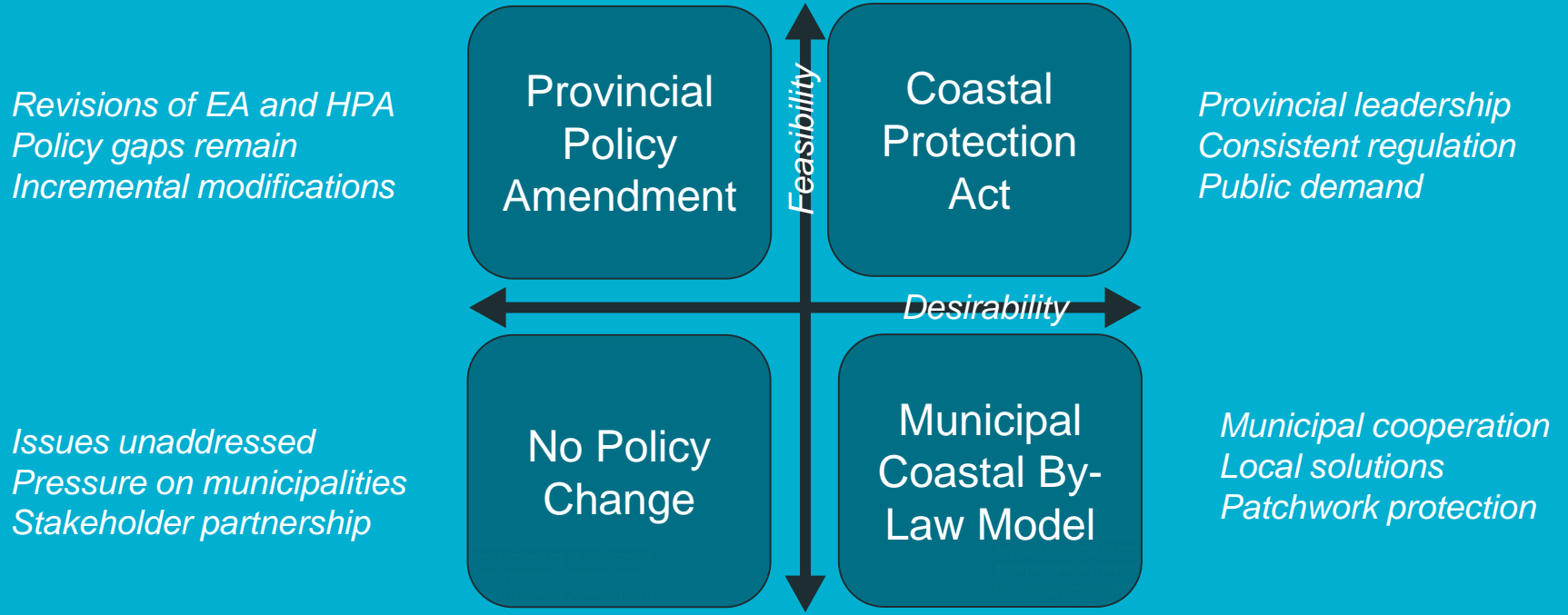
- Demand for coastal policy
- Mi'kmaw knowledge



Future



Future Scenario Analysis



Recommendations

- **Public Education**

Raise awareness of coastal threats and solutions to generate pressure for policy

- **Consultation**

Draw knowledge and ideas from Mi'kmaw and other communities experiencing coastal threats to inform policy

- **Stakeholder Collaboration**

Promote partnership among stakeholders to pool resources and knowledge and better address coastal issues

- **Complementary Policy**

Explore additional policy options (amendments, by-laws) to fill gaps in Coastal Protection Act



References

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