

Key IACC Recommendations Given Future Vulnerabilities

Gregory P. Marchildon

Canada Research Chair in Public Policy and Economic History
Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy, University of Regina Campus

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Recommendation 1

Develop anticipatory,
long-term (10-20 year)
climate and water
plans that build
resilience to climate
change



Long-term plans that:

- Combine both mitigation and adaptation activities
- Anticipate future rather than simply react to or manage crises as they arise
- Integrate climate policy into currently segmented programs and policies:
 - water management
 - land and resource management
 - agriculture
 - the environment

Recommendation 2

Integrate government and community
adaptation activities



Link Government and Community Adaptation Efforts by:

- Emphasizing how adaptation is essential to the sustainable economic development of all communities
- Governments targeting communities with weak adaptive capacities
- Governments coordinating their own activities:
 - Across departments/agencies within single governments
 - Across governments: federal, provincial, municipal, etc.

Recommendation 3

Use participatory
planning and
empower stakeholders
and citizens in water
management
decision-making

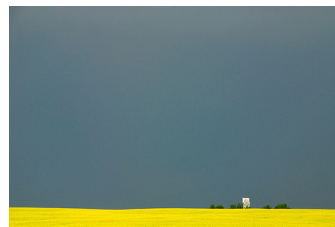


Strengthen Participation of Civil Society Organizations

- If adequately resourced, then...
- Effective participation of watershed groups, irrigation associations and other groups can:
 - Widen range of interests included in adaptive planning and implementation
 - Build consensus (legitimizes) on decisions
 - Ensure goals are achieved

Recommendation 4

Improve dialogue
between government
and rural communities
to build local resilience
and seek new
opportunities



Interactive and Iterative

- Communication and understanding essential to build local resilience
- Government needs to understand local vulnerabilities and these will vary
- Communities need to know programs available within government to use external resources as well as mobilize and coordinate their efforts

Recommendation 5

Focus efforts on
improving local and
regional coping
capacities



Networking of Communities and Organizations

- Facilitating and improving coordination among communities or interest groups
- Organizing around common issues
 - Watershed planning
 - Irrigation maintenance

Recommendation 6

Prepare for water conflicts: resolve issues using adaptive conflict resolution methods



Deal with Conflict Pro-Actively

- Ensure a highly transparent and accountable decision-making processes to avoid or mitigate potential conflict
- But have transparent and accountable conflict resolution processes in place in event of conflict
- Transform conflict into learning opportunity for everyone: may uncover potential adaptations not previously considered

Recommendation 7

Obtain and share more and better
water data

Within Provinces and Between Governments

- Maximize coordination and use of data
- Data required to monitor and predict future water supplies and the impact of climate change on water resources
- IACC research identified following gaps:
 - Climate and hydrology data for the upper part of the basin;
 - Groundwater data;
 - Water quality, quantity and usage data

Recommendation 8

Seek solutions with
interdisciplinary teams using
social and physical sciences

Comprehensive Response to Climate Change

- Requires many different knowledge domains but contributions must be more than sum of the parts
- Need to have interdisciplinary team willing and able to collaborate with stakeholders and policy makers on problem definition, analysis and solution

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Recommendation 9

Simplify water governance arrangements for more efficient and effective adaptation decisions

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Current Hodgepodge

- Some complexity may be warranted but this degree of:
 - Overlap and duplication?
 - Lack of coordination?
 - Imprecise and competing mandates? Can be addressed in various ways
- Can be addressed in various ways
 - Western Canadian Premiers initiative (May 2008)
 - Western Water Stewardship Council

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Thank You!