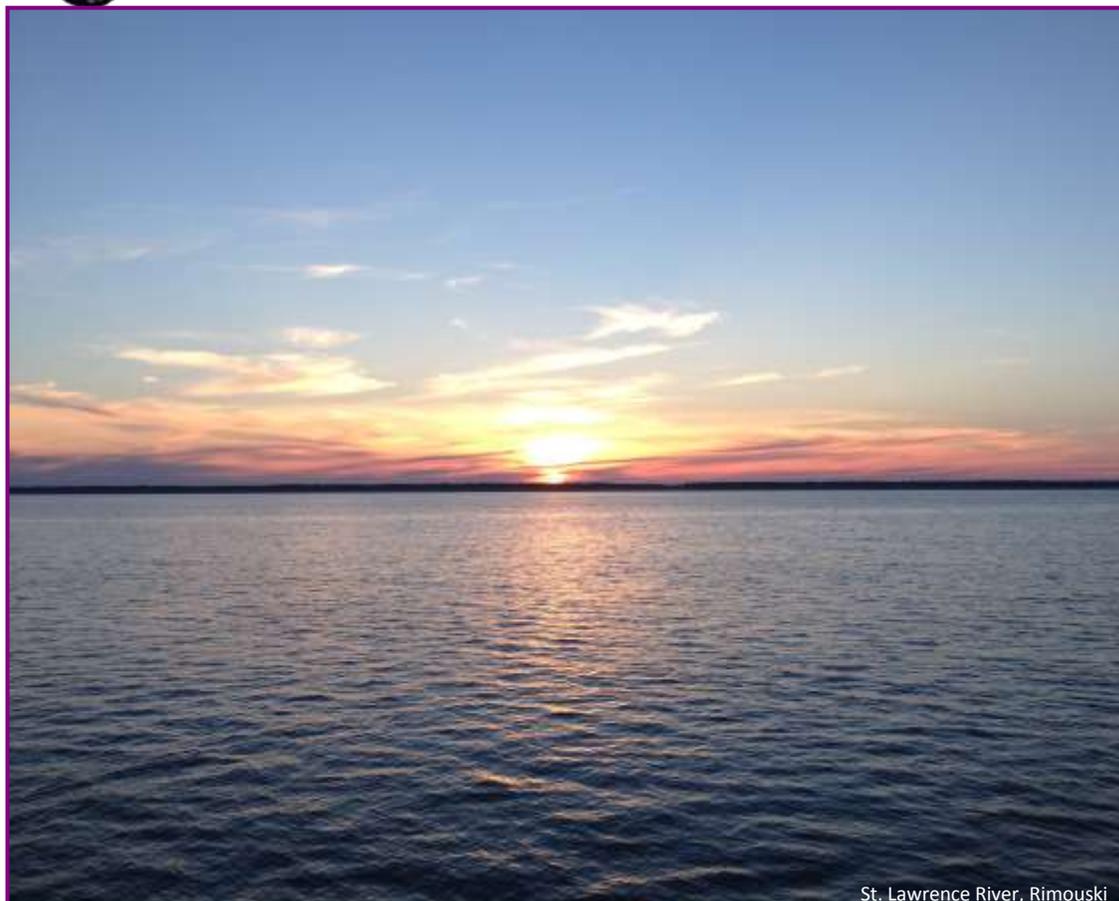




Coastal Butterfly

Coastal Communities Challenges



St. Lawrence River, Rimouski

After a quick look at our **billboard** and our **coming events** (p. 2), we invite you to take a look at an **overview of the CCC-CURA's presentation at the 83rd Congress of the *Association francophone pour le savoir*** (p. 3). We will then transport you to **Sainte-Flavie to follow-up on the longitudinal project conducted by the research team at the *Université du Québec à Rimouski*** (p. 4). We will then present three one-time projects that have recently ended: the **COGESAF's integration of local knowledge in the elaboration of watershed organizations' water management master plans** (p. 6), the **OBVMR's project *Aspects Lég'EAUX*** which looked at judicial tools in regards to water management (p. 9), and finally the **OBAKIR's integration of evaluation steps to climate change adaptation of the downstream section of the Ouelle River** (p. 12). The **ROBVQ** has summarized discussions on the transportation of oil and gas and its consequences held during during the **16th *Rendez-vous des OBV (Meeting of Watershed Organizations)***. Julie Guillemot and Mélanie Aubé, of the Université de Moncton in Shippagan, will present the main points of a meeting they hosted: "**From the Community to the Region: Climatic Impacts – Challenges, Lessons and Collaboration in the Acadian Peninsula**". Finally, a research team directly related to the CCC-CURA will present **the new Anticosti project**.



TAKE A LOOK...



ON THE CCC-CURA'S WEBSITE

www.defisdescommunautescotieres.org

The website has recently been reconstructed! It has been up and running since end of August. We are excited for you to take a look!

COMING ACTIVITIES

- The 17th *Rendez-vous des Organismes de Bassins Versants* (OBV) of the *Réseau des Organismes des Bassins Versants du Québec* (ROBVQ) will take place on November 4th in Orford, QC. It will cover issues related to freshwater and its aquatic ecosystems. For more information, please visit the ROBVQ's website: <https://robvq.qc.ca/formations/rdv17>.



DON'T FORGET...

In order to continue accomplishing our communications strategy, please continue sending us regular updates about your projects and activities to Amélie at:

amelie_boisjoly-lavoie@uqar.ca



CCC-CURA: Events Partner

Feedback on the 83rd ACFAS congress: off the beaten track.

The CCC-CURA's 631st seminar

“A Closer Look at Territorial Development: Research Partnerships Serving Resilience to Climate Change”



The seminar discussed the contribution of research partnerships to issues related to climate change in coastal and riparian areas in order to contribute to the wider reflection on regional and territorial development. The director of the CCC-CURA, Steve Plante, began the first day of the seminar by presenting the participating communities, the different contexts in which an accompaniment process was put in place in the different communities, and the different contexts in which research results were coconstructed with them. The partner researchers: Steve Plante, Julie Guillemot, Mélanie Aubé, and Omer Chouinard presented a statement of their different community accompaniment projects. Then, Julie Guillemot, Liette Vasseur and Mélinda Noblet took a look at governance and the important role it plays in adapting to climate change. Geneviève Bisson gave a workshop on conceptual perspectives during which François Gagnon, Rose-Marie Gallagher (mayor of Sainte-Flavie), Mélinda Noblet, and Liette Vasseur defined three concepts: adaptation, resilience, and governance. Finally, we concluded the day by presenting tools stemming from the different punctual projects financed by the CCC-CURA. Take a look at the CCC-CURA's website for find out what are the different punctual projects: <http://www.defisdescommunautescotieres.org/en/projetpunctuel>.

The second day began with a panel comprised of Christopher Bryant, Steve Plante, Jean-Éric Turcotte, and Antoine Verville who discussed the role of the researcher in research partnerships. Finally, Sebastian Weissenberger, Mélinda Noblet, Antonia-Djèmila Boubaine, and Lucile Mineo-Kleiner exhibited examples around the world of climate change vulnerabilities and adaptation.

The seminar was a success. Many people that aren't part of the CCC-CURA's network actively participated during the different workshops. We'd like to extend our thanks to everyone who participated, and thank you for your collaboration!

The official program of the seminar can be found on the CCC-CURA's website: http://www.defisdescommunautescotieres.org/en/evenements/acfas_2015.



DOSSIER: THE CCC-CURA'S LONGITUDINAL PROJECT



Sainte-Flavie mobilizes!

A review of the activities achieved in strategic planning in the wider context of climate change.

Julia Santos Silva, PhD student at the UQAR, research partner of the CCC-CURA

Steve Plante, director and contact researcher of the CCC-CURA

Conducted jointly between the CCC-CURA and its partners from the regional county municipality (RCM) of La Mitis, the strategic planning exercise conducted in Sainte-Flavie between 2012 and 2013 is showing signs of success. The discussions between the participants of this exercise had brought to light the need for further reflection focused more specifically on issues stemming from the storms of December of 2010. Consequently, in December of 2013 a discussion group focused on actions that need to be taken in a context of climate change and extreme weather events was launched.

The group was made up of public officials (from the municipality of Sainte-Flavie, represented by the mayor, two city counsellors, and the executive director and inspector of urban planning, and the RCM of La Mitis, represented by its urban planner and its director of civil protection and fire safety), representatives of the private sector (the *Comité de développement socio-économique de Sainte-Flavie* (CDSE) (Committee for the socio-economic development of Sainte-Flavie), represented by its president), as well as members of civil society (members of the *Comité de protection des berges* (Committee for the protection of the shoreline), and citizens of the community).

The CCC-CURA was in charge of the facilitation of the meetings, and used the "From Vulnerability to Resilience" tool to guide the reflection, which was accepted by the participants.

Four encounters took place between December of 2013 and April of 2014. The work plan consisted of: 1) specifying the issues to be addressed as a group; 2) targeting the social, environmental, economic, cultural, and governance related consequences of those issues, as well as the risks; 3) defining and integrating solutions; 4) considering the pros and cons of the different solutions; 5) acting; 6) and ultimately conducting the monitoring and the evaluation of the undertaken actions.

The issue the group decided to reflect on was the effects of flooding and coastal erosion in the case of the strong storms that hit Sainte-Flavie. The risk the participants associated to this issue was the loss of vitality in the community (devitalization). In this context, the consequences of storms identified by the participants were: the maintenance needs of the vacant lots, the receding shoreline, the change in the landscape and the opening of "windows" on the St. Lawrence River, the security and insecurity of residents, exhaustion among volunteers and local officials in the community in a crisis situation, social solidarity, the decrease in municipal revenues (in taxes), a shaken feeling of belonging, the displacement measures used on the residents of the shoreline, and the necessity for dialogue between decision-makers for better adaptation measures.



The discussions brought the participants to reformulate, as the activity went by, their choice of risk associated to flooding and the erosion of the coast. In order to target actions in the larger context of climate change and extreme weather events, the group focused on the vitalization (positive) and devitalization (negative) of the community, with or without the occurrence of a storm (uncertainty).



Bird's-eye view of Sainte-Flavie, QC
Photo credits: City of Sainte-Flavie

The actions listed by the participants were separated in three categories: expected actions, desired actions, and actions that they would “like” to see accomplished by a specific stakeholder or partner. The actions the group identified were: updating the map of possible locations for the relocation of households after a natural disaster, the creation of a Disaster Resource Directory (website and leaflet), the creation and dissemination of decision-making guides and tools in the context of city planning along the coast, the recording and sharing of experiences of coastal or riparian residents who have tried stabilization techniques.

Sainte-Flavie has already undertaken many of these actions with the collaboration of different partners, the updating of the map of possible locations for the relocation of households after a natural disaster being one of them. This task was accomplished by the urban planner of the RCM of La Mitis in the winter of 2014. Furthermore, in partnership with the CCC-CURA, the community documented the different coastal planning techniques used by the shoreline residents of Sainte-Flavie. This collection of different experiences related to the application of shoreline stabilization techniques was the result of a participative process to which eight residents of the municipality participated. For the full report, please visit our website: http://www.defisdescommunautescotieres.org/en/communautes/sainte_flavie_documents.

The results of this group reflection will be reworked using a risk evaluation tool called the *bow tie*. The bow tie allows for a better visualization of complex risks and their consequences, as well as the improvement of foreseen actions. Furthermore, a resilience plan is currently being elaborated based on the results of the process.



NEWS FROM THE FIELD PARTNERS OF THE CCC-CURA

COGESAF



This 2014-2015 punctual project is completed!

The integration of local knowledge in the elaboration of water management masterplans by watershed organizations

Catherine Frizzle, project coordinator at COGESAF, a watershed organization and field partner of the CCC-CURA

Local knowledge, scientific knowledge, it is sometimes difficult to draw the line dividing them, but the need to integrate local knowledge in the water masterplans of the watershed organizations of Quebec is unquestionable, although some may doubt so. COGESAF was brought to reflect on this issue during the *Intégration des savoirs locaux dans l'élaboration des plans directeurs de l'eau des OBV* (Integration of local knowledge in the creation of water masterplans by watershed organizations) project, whose conclusions join the founding principles of water management in Quebec, the idea of participative governance.



The implication of water stakeholders and their participation early on in the cycle of the water masterplan is in accordance with the participative management measures developed in Quebec in the integrated management of watersheds.

Photo credits: COGESAF

COGESAF took a look at its own methods, as well as water masterplans of other watershed organizations, in order to finally realize that three reactions are possible when integrating local knowledge: 1) integrating it in the water masterplan, but without explicitly identifying it as local knowledge; 2) integrating it in the water masterplan, and explicitly identifying it as local knowledge; and 3) not integrating it at all in the water masterplan. Regardless of the choice, the experience and the literature consulted coincide: it is better to consult the different stakeholders early on, so to favor the engagement of participants in a social learning process and improve their ability to work together and “appropriate” the problems and solutions. This will



also help maintain mobilization because the stakeholders will be heard and directly implicating in choosing the solutions. The integration of local knowledge is beneficial to watershed organizations because it also reduces the gap between scientific and local knowledge and reduces marginalized knowledge, whether it be scientific or local. The key lies in the quantity, quality, and diversity of knowledge, regardless of its nature.

A tool for the integration of local knowledge in the elaboration of a water masterplan was produced during this project (http://cogesaf.qc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/Outil_integracion_savoirs_locaux_PDE_ARUC-DCC.pdf). Inside the document, you can find specific examples that show integration of local knowledge very clearly in the water masterplans of four watershed organizations. A more complete report was also produced and is available. In short, the project recommends:



Outil sur l'intégration des savoirs locaux dans les PDE.

that show integration of local knowledge very clearly in the water masterplans of four watershed organizations. A more complete report was also produced and is available. In short, the project recommends:

1. Identifying and recognizing the different information collection methods of the watershed organization: all stakeholders have equal opportunities to comment;
2. Integrating local knowledge in the water masterplan at the same level as scientific knowledge by focusing on quantity, quality and diversity;
3. It can be in the watershed organization's best interest to clearly identify local knowledge in the water masterplan so to encourage participation and appropriation of the solutions by individuals and groups;
4. Continue research, so to improve the process of analysing and integrating local knowledge.

In order to better situate the notions used during the project, here are the definitions of the different types of knowledge:

Scientific Knowledge

The elaboration of water management masterplans requires scientific knowledge, or more specifically "factual" (tangible, measurable, etc.) information, which is usually accessible through reports, inventory results, publications relating to a specific problem, georeferenced digital data, etc. In a water masterplan, this information is grouped into broad categories:

- General data on the watershed (size, topography, drainage system, etc.);
- Data on the current state of the aquatic ecosystem (the quality of surface and ground water, the sources of drinking water, flows, the current state of aquatic ecosystems, biodiversity, species, erosion, the quality of riparian buffer strips, etc.);
- Data on usage (water capturing sites, run-offs, land-use, etc.);



- Data stemming from planning in the watershed (urban plans, bylaws, regional development plans, etc.).

Local Knowledge

The sociological definition of local knowledge is the one that interests us. It defines it as knowledge that individuals or groups have of their environment, based on their observations, measures, and perceptions. Here are some examples:

- The observation of cyanobacteria, water levels, sediments, bad practices, etc.;
- Findings related to poor water quality data;
- Conflicts in the usage of water;
- Knowledge of indigenous groups.

The objective of this project, which was conducted with the CCC-CURA, was to improve what we already know about using local knowledge by using an existing method that has already been used by the COGESAF, and then analyzing it in order to bring forth recommendations that will allow to bind local and scientific knowledge when updating a water masterplan.



NEWS FROM THE FIELD PARTNERS OF THE CCC-CURA OBVMR

This 2014-2015 punctual project is completed!



Aspects Lég'EAUX: legal tools in water management

Lucile Tranchecoste, manager of legal information for the OBVMR, a watershed organization and field partner of the CCC-CURA

Initially...

The complexity of the Quebecois judicial system and the lack of expertise to confront it are two of the difficulties that face on a daily basis stakeholders in water management. During public consultations, these stakeholders often express the need for better access to the laws and regulations of different departments or ministries, so to better understand their responsibilities, and to have access to tools to help integrate judicial concepts in their professional activities.



*Website design by [Bonanza Group](#)

The OBVMR undertook in autumn 2013 the *Guide sur les responsabilités des pouvoirs publics dans la gestion de l'eau* (Guide on the responsibilities of public authorities in water management) project, whose goal was to simplify and make accessible legal concepts. Thanks to the partnership and financial support of the CCC-CURA, the project was able to begin a second phase in August of 2014, which ultimately culminated with the launch of a new website for *Aspects Lég'EAUX* (<http://robvqc.wix.com/legal>) in May of 2015.



Laws and tools, all at a glance!

Our objective with Aspects Lég'EAUx was to make legal knowledge related to water management democratically accessible. On the website, citizens, local officials, and non-profit organizations can see who is responsible for what in regards to water management, access the legislation related to their specific issues, and benefit from turn-key tools to help them with their activities.

Aspects Lég'EAUx offers for every theme that it discusses on its website:

- ✚ FACTSHEETS prepared by lawyers that show the current legislation in a simplified and summarized manner;
- ✚ READY-TO-USE documents, often in a Microsoft Word format, that are intended to be downloaded and altered or used as is during outreach activities;
- ✚ A list of LAWS & BYLAWS regarding specific topics with links to the official texts;
- ✚ A summary of important RULINGS with links to the official texts;
- ✚ EXTERNAL LINKS that redirect to publications of other organizations that have pertinent legal information.

An approach that favors consultation and participation

During the elaboration phase of this project, we favored methods based on consultation and integrated management of water, as it is explicitly stated in the mandate of watershed organizations in Quebec: the themes with which we worked with were selected based on the priorities brought up by municipalities, watershed organizations, and the ZIP Committees of Quebec, which were all consulted using surveys (3). During this first phase, six themes were selected: the distribution of responsibilities regarding the environment, the protection of sources for drinking water, the norms and regulations for the wastewater of remote residents, the legal framework of riparian buffer strips, the power to intervene in the case of fossil fuel exploitation, and access to waterways and navigation. The information in the website was compiled and written by a legal expert, [Lucile Tranchecoste](#). Lawyers and citizens from various sectors also offered comments and advice, so to make the information more widely accessible. The law professor, Catherine Choquette, and her undergraduate and graduate students at the Université de Sherbrooke also participated.

Making legal knowledge more democratically accessible

The main mandate of Aspects Lég'EAUx is to disseminate legal knowledge as widely as possible, accessing and using its publications is therefore absolutely free. We also offer flat-rate packages at reasonable prices for organizations that want to outsource their legal needs because of a very specific problem. The user-friendliness and simplicity of Aspects Lég'EAUx make it a unique and accessible platform for knowledge. We hope that the documents published will empower and reinforce the negotiation capacities of decision-makers and favor working in partnerships. In short, it offers many useful elements that can help communities adapt to climate change!

For more information, please contact the person responsible for this project, Lucile Tranchecoste, by e-mail, juridique@matapediarestigouche.org, or by telephone, 418-756-6115 ext.: 7013.



NEWS FROM THE FIELD PARTNERS OF THE CCC-CURA OBAKIR

This 2014-2015 punctual project is completed!



Integrating an evaluation process to adaptation to climate change in the downstream portion of the Ouelle River

François Gagnon, general manager of the OBAKIR, a watershed organization and field partner of the CCC-CURA

In 2013, the Kamouraska, L'Islet, and Rivière-du-Loup watershed organization (OBAKIR) began a project to integrate an evaluation process to the adaptation to climate in the downstream portion of the Ouelle River. As the project went by, it slowly turned into a wider umbrella project under which were conducted many smaller planning activities. Far from being a failure, this change shows the importance of being able to adapt methods to a specific context, even more so in the case of adapting to climate change.

The initial project's plan consisted of 11 steps, just like the ROBVQ recommends (https://robvq.qc.ca/guides/changements_climatiques). During the first meetings, which brought together different stakeholders, some common concerns were identified: erosion, jams in the waterways (often due to ice), flooding, impacts on Atlantic salmon, roads, agriculture, etc. The first conclusion or observation the group made was the need for more specific information to better diagnose the problems, and to be able to apply the right measures at the right places. Although most risks, such as flooding or jams in the waterways, can be pinpointed to a specific location, their impacts on the environment change along the river, making it difficult to establish the "general"



Meeting between a farmer and students in agro-environmental studies in the summer of 2014; Photo credits: André Vézina

vulnerability for the entire river and watershed. Instead of discussing the vulnerability of a road as a whole, we needed to discuss the vulnerability of a specific portion of that road. Such an analysis is much more specific than what is usually needed to elaborate a water masterplan, thus the need to adapt the tool to the context. Without such specific information, it would have difficult to diagnose the problem in this case without it being too general.

A first project was put in place in the summer of 2014 in order to define agricultural vulnerabilities related to biodiversity. The field data, once compiled and analyzed, brought to light the current state of the situation. For example, the fact that the agricultural zone along the river bank is a nesting spot for Bank Swallows, which



is considered an endangered species by the COSEWIC, is an additional challenge that we were faced with when trying to find a solution to erosion problems.

In 2015, it was the salmon that was subject to a more specific analysis. The *Société de gestion de la rivière Ouelle* (Ouelle River Management Society), who manages salmon fishing on this river, and OBAKIR produced a management plan to ensure sustainable usage of the river. Measures regarding adapting to climate change specifically for this species were integrated, making the larger water masterplan all that much more complete. Finally, instead of one action plan, there were multiple smaller action plans that were needed to cover all the adaptation measures required.

The finding of new knowledge showed to be a challenge. As per mentioned above, we needed to look at an exceedingly local and specific level to identify the current vulnerabilities related to climate change, but conflicts related to usage of the river only become obvious at the watershed level. Before introducing notions in climate change adaptation, these conflicts had to be addressed. The adaptation to climate change process could therefore only come after. This slowed the process, but also made it all that much more useful for the integrated management of water at a watershed level. After a year and a half, the process showed to be very educational. The approach proposed by the ROBVQ and its toolbox for the integration of climate change to water masterplans was suitable and simple to use, as long as each “use” for the river or each “asset” was dealt with one at a time. In practice, specifically in a context of integrated management, it is difficult to breakdown certain elements. Each element has to be looked at as a whole, one at a time, and the potential actions that are identified as climate change adaptation measures need to be put in relation with the other uses or assets on the wider territory. We found ourselves in the process illustrated in the below figure. The challenge is knowing where to start. The relative importance of the impacts identified based on the different uses or assets on the territory can be used to make such a decision. For the Ouelle River, agriculture and salmon were the main elements, to which are attached many other components of interest to the population, such as erosion or biodiversity.

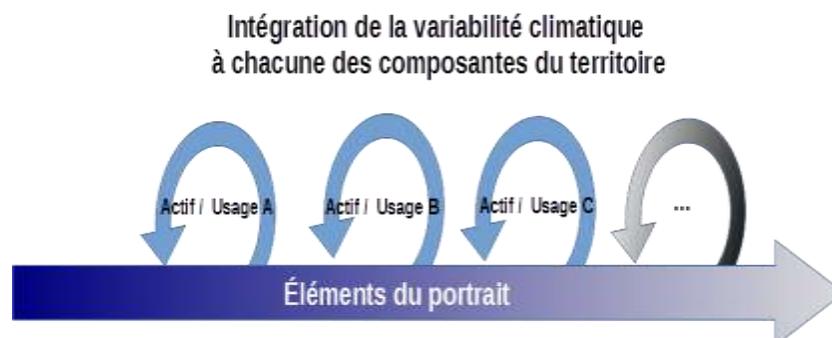


Diagram showing the integration of climate variability, which was used in the Ouelle River project

Far from being over, the project will continue during the coming months. After the salmon, special attention will be brought to municipal infrastructure, which is the final “use” of the territory susceptible of being affected by climate change in the downstream portion of the Ouelle River.



NEWS FROM THE FIELD PARTNERS OF THE CCC-CURA ROBVQ



16th RDV des OBV: The Transportation of Fossil Fuels and its Consequences

Jessica Boursier, intern working on fossil fuels at the ROBVQ, a field partner of the CCC-CURA

On the 4th and 5th of June of this year, over 150 members of watershed organizations from all over Quebec met in Quebec City. They took part in the 16th *Rendez-vous des OBV* (Congress of Watershed Organizations) organized by the *Regroupement des organismes de bassins versants du Québec* (ROBVQ) (a coalition of Quebec's Watershed Organization), which discussed current issues related to water management, such as the transportation of fossil fuels. The opening conference was presented by Émilien Pelletier, professor of chemical oceanography at the Institute of Marine Sciences of the Université du Québec à Rimouski. Mr. Pelletier discussed maritime transportation around the world. He then showed the history of major oil spills, their environmental consequences, and the means of intervention used, so to be able to then explain the factors that can aggravate the impacts of an oil spill. He concluded by presented a report published by the WWF-Canada, the CPAWS's Quebec Chapter, and the David Suzuki Foundation called *Le Saint-Laurent, artère pétrolière?* (The St. Lawrence: Transportation Artery of Oil?).

The participants then assisted to two conferences on an independent and objective research of TransCanada's Energy East Pipeline. Stéphanie Allard, a consultant specialized in urban planning and environmental issues and associate at ÉCOgestion-solutions, presented an analysis of the potential impacts on Quebec's water resources. Jacques Harvey, strategic consultant in energy and sustainable development at J. Harvey Consultant et Associés Inc., discussed the potential risks of operating a pipeline. To this day, TransCanada's security record is lacking because over the course of three years, Keystone, its only pipeline that is currently transporting oil, has had over 152 leaks. Finally, TransCanada's reports on the potential risks of oil spills rarely take into consideration catastrophic events, which can lead to underestimating the risks.

The conferences that followed focused on the legal and social aspects of transporting fossil fuels. Olivier Blaney-Thibault, a graduate student in law at the Université Laval, presented the legal aspects of the National Energy Board's evaluation of the Energy East Pipeline. He reviewed the National Energy Board Act and explained how it is applied. Marie-José Fortin, professor and holder of Canada's Research Chair in Regional and Territorial Development at the Université du Québec à Rimouski, presented the potential challenges that can arise in terms of social acceptability, as well as the potential use of the notion of social acceptability which is still the topic of many debates. She discussed the complexity of that concept, especially because social acceptability depends on what level you consider it. For example, internationally, the public opinion can be in favor of a project, but at a territorial or local level, the implementation of that same project is confronted to objections.

The day concluded with a study of the train accident that happened in Lac-Mégantic, presented by Paul Benoît and David Berryman of the MDDELCC (Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques), who respectively discussed the intervention of the MDDELCC after the accident and the contamination management plan for the river. The majority of the presentations, as well as the reports will be made available shortly at: <https://www.robvq.qc.ca/formations/rdv16>.



NEWS FROM THE RESEARCH PARTNERS OF THE CCC-CURA

UNIVERSITÉ DE MONCTON – SHIPPAGAN



“From Community to Region”

A Look at March 24th, 2015: Climate Impacts: Challenges, Lessons and Collaboration in the Acadian Peninsula

Julie Guillemot, professor at the Université de Moncton, research partner of the CCC-CURA
Mélanie Aubé, Coastal Zones Research Institute (CZRI), research partner of the CCC-CURA

Many projects and initiatives concerning adaption have taken place in the Acadian Peninsula over the past few years (Figure 1), and many stakeholders have come to the conclusion that the work conducted at the community level should be integrated into a more regional approach, which would allow to pool together resources and learning and develop a more coherent and coordinated approach among regional stakeholders. Thus, after Mayor Le Goulet’s advocacy for such a program, the Forum des maires de la Péninsule acadienne (Acadian Peninsula’s Mayors’ Forum) adopted in December or 2012 a resolution making the implementation of a coastal management plan a shared priority. The Forum partnered with the Coastal Zones Research Institute (CZRI) for this process in the spring of 2014. The objective was to develop a *Plan d’aménagement et d’action en prévention des risques d’érosion et d’inondation reliés aux changements climatiques pour la Péninsule acadienne* (Development and action plan for the prevention of risks of erosion and flooding linked to climate change in the Acadian Peninsula). In 2013-2014, the CZRI received funding from the Environmental Trust Fund of New-Brunswick in order to initiate the first steps of this regional planning project.

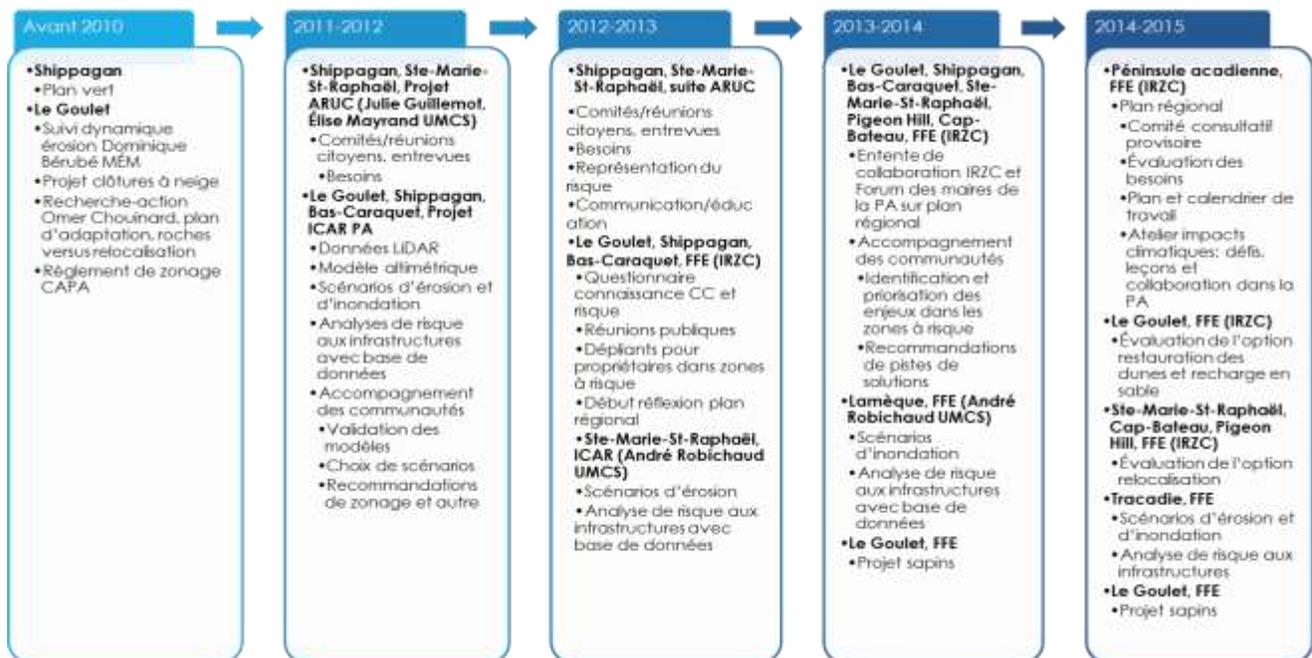


Figure 1. Projects and initiatives regarding adaptation to climate change in the Acadian Peninsula over the past few years



The activity that took place on March 24th, 2015 was part of this project which ultimately hopes to implement action at a regional level. It was organized by the CZRI and the New Brunswick Environmental Network (NBEN), with the participation of the Université de Moncton, Shippagan Campus and the planning department of the Acadian Peninsula Regional Service Commission (CSRPA, formerly known as CAPA). Its aim was to foster ties between the different stakeholders that can potentially be concerned by climate change adaptation in the peninsula. The response was very positive, 68 stakeholders participated to the workshop, which included researchers, representatives from 8 municipalities or Local Service Districts (LSD), 13 representatives from environmental or community organizations, and 12 representatives from the government or New-Brunswick from 5 different departments: Environment and Local Government, Health, Transportation and Infrastructure, Emergency Measures Organization, and Energy and Mines.

The objectives of the day were to:

- Update the challenges and problems related to climate change;
- Share experiences, lessons learned, and adaptation strategies adopted to this day in the Acadian Peninsula;
- Encourage collaboration between watershed organizations and other NGOs;
- Initiate a regional process, and engage communities in this process.

First, a few short conferences made it possible to bring up to date the knowledge the participants had about the potential impacts of climate change on coastal zones and watersheds. There were also some presentations that discussed the role of the communities that face these risks. Representatives from city councils, researchers, and representatives from environmental non-profit organizations presented some specific, local examples of adaption approaches. The second part of the day was dedicated to discussions the priorities identified by the stakeholders taking part in the workshop, in order to improve at a regional level the capacity to adapt facing climate change.

Those priorities were to:

- Establish an organizational structure at a regional level which can facilitate the development of a climate change adaption plan;
- Develop a communication plan for climate change, issues related to it, and actions to be taken in order to create awareness among the public;
- Produce research related to adaptation and update data that has already been collected;
- Incorporate climate change adaption to the main framework of municipal bylaws;
- Diversify funding for climate change adaptation.

During the activity, the regional stakeholders clearly stated their desire to create an organizational structure at a regional level able to coordinate efforts at that level, to find ways to continue financing the adaption efforts already underway, and to encourage the accumulation and transmission of knowledge on climate change adaption in the Acadian Peninsula.

Please follow this link to access a report of the day's activities:

<http://www.nben.ca/index.php/en/province-wide-conferences-and-workshop-reports>.



WHAT IF WE SHARE?

The CCC-CURA's approach radiates outside the university!

Amélie Boisjoly-Lavoie, coordinator of the CCC-CURA

As part of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of fossil fuels on and around Anticosti Island and its Knowledge Acquisition Plan (KAP) related to social aspects, the CCC-CURA's team was consulted, because of its expertise in accompanying communities, to carry out the study ASOC01 - *Portrait social et économique de la population d'Anticosti et évaluation des changements appréhendés et des solutions possibles* (Social and economic profile of Anticosti's population and assessment of foreseen changes and possible solutions). The team, which consisted of Steve Plante, director of the CCC-CURA, Antoine Verville, co-director of the CCC-CURA, Amélie Boisjoly-Lavoie, coordinator of the CCC-CURA, and Geneviève Bisson, professor at the UQAR, is currently working with the community of Anticosti to fulfil three distinct mandates using tools already used in other project of the CCC-CURA, such as the MEAG or the V2R.

During a first visit which took place in March of this year, the team met with residents so to co-construct a sociodemographic portrait of Anticosti's community. The team went back in April of the same year to ask residents what were the foreseen impacts of fossil fuel exploitation on the island. Finally, the team will go back in September to identify, always side by side with residents, the possible solutions to be able to adapt to the foreseen impacts identified in April. A final visit is planned to allow the team to present the final report to the residents of the island.

To follow this project, please visit our website: <http://www.defisdescommunautescotieres.org/en/anticosti>.

You can visit the website of the government of Quebec for more specific information on the SEA and KAP of Anticosti Island: <http://hydrocarbures.gouv.qc.ca/EES-plan-acquisition-connaissances.asp>

You can subscribe or unsubscribe to our mailing list directly on our website:
<http://lists.defisdescommunautescotieres.org/mailman/listinfo/bulletin>

For more information, please contact our coordinator, Amélie, at the following e-mail address: amelie_boisjoly-lavoie@uqar.ca



Coastal Communities Challenges
Community-University Research Alliance
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Creation and formatting of the document:
Amélie Boisjoly-Lavoie
Articles: partners of the CCC-CURA
Translation: Emanuele Lucia



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