



Tri-National Agricultural Accord

Rural Development Workshop

Overview of Canadian Provinces

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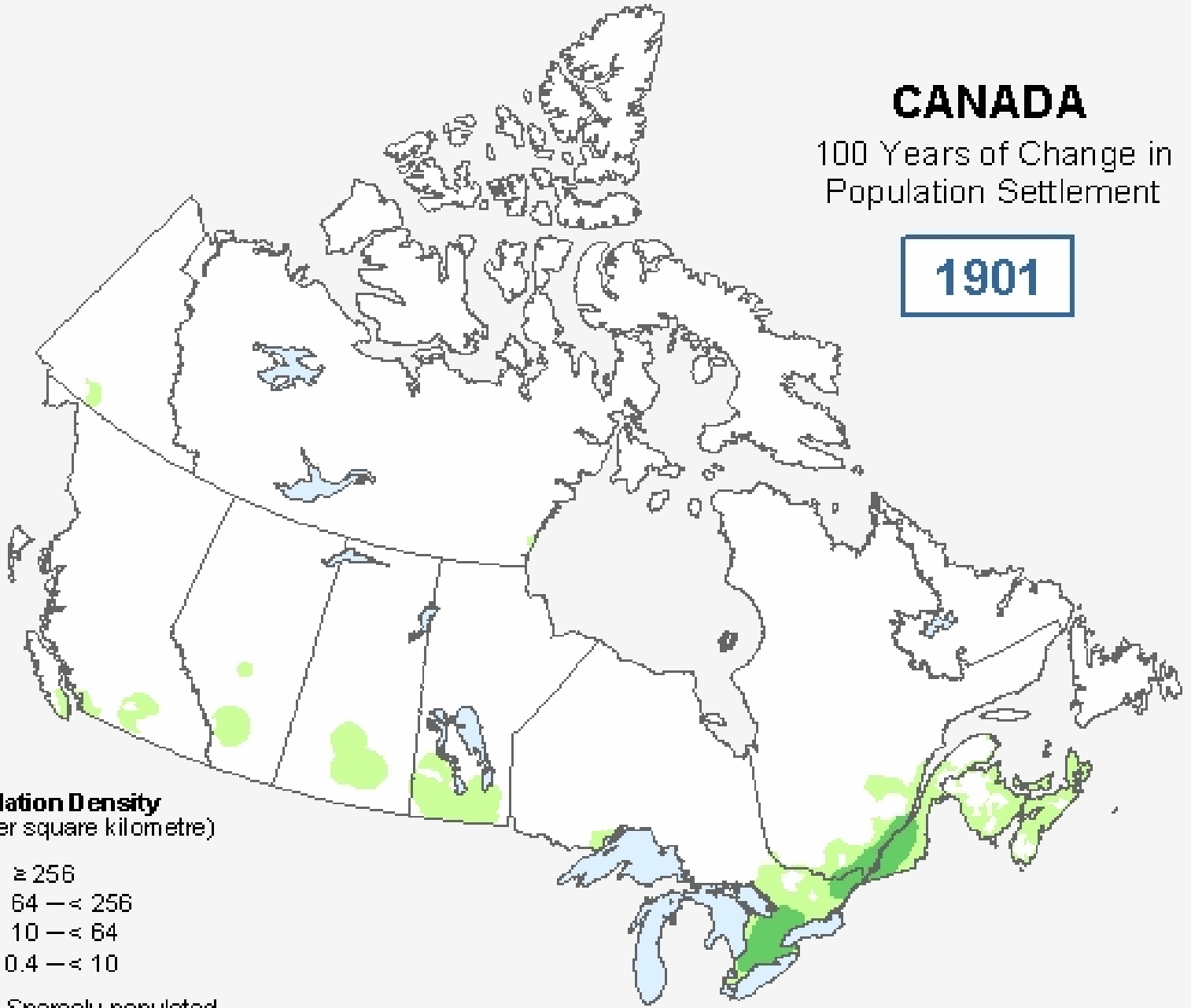
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

100 Years of Change in
Population Settlement


1901



Population Density

(persons per square kilometre)

-  ≥ 256
-  $64 - < 256$
-  $10 - < 64$
-  $0.4 - < 10$
-  Sparsely populated



Rural Development and Canadian Provinces: Setting the Context (1)

- 10 provinces and 3 territories (northern)
- Agriculture as key rural sector varies by province, and regions within provinces
- Agriculture as source of employment declining, even where value of production maintained or increasing
- Forestry, fishing, mining mostly same trends

Rural Development and Canadian Provinces: Setting the Context (2)

- Defining rural: many definitions; present purposes – outside Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs) = urban centre with catchment of commuting area of 100,000
- 3 “rurals”
 - Rural adjacent to urban
 - Rural non-adjacent
 - Rural remote (mostly northern areas of provinces)



Rural Development: Definitions

- ❑ Sectoral Development (agriculture, fishery, forestry, etc.)
- ❑ Diversification building on primary sectors: capturing linkages (upstream and downstream)
- ❑ Diversification into new sectors (tourism, non-resource based manufacturing, “new-economy”)
- ❑ Capacity building



Rural Development: Strategy vs. Structure

Strategies:

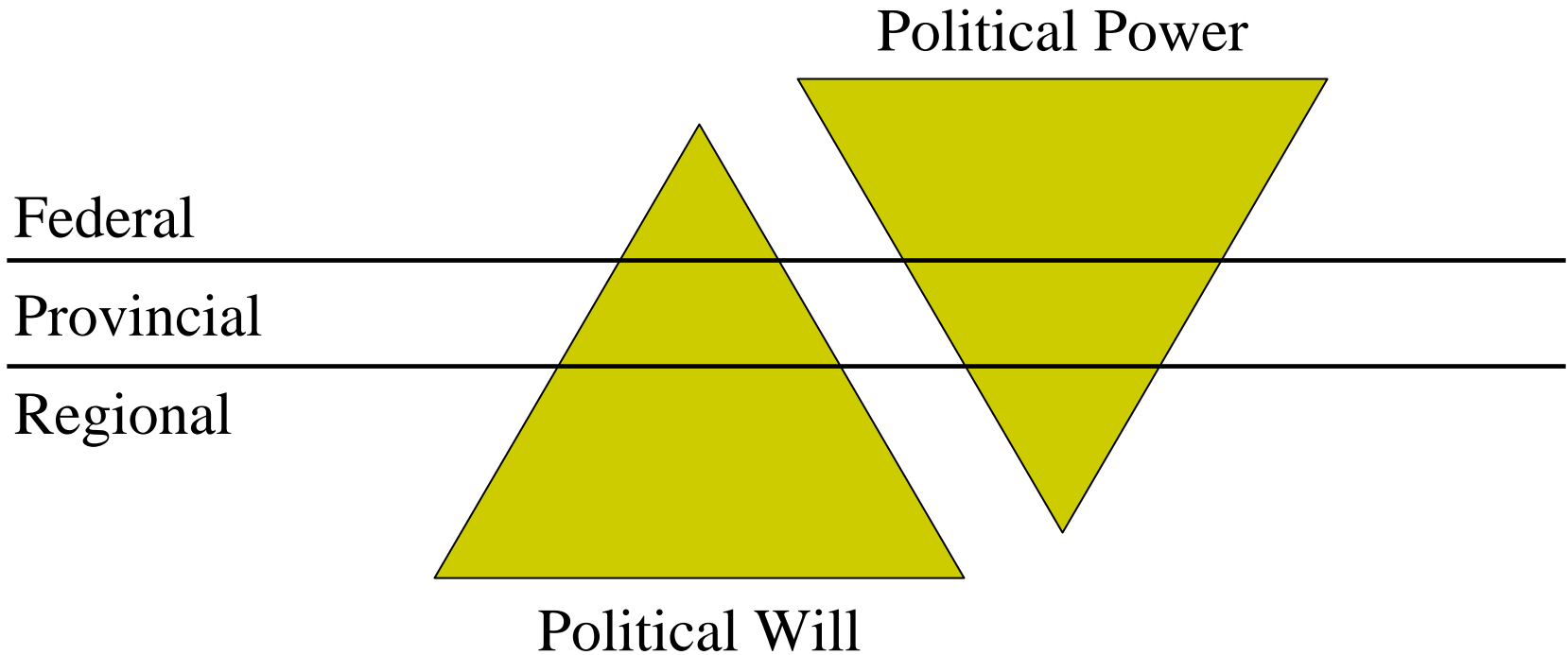
- Infrastructure
- Human resource development
- Investment attraction
- Entrepreneurship / SMEs
- Community/Regional Development: integrate economic, social, and environmental; place based

Rural Development: Strategy vs. Structure

Structures:

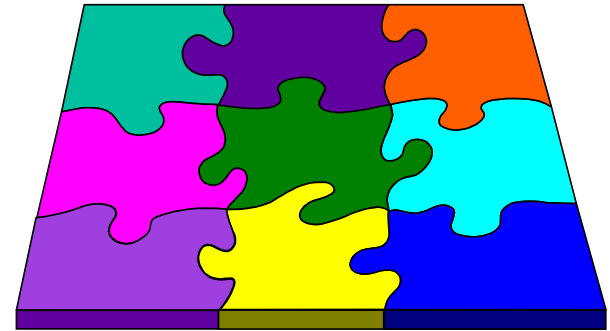
- Federal and provincial government organization
- Municipal / County
- Community / Regional “Third Sector” organizations
- “De-centralization” ≠ “De-concentration”

Political Power *vs. Political Will*



Organizational Structures for Local Development

- Fiscal Resources
- Human Resources
 - Leadership
 - Skilled Staff
 - Community Participation
- Legal Authority
- Local Democratic Accountability/Legitimacy
- Geographic Area
- Time



Provincial Government Structures for Rural Development (1)

Top-down:

- Government Departments /Ministries
 - Only Saskatchewan with dedicated department
 - Others in Agriculture Depts. (Alberta, Manitoba), Municipal (Ont., Que.), Economic Development (NS, NB, NL), Community Development (BC, PEI)
 - Rural Secretariat (NL)
- Regional Councils / Task Force / Action Committee (eg. Alberta, Sask., NL), with appointed members

Provincial Government Structures for Rural Development (2)

Bottom-up:

- Regional Development Boards / Corporations
 - Sub-provincial regions / localities
 - Some Multi-stakeholder; some Business representation only
 - Regional Development Strategies to guide investments
 - Volunteer Board; Paid Staff
 - Multi-community collaboration
 - Varying funding arrangements
- Municipalities / Municipal Development Corporations
- Third Sector (co-ops, social, economic, environmental)
- Other: Industry Associations; Regional Trusts (BC)

Rural Development Strategies

- Provincial Rural Strategies (most provinces); others with economic development and/or innovation strategies, with some rural components
- Many with Northern / Peripheral Community Strategies
- Strategies recognize need for integrated approach: infrastructure, diversification, human resources, health, services, technology
- Challenges:
 - Integrate across government dept. “silos”
 - Meet needs within specific regions: “one size does not fit all”
 - Continuity: “that was them, this is us” syndrome



Rural Development Trends / Emerging Strategies

- ❑ Inter-community Cooperation
- ❑ Rural-Urban Interaction
- ❑ Performance Contracts / Accountability Frameworks
- ❑ Business Retention and Expansion (BR&E) Programs
- ❑ Rural Immigration Strategies
- ❑ Eco-industrial Networks
- ❑ IT as enabler; necessary but not sufficient
- ❑ Web-based GIS / Community Profiles
- ❑ Social Economy



Concluding Remarks

- Provincial Governments as facilitators / enablers: learn to “let go” in development activities best addressed within localities
- Rural Development \neq Population Growth
- Integrate Economic, Social, Environmental in Strategies and Actions; clarify who does what
- Run with Champions; Celebrate Success