

Decision Support Tool for Climate Change Adaptation in Small Coastal Communities in Atlantic Canada



Advancing Climate Change Adaptation in NB: Innovative Practices & Opportunities

February 12, 2016

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Agenda

- Project Overview
- Decision Support Tool
- Using the Tool



Project Overview

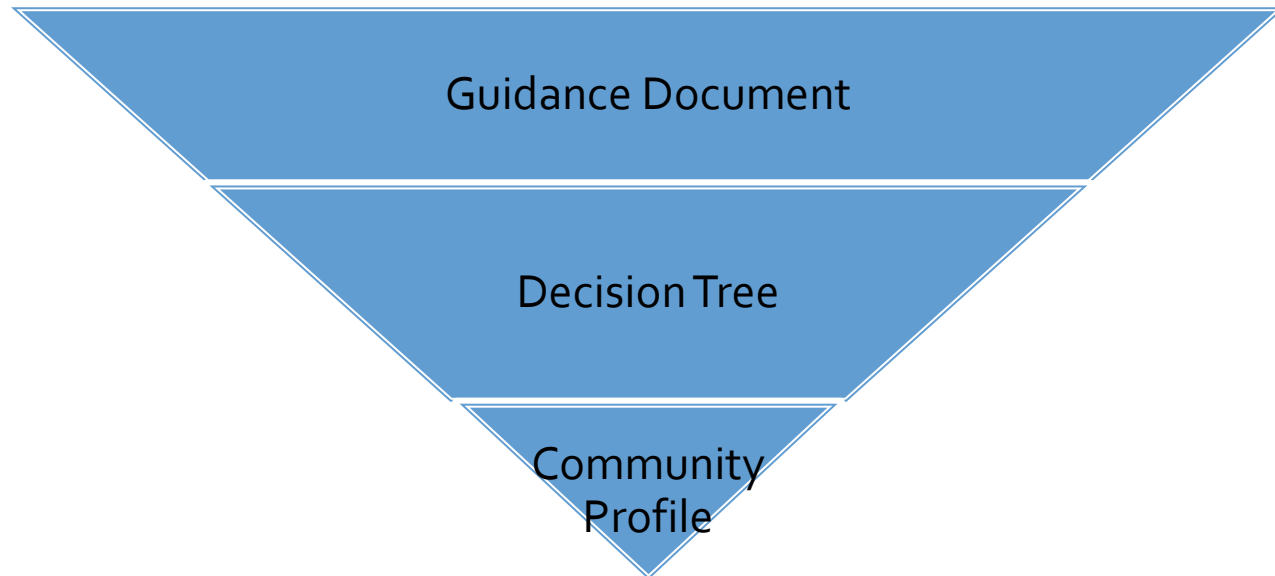
- **Project Context:** Atlantic Climate Adaptation Solutions Association (ACASA) identified a need to support and enable long-term planning in coastal Atlantic Canada to help decision-makers select and implement locally appropriate adaptation strategies and instruments.
- **Project Duration:** September 2013 to December 2015.
- **Funding Partners:** Natural Resources Canada; Atlantic Provinces; Academia; Industry; and others.



Decision Support Tool

Provides elected officials and administrative staff with three resources that can be used to support climate change adaptation.

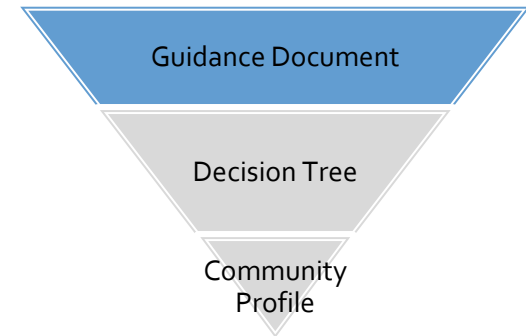
Resources:



Decision Support Tool

Guidance Document

- Presents background information on:
 - Causes of climate change;
 - Effects from climate change;
 - Coastal environment and processes;
 - Federal and provincial policy and regulations; and
 - Engineering and land use planning adaptation options.

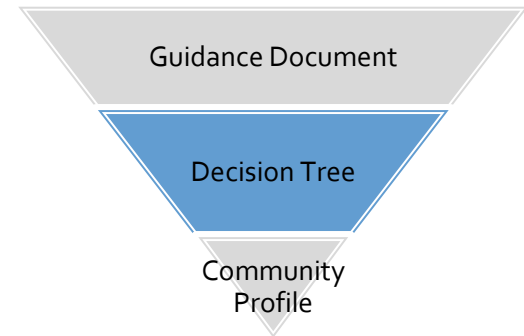


Bathurst, NB (bathurst.ca)

Decision Support Tool

Decision Tree

- Evaluates the 'fit' of adaptation options by answering a series of environmental questions about a community's coastal flooding or erosion issue.

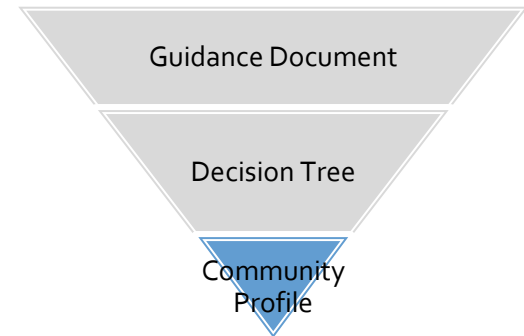


Town of St. Andrews, NB

Decision Support Tool

Community Profile

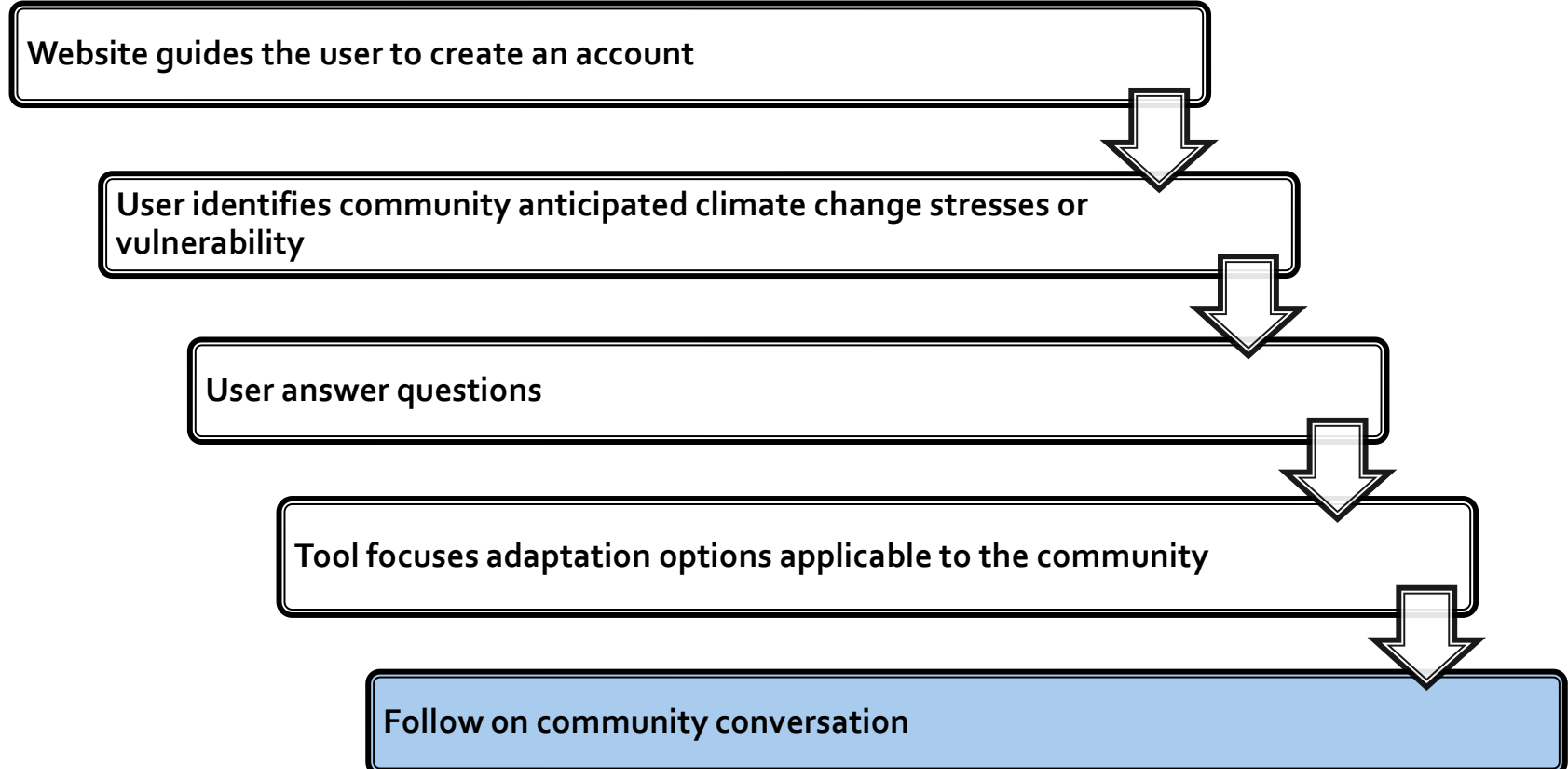
- Answers questions to learn ways that your community can support your climate change adaptation initiatives.



Shippagan, NB (shippagan.ca)

Using the Tool

You will be able to access the Decision Support Tool at www.atlanticadaptation.ca



Create a user account



Welcome

Guidance Documents

[Home](#) » [User account](#)

User account

Create new account

Log in

Request new password

Username *

Spaces are allowed; punctuation is not allowed except for periods, hyphens, apostrophes, and underscores.

E-mail address *

A valid e-mail address. All e-mails from the system will be sent to this address. The e-mail address is not made public and will only be used if you wish to receive a new password or wish to receive certain news or notifications by e-mail.

Organization *

- Select a value -

Province/Territory *

- Select a value -

Community *

Terms and Conditions of Use

☐ Accept [Terms & Conditions](#) of Use *

Create new account

Identify community and climate change issue



Answer questions

Questions require knowledge of:

- Planning documents;
- Structures in the site;
- Jurisdiction;
- Environmental; and
- Community demographics and resources.

[Welcome](#) [Website Tools](#) [Guidance Documents](#)

[Home » Decision Tree](#)

Progress: 11%


3.3. Are there any natural features (e.g. sand dunes) or engineered structures (e.g. breakwater) that are currently protecting the site against erosion?

☒ a. Yes, there are natural features or engineered structures currently protecting the site against erosion

☐ b. No, there are no natural features or engineered structures currently protecting the site against erosion


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a. Yes, natural features or engineered structures are in place.



Sand spit as a natural feature protecting the community.

b. No, there are no natural features or engineered structures present.



Information

Receive adaptation options based on your community's climate change adaptation issue

Option	Output Rank	Description	Other tools that are required before implementation	Other tools that are beneficial for supporting implementation
Green shoreline rating system	Optimal plan	The Green Shores Program uses a rating model, based on green building rating models such as LEED for coastal properties.	Partnerships	Education programs, community engagement, visioning, data gathering & mapping
Managed retreat/abandonment	Optimal plan	Managed retreat and abandonment is a long-term solution for high risk areas along the coast. It involves moving structures and infrastructure back from the coast.	Data gathering & mapping, education programs, community engagement, guidance action, or management plans.	Partnerships, statutory community plans, secondary community plan, regional plan, incentives, zoning, setbacks, transfer of development credits, land swap, land use conversion and redevelopment, land trust, rolling easements, conservation easements, abandonment, site monitoring
Setbacks	Optimal plan	Coastal setbacks enforce mandatory distances between the water and man-made structures. There are a variety of setback types including horizontal elevation, fixed, retreating and buffers.	Statutory community plan or secondary community plan, zoning and/or subdivision by-law or regulations.	Education programs, scenario planning, guidance action, and management plans, regional plans, wetland policy, wetland regulations, development agreements, transfer of development credits, variances, waiver

Community conversation

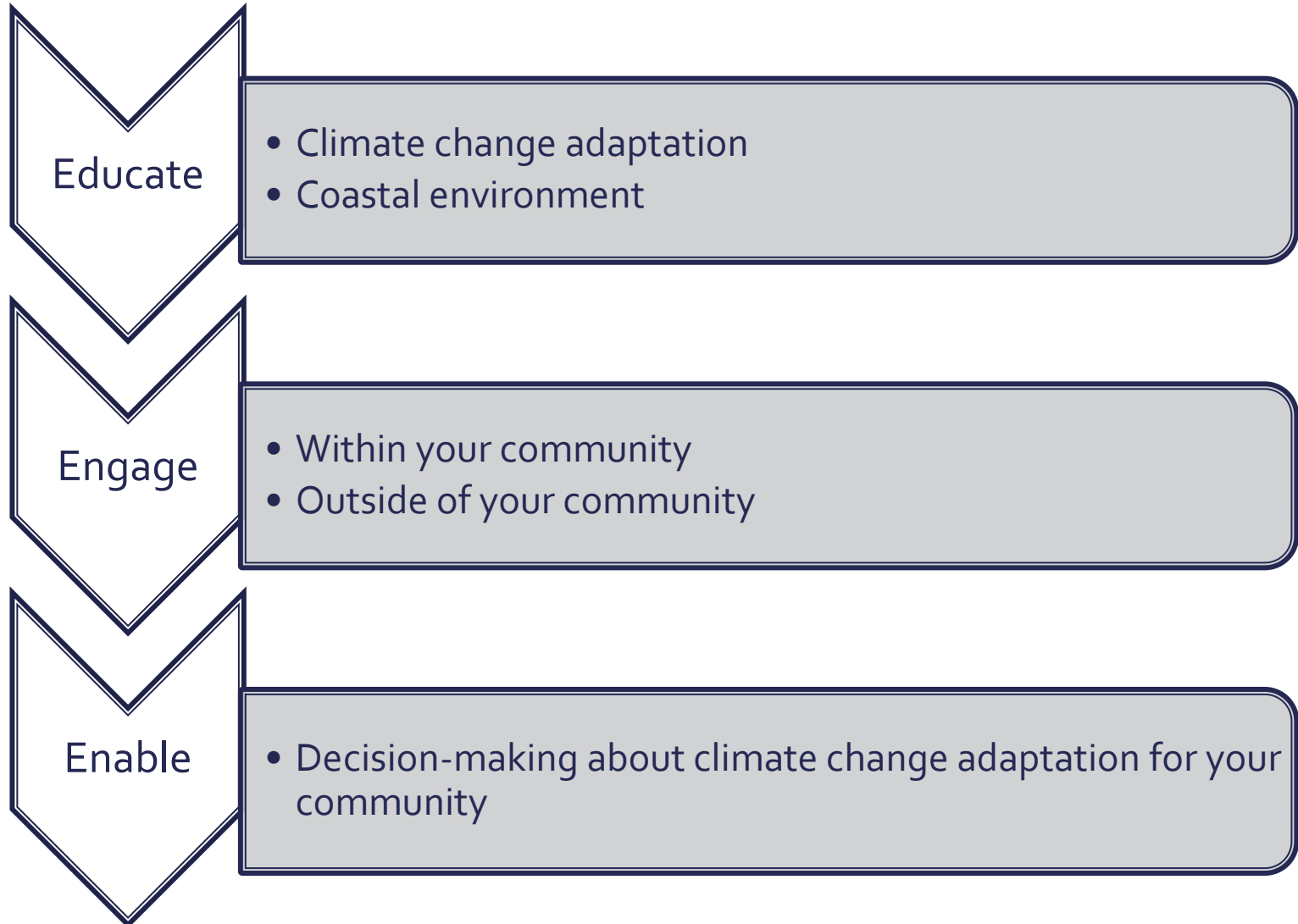
Guidance Document → Provides a crash course for the general public to understand climate change. Lists current adaptation options, only for coastal flooding and erosion.

Decision Tree → Helps community select the best adaptation options for their specific flooding and erosion issues.

Community Profile → Provides insight into how to best use community resources.



Benefits of using the Tool



Contact Information

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