

ACAP



SAINT JOHN

ADVANCING ENVIRONMENTAL PRIORITIES IN GREATER SAINT JOHN

2010-2011

ACAP SAINT JOHN

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ACAP Saint John's ambitious 'Status & Trends Project' was envisioned in order to develop a comprehensive snapshot of the status (current conditions) and trends (pending changes) in the environment of greater Saint John, and in the perspectives of those stakeholders who are involved in its management.

The project expanded the availability of publicly accessible information on the urban environment, providing the opportunity for all stakeholders to share a common information source from which to make decisions about regional environmental priorities. This project also added to the increasing public interest, understanding and support for the incorporation of environmental sustainability as an integral component of our urban landscape.

Project staff conducted literature reviews, questionnaires and had numerous discussions with stakeholders to identify regional environmental priorities. A phone survey provided much needed insight into the public's perception of regional environmental priorities. The data indicates a broad array of perceptions exist within our community on how the environment plays an integral role in our lives. This project has provided the Saint John community with a valuable resource, which will assist in more efficiently directing resources towards future environmental projects so as to facilitate more effective environmental management.



INTRODUCTION

Saint John like many other regions of New Brunswick continues to see substantial transformational changes to its landscape resulting from residential, industrial and commercial developments. While many in the community readily acknowledge that these changes are undoubtedly effecting the tapestry of the local environment, there is uncertainty as to what affects these changes are having and how they fit into the 'big picture' of a sustainable community. This is largely due in part to inconsistencies that exist in our current understanding of the state of the environment as a whole and what the consequences of the current and pending developments will have on the environment over the long term.

The greater Saint John region is faced with increasingly limited fiscal, human, spatial and temporal resources. As such, stakeholders must ensure that all proposals both for developments and policy are vetted against stringent sustainability guidelines to ensure the community receives maximal returns on any resource investments and avoids unnecessarily costly oversights or omissions. The goal of the status and trends project is to provide clarity on these issues and a tool to assist stakeholders in delivering more effective environmental management, stewardship and educational awareness of environmental initiatives in our community.

ACAP Saint John's *Status and Trends* project is just such an initiative and was envisioned as a tool that will provide a knowledge resource that is readily available from which to draw upon for planning and development purposes. This project collected information and baseline data on recent and current environmental initiatives in our community. This information was used to identify which organizations and stakeholders are advancing environmentally oriented project that are focused on improving the environmental integrity of the city.

This project has also provided baseline data on the current environmental priorities and perceptions in the region. This data will also be used to focus future initiative on what needs to be done and alleviate the duplication of initiatives that have already received sufficient attention. Which is a clear indication that there is a lack of information on current environmental projects in the community. The *Status and Trends* project was designed to address these issues, through increased education and the inter-communication with the community. Furthermore the acquired scientific knowledge will help to improve decision-making in the future. *Status and Trends* has four major objectives, which include:

1. Identifying current environmental initiatives and priorities within the greater Saint John study area;
2. Conducting surveys to acquire a statistically significant snapshot of our community's perspectives on environmental issues in greater Saint John;
3. Collating the collected information into a comprehensive document and providing the public with up-to-date information pertaining to Saint John's environmental priorities and prioritized list of environmental considerations;
4. Increasing public awareness of the immense natural capital in the Saint John area, as well as the importance of sustainable land use as part of an integrated urban landscape.

METHODOLOGY

The Status and Trends project was conducted in four distinct phases to ensure that each objective received the clarity and focus that is necessary to complete a project of this magnitude in a efficiently and timely fashion so that each of the core objectives are sufficiently met to provide an accurate depiction of current on the ground conditions.

Phase 1: Literature Review

A review of existing data was conducted to identify recent (≤ 5 years old) information on the physical state of key environmental indices in greater Saint John including air quality, surface water quality, solid waste management, active transportation, and sustainability and climate change initiatives. Gaps in the data were noted.

Phase 2: Stakeholder Updates

The diversity of environmental stakeholders groups coupled with the immense scope and scale of this project necessitated the division of stakeholders sectors into three general categories which included government regulators, environmental organizations (ENGO's) and 'other' which includes the general public and corporation entities. Stakeholders were surveyed (via direct contact and media reviews) to determine the level and nature of environmentally considerate activities occurring in the region. Specifically, information was requested on their respective mandates and priorities, the initiatives that were currently being implemented, and where they believed their focus and priorities would be in the future.

Each organization interviewed via direct contact was also asked to complete a questionnaire on their perceptions of local environmental priorities, as opposed to the more specific priorities of their respective group (Appendix I). The questionnaires were completed between May and September of 2010. Follow-up discussions were conducted with respondents to ensure an accurate representation of their respective positions.

Phase 3: Public Opinion Survey

A telephone-based survey was conducted to gauge the public's perception and knowledge of regional environmental priorities and ongoing initiatives, and to determine the degree of satisfaction that their priorities were being addressed. The public survey employed the services of Corporate Research Associates (CRA) from Halifax, Nova Scotia to ensure the statistical significance ($\alpha = 0.05$) of the data. CRA used their 'Urban Report' (a syndicated research tool) to sample opinions and perspectives from 400 adult residents in the greater Saint John region. CRA also assisted in the questionnaire design, which ultimately consisted of eight questions, one of which had three components, which resulted in ten answer categories.

The questions were divided equally to consist of five open-answer questions and five multiple-choice questions. The questions were designed to evaluate the public's perception of the environment as a priority issue, which specific priorities exist, their opinion as to degree by which these priorities were being addressed, the consequences of not adequately addressing these priorities, and who (i.e. which stakeholder) was currently doing the most to advance these priorities (Appendix II). The remaining questions in the public survey asked respondents on knowledge and support for specific ACAP Saint John projects. These questions were deliberately held to the end of the survey so as to prevent bias in the aforementioned questions.

The survey conducted between August 24th and September 1st, 2010 using a computer assisted telephone-interviewing (CATI) system. The CATI software provided a system in which the interviewer read a computerized questionnaire that was administered to respondents over the telephone. The computer then recorded the

responses to the questionnaire. This method allowed for an updated report that was compiled instantaneously as the data were being collected, which subsequently provided a quick delivery of the preliminary results. The survey provided a detailed breakdown of results for each question based on the demographics of the respondents, including their age, gender, income bracket, education level or community of residence.

Phase 4: Data Analysis, Interpretation and Dissemination

The final phase of this project included the analysis and interpretation of the data, the synthesis of a prioritized list of environmental considerations/actions, and the development of key recommendations. A preliminary (draft) report was circulated to key stakeholders for critical review, edits and revisions, following which a final report was completed. The report and its findings were then directly disseminated to all those who directly participated to the project, and were indirectly disseminated to the community by means of inclusion in ACAP Saint John's website, which was advertised via public service announcements, a press release, twitter and Facebook updates. The findings were also included in ACAP Saint John's Environmental Outreach & Engagement program curriculum.

STAKEHOLDER UPDATES

Regulators

Environment Canada

This Government department's main priorities cover a wide range of issues pertaining to the environment. Addressing challenges of climate change, by investing resources for research and development of green technology, clean water initiatives, environmental protection, pollution prevention, biodiversity wildlife & habitat management, decision-making, as well as scientific knowledge generation & assessment are the priorities. The largest portion of EC's budget, 22 percent goes towards climate change and clean air initiatives.

Environment Canada's mandate is to:

- preserve and enhance the quality of the natural environment, including water, air, soil, flora, and fauna
- conserve Canada's renewable resources;
- conserve and protect Canada's water resources;
- enforce rules relating to boundary waters;
- invasive and alien species and
- coordinate environmental policies and programs for the federal government.

A great deal of Environment Canada's work in Atlantic Canada focuses on water, and how it shapes the communities, lives and livelihoods within the region. Many funding programs are available for environmental groups through Environment Canada's funding programs. Environment Canada has developed the Canadian Environmental Sustainability Indicators initiative. Through the Canadian Environmental Sustainability Indicators (CESI) initiative, the federal government reports on environmental indicators that track the long-term trends for key issues of major concern to Canadians.

ECs' key partners are citizens, community groups, research facilities, private sector groups, other federal departments and international organizations. Environment Canada acts as an environmental steward (Appendix I).

New Brunswick Department of Environment:

The Department of Environment has implemented the New Brunswick Climate Change action plan. This is an important step to address a multitude climate change aspects* in the province. This action plan looks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and manage how we adapt to climate change through a series of targets and policy actions, also through engagement of stakeholders, and the public. The goal of this action plan is sustainability in a changing climate.

By 2012 a reduction of 5.5 Mt (mega tonnes) in greenhouse gas emission is one of the main objectives in this plan. Actions include: adopting a public transportation strategy, waste reduction and diversion by improved recycling and composting systems. Using energy wisely is also a major priority for this department. Buildings being built or transformed into ones that use minimal energy, and incorporating green technology advantages wherever possible is something this department is encouraging. Prevent pollution for the health of both humans and ecosystems. When the department of Environment was contacted for the State of Environment report, it was stated that their department does not produce a state of environment report; they only include some information in their annual report(Appendix I)..

New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources:

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) aims to protect all of our regions natural resources, and monitor how they are used. Protection of natural areas, ecosystems, biodiversity, and striving for sustainable growth are the main concerns of DNR. This department works at assessing and generating knowledge about the environment to the general public as well as stakeholders. Dealing with licences, crown lands, the amount resources allowed to be extracted from crown lands like minerals and forestry products. Monitoring is necessary so that the department can make accurately calculate the amount of hunting or fishing licences to allow and the amount of resources such as minerals to be mined, or trees to be cut(Appendix I..

Department of Fisheries and Oceans:

Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) Canada strives to create a renewable fishing industry, for long term sustainable fisheries across Canada. DFO has developed a five point approach to sustainable fisheries and aquaculture: Planning, Science as a cornerstone of decision making, managing environmental impacts, enforcing the rules, and monitoring results. The mission is to manage Canada's oceans and major waterways, so that they are clean, safe, productive, and accessible. This will help ensure sustainable use of fisheries resources and facilitate marine trade, and commerce.

The mandates of DFO are to promote understanding, conservation, and optimum use of marine resources and the aquatic environment for the benefit of present and future generations. To meet its responsibilities for navigational safety, environmental protection, and marine industry support.

Canada's Oceans Act empowers the DFO to establish legally designated areas for the purpose of protecting marine resources and environments. Even with the Oceans Act, there is still no national-level systematic approach to Marine protected areas site selection in Canada. Each region in Canada approaches site selection differently.



One strategy recently adopted by DFO for integrated coastal management, has been to take a 'low-tech' approach to management by combining DFO resources with the knowledge of local fishers to produce a series of resource inventory maps that could be used daily by fishers and that would be accepted by resource managers and researchers. To encourage fishers to share their knowledge, DFO representatives familiarized themselves with the related fisheries and clearly articulated the goals of the program. They visited fishers on site and conducted interviews. Officers compiled the information given to them and prepared resource maps (Appendix I).

City of Saint John:

The City of Saint John has stated the delivery of safe drinkable water that is easily accessible, as a main priority now and for the future. A treatment plant for water will be built by 2012, as a step for improved water quality. Raw sewage and waste posed a problem for the city for some time. With a sewage treatment plant now set to begin operations in 2012 the problem with sewage will soon be dealt with. The city has also has formed and been part of many strategic planning groups. Such groups have facilitated projects such as the Harbour passage, which is great for transportation, the environment, and has also social and economic impacts(Appendix I).

Efficiency New Brunswick

This organization is working to make new and existing homes and businesses more efficient. They offer programs that aid in making houses more efficient through financial incentives, such as grants and interest free loans. Commercial buildings also qualify for an incentive program as well, to aid in retrofitting which will make them more efficient. Efficiency N.B also has community education programs and disperses information about all the programs they offer and different ways to reduce energy consumption in the area. Efforts in energy efficiency are believed to be successful, now they state it is time to focus efforts on reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the transportation sector (Appendix I).

<http://www.energycnb.ca/enb/1599/Commercial>

New Brunswick Department of Energy

N.B department of energy is protecting and enhancing the environment by policy integration between energy and environment objectives and ensuring an effective as well as transparent regulatory regime. Developing delivering and administering leading edge policies(Appendix I).

Environmental Non-Government Organization's

Citizens of the greater Saint John area have formed many community groups that deal with environmental issues. Public interest and involvement in such groups has greatly increased over the past few years. Groups such as the Greater Saint John Community foundation, Green Feet, Saint John Naturalist club, just to name a few are now playing an important role in voicing the opinions of the people and putting pressure on regulators to be accountable and productive within means that are not exploitive (Appendix I).

Naturalist Club

Saint John Naturalist Club and the N.B Federation of Naturalist both want to increase understanding of natural habitat, protect natural areas, and biodiversity. The Saint John Naturalists' Club is modeled around the study, observation and enjoyment of nature. They currently have two projects they are working on. One is the Point Lepreau Bird Observatory. This is the 15th year that seabirds' populations and migration trends have been monitored by this group. The other project that they are working on is the Greenlaw Mountain Hawkwatch, which consists of spring and fall migration trends of hawks and changes in population. The data that is collected through these initiatives may be useful in determining changes in bird or hawks populations, when peak passage is and the effect on populations from disasters like an oil spill (Appendix I).

Nature Trust of New Brunswick

The Nature Trust of New Brunswick's priorities are conserving areas of environmental significance, outreach and education about natural heritage and scientific research. With protecting land being one of their top priorities, they conserve land and turn it into a nature preserve, which is managed and stewarded. They also restore land when need be. Adopt-a-Frog is an initiative to protect wildlife by preserving their natural habitat. They are team leaders in conserving habitat and participate in forestry collaboration, Two Countries, One Forest. The Nature Trust is also conducting outreach and education about species at risk. An upcoming project for the Nature Trust is the Green Infrastructure in the lower Saint John valley, involving lands, which have conservation potential as well as potential for tourism and aesthetic value (Appendix I).

New Brunswick Conservation Council

The Conservation Council is another organization in the region striving to improve our environmental conditions. This council is concerned about the degradation of species natural habitat. They want companies to be more transparent, so they can be accountable for their actions. Overall more sustainable behaviours from all sectors of society are the ultimate goal. The Conservation Council is at the forefront of environmental action in New Brunswick with numerous ongoing programs and projects. Literary research revealed their top environmental priorities to be biodiversity, natural areas protection, and sustainable growth, and pollution prevention, greenhouse gas reduction, buying local and renewable energy. The Conservation Council has several program areas that each focus on different environmental priorities. The Energy program has green energy projects including an alliance for community energy whose mission is to educate the public and advocate for policies that will facilitate the development of community, individual, and small business owned renewable energy production for local economic benefit. Other projects within the Energy program include climate action, cutting greenhouse gases in NB, self-sufficient energy, home energy efficiency, and a nuclear free NB campaign. The Conservation Council also coordinates an Acadian Forest Action program that focuses on biodiversity and habitat conservation, a Freshwater Protection program with watershed management projects, and a Health Watch program that focuses on community health. The Conservation Council has various databases including a renewable energy database (Renewables NB), an energy efficiency database (AllThingsEfficient.ca), and a local food database (BuyLocalNB.ca). There is also the Fundy Baykeeper who works for the Conservation Council to defend the right to a healthy Bay of Fundy (Appendix I).

Green Feet

Green feet works directly with the community, to encourage citizens to engage in green sustainable activities, and everyday behaviours for a more sustainable community. Reducing individual's ecological footprints is their main goal. Green Feet expressed that their top priorities are waste management as well as sustainability. Through literary research, it was found that Green Feet also considers pollution prevention, reducing greenhouse gases and active transportation priorities in the community. Green Feet recently participated in a recycling boat race and have a number of upcoming projects to promote awareness of their priorities. Green Feet has submitted a proposal to the city concerning one of their top priorities, waste management, and plans on meeting with staff. Green Feet is currently running a "Bring Your Own Bag" program to promote reusing and reducing the amount of waste. Green Feet is also planning on working with the Greater Saint John Community Foundation. Green Feet is considering a rooftop gardening program for the future to add green space to the city. Green Feet would also like to enhance sustainability of the city by replacing concrete curbs, but no projects are in place as of yet (Appendix I).

Nature Conservancy of Canada

The Nature Conservancy of Canada is a private non-profit organization, whose main environmental priority is the protection of Canada's biodiversity. They achieve this through the purchase, donation, or placement of conservation agreements on ecologically significant lands. Their other priorities include the protection of natural areas and the protection of ecosystems. NCC is currently working on several projects within New Brunswick including the protection of shorebird habitat in Johnson's Mills, the conservation of biodiversity in the Tabusintac Lagoon and Estuary, and the creation of the Musquash Estuary Nature Preserve. At this point in time NCC has secured over 3000 acres of land for the Musquash Estuary Nature Preserve. This allows for the protection of ecologically significant upland habitats, salt-marshes, buffer zones and coastal islands in addition to the already protected intertidal, subtidal, and deep water habitats through the estuary's designation as a Marine Protected Area (Appendix I).

Fundy Region Solid Waste Commission

Fundy Solid Waste Commissions' priorities are improving waste management and educating citizens on reducing waste. The Fundy Region Solid Waste Commission has a number of environmental priorities including green house gas reduction, waste reduction and public education. Their compost program is an initiative to completely avoid the production of methane, therefore reducing greenhouse gases. They are in the process of achieving a self-sufficient landfill, by collecting the landfill gases to produce their own green energy for electricity. There are sediment ponds for run-off from the roads to protect the creek. The leachate from the collection system is currently being trucked to the Lancaster Sewage Lagoon and the Commission is looking for a way to deal with the leachate on-site. They have also replaced their fleet of pick-up trucks with small diesel utility vehicles and are looking to get an electric vehicle for their public education program. The Fundy Region Solid Waste Commission has a program for employees to work at home, which reduces greenhouse gases by avoiding employees' commute (Appendix I).

Saint John Citizens' Coalition for Clean Air

The main purpose of the Saint John Citizens' Coalition for Clean Air is based on the assumption that citizens have a right to breathe clean air. They advocate clean air and raise public awareness on air pollution issues. Positive changes in air quality come about by this coalition working with various stakeholders (industry, regulatory agencies



and community groups). A current priority of the coalition is to ensure the continuous reduction in Class 1 industrial emitters. They are concerned about the air toxins from these facilities, including the Irving Oil Refinery and the Saint John Marine Terminal. Their initiatives involve participating in the many public reviews of these Class 1 air quality approvals and convincing the provincial minister to implement more strict conditions and regulations (Appendix I).

Ducks Unlimited Canada

Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) concentrates its environmental efforts on wetland and wildlife conservation. Many of DUC's conservation and education programs are focused on preserving critical wetlands that remain, and restoring those that have been degraded or lost. This organization is very specialized and affective at conserving and restoring the regions wetlands, which are a critical part of the environment. Wetlands are niches for a diverse array of fauna and flora species that are crucial to a stable and productive ecosystem (Appendix I).

Valley Greens

Valley Greens is a Facebook group formed by people from the Kennebecasis Valley who are concerned with environmental issues in their communities. This group promotes green living, local food, sustainable development, green space and conservation (Appendix I).

Greater Saint John Community Foundation

The Greater Saint John Community Foundation works toward helping the Saint John community reduce their ecological footprint. The foundation has built a directory of places where local products can be purchased; this initiative reduces greenhouse gases as well as stimulates the economy. Different ways to use energy more efficiently is also an area they disseminate information about. This group also highlights safe accessible water as a major priority as well, which is a common theme for organizations based in the Saint John area. The Greater Saint John Community Foundation provides funds as grants to support worthy causes, including the environment. They are able to monitor a number of environmental issues through different sources. Air quality is monitored through New Brunswick Department of the Environment and Environment Canada; composting, recycling, and solid wastes are monitored through Fundy Region Solid Waste Commission and energy consumption through Saint John Energy. The Greater Saint John Community Foundation also has a small environment committee whose priorities are solid waste and local food. Their current initiative is to host a brunch with, local foods called Green Cuisine and Market, Green feet also partners for this initiative (Appendix I).

Canadian Rivers Institute

University of New Brunswick established the Canadian Rivers Institute in 2005. Their mission is to conduct multi-discipline research, provide training and outreach that focuses on rivers and the challenges of water resources conservation, protection, restoration, and sustainable use. Many outreach educational programs are offered through this branch of the university in Saint John, as well as across Canada. The Canadian Rivers Institute has shown strong encouragement for solutions and improving conditions along with identifying the root causes of problems along with ways they can be remediated. Over time the number and amount of research grants going to aid research at the CRI has increased (Appendix I).

Eastern Charlotte Waterways

One of Eastern Charlotte Waterways environmental priorities are focused around watershed management. They also have initiatives based on their other priorities: community outreach and scientific knowledge. Their current scientific knowledge based projects are gathering data in the Magaguadavic watershed concerning land use and risks to water quality, and monitoring the algae levels in Lake Utopia. Eastern Charlotte Waterways also has a community outreach project underway to raise awareness of local food producers (Appendix I).

Saint John River Society

This Society was founded in 1992 to promote the appreciation of the St. John River. The Society's primary focus is the conservation and stewardship of the natural and cultural resources of the St. John River watershed. Presently this organization undertakes programs along the entire length of the St. John River watershed that will ensure its continued sustainable use.

The Society has four main aspects that its programs are based around and continues to develop new ones that meet these goals. These four program aspects are: Recognition, Access, Information and Sustainable Management. Two of the projects that are currently being conducted in the Saint John region are the lower Saint John River view shed project and the Canadian Heritage River project. The first project is a joint venture between the River Society and the Nature Trust of New Brunswick. The view-shed project seeks to identify views of cultural, historical and ecological significance thought-out the lower Saint John River. This analysis will provide the public with a mechanism to quantify what they see and to have a common understanding among the public of the importance of conservation in sustainable land use. The analysis used a geographically-based algorithmic GIS model that incorporates geographic features of the landscape like relief, cover, and percentage of water, water type and alteration to create an index of visual quality within the defined study area. The View shed project is designed to be a catalyst for non-traditional land uses like outdoors recreation, tourism and green infrastructure (Figure #).

The Society's other initiative in the region is the Canadian Heritage River project, which seeks to have the New Brunswick portion of the St. John River, designated as a part of the Canadian Heritage Rivers System. The Society is working with the Department of Natural Resource to achieve this designation for the River. This initiative is a two-step process: nomination and designation. The St. John River was nominated as a heritage river by the Canadian Heritages Rivers Board as the 42nd such river in Canada in June 2008. To nominate a river to the Canadian Heritage Rivers System, it must meet several criteria that include outstanding natural, cultural and/or recreational values, have significant public support, and demonstrate that sufficient measures ensure the conservation and integrity of the river is maintained. The second step in designation is the development of the designation document that outlines a strategy to manage and conserve its outstanding cultural, natural and recreational values. Following this the process engages communities and stakeholders along the river to improve our understanding of the 'heritage values' this process will define what needs to be done to conserve these values. This designation document will describe in detail the management, issues, opportunities and constraints, and policies and guidelines to be followed by the New Brunswick government, in co-operation stakeholders, in managing the heritage values of the St. John River. The ultimate goal of the society's initiatives is the development of a green infrastructure network along the river that ensure its wise use and preservation of the Saint John for the future (Appendix I).

Hammond River Angling Association (HRAA)

The HRAA works to develop watershed management plans that help protect the regions salmon populations. The association performs red counts, collect broodstock, and count salmon from bridges for adult assessments. Riparian restoration is also something that the HRAA does. Riparian zones are areas along river or stream banks. A healthy riparian zone is well vegetated with trees, grass, and shrubs. These z ones are home to many different species so they are important. Fish enjoy the shade from tree cover, which gives them cool areas in the water out of the sun. Trees and shrubs are also important because they keep banks from eroding. When they are removed the banks erode into the water harming fish populations and affecting the overall health of the river system. The HRAA catalogues and does assessments each year of the riverbanks to know where erosion is happening so that they can restore the riparian zone. The HRAA also does quite a bit of community engagement; the association has a large number of volunteers that help with projects. There is also a conservation camp that encourages youth to practice more sustainable behaviors, and to be more conscious of environmental issues (Appendix I).

CONCLUSION



The *Status & Trends* Project went smoothly thanks to the help of ACAP staff and our community partners. All of the organizations that were contacted and surveyed during the duration of this project provided new information about the state of our urban environment and will offer a basis for comparison in years to come. On average most of the organizations surveyed had clearly defined environmental priorities and had initiatives underway to address them. The results clearly indicated that there were wide varieties of environmental priorities in the region, and perspectives on them, as well as how they are best addressed. The data that the public surveys collected clearly demonstrate how the public sees the environment as a priority in Saint John and that it is an integral aspect in the daily lives for many of its citizens.

The rise of government programs, initiatives, community groups, ENGOs, university grants geared towards the environment show that there is more interest and understanding of issues pertaining to the environment. The desire from the general public for more action on issues pertaining to the environment is increasing which is shown in the increase in the participation and number of community groups.

The government of New Brunswick states that New Brunswickers' enjoy relatively clean and healthy air compared to the rest of the world. Burning fossil fuels is the primary source of air pollution in N.B: emissions from motor vehicles, and other engines, power generating stations, and even woodstoves, fireplaces, and campfires, as these are popular and frequently forms of burning fossil fuels. Monitoring air pollution is important because it can have negative impacts on the environment and health of humans. Monitoring air quality can provide insight to the sources, movements, and effects of pollution. There are many sites of monitoring stations, however only some are watched by Environment Canada; others are in pulp and paper mills and other power generating stations. There are ambient and emissions monitors used by Environment Canada. There is a New Brunswick Clean Air Act, which aids in the regulation of: air quality, ozone depleting substances, and public participation.

http://www.energycynb.ca/cms/uploaded_files/9WITQ45EOB/73/docs/project_commercial_new_somerset_en.pdf

Many common trends are visible when observing the community groups and the environmental platforms of many regulators and NGOs. Buying local is one main theme many groups are trying to encourage. Reducing the amount of products being transferred into our region lowers the amount of fossil fuels being burnt to receive goods, as well as helps to stimulate our local economy by supporting local businesses. Increasing active transportation routes is a possible avenue to help greatly decrease air pollution.

Air Quality in Saint John (http://www.can-us-airhealth.org/hubfiles/pdf/Newspercent20Monitoring_March27_April1_2010.pdf)

It is recommended that future advancement of the Status and Trends Project findings focus on the development of a comprehensive environmental priorities action plan that assesses the most efficient way to deliver on the environmental priorities that were identified during the course of the project. Additionally more research on the best way to align Regulator, NGO and Public environmental priorities is needed. The project would benefit from more public and stakeholder input to allow for improved identification of new priorities as they arise and from a standardized methodology to quantitatively classify the feasibility of these opportunities, a tool that is currently lacking.



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Appendix I: Summary chart of regulator and Non Government Organizations.

	Climate Change	Sustainability	Public Outreach	Renewable Energy	Ecosystem protection	Active transportation	Waste Management	Clean Air/water
Environment Canada	1	1	1		1		1	1
Fisheries and Oceans		1	1		1		1	1
NB Dept. Environment	1	1	1		1			1
NB Dept. Natural Resources		1	1		1			1
NB Dept. Transportation						1		1
Efficiency NB	1	1	1			1		1
Energy NB	1	1	1	1				
City of Saint John	1	1	1			1	1	1
Green feet	1	1			1	1	1	1
Conservation council	1	1	1		1			1
Greater Saint John Community foundation	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Saint John Naturalists			1		1			
Nature NB			1		1			
Fundy region solid waste	1	1	1			1	1	
Ducks unlimited			1		1			1
Coalition for Clean Air								1
Eastern Charlotte Waterways		1	1		1		1	1
Nature Trust of NB		1	1		1			
Nature Conservancy of Canada		1	1		1			
Saint John River Society	1	1	1		1			
Canadian Rives Institute			1		1			1
Valley Greens	1	1			1	1		1
HRAA		1	1		1			1
	11	17	19	2	17	7	7	16