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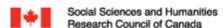Bridging, Bonding, and Building I Renforcement des liens et des capacités

2009

Public Policy and the Social Economy in Atlantic Canada: New Brunswick

An inventory of jurisdictional policies, programs and activities that support social economy organizations at municipal, provincial and federal levels

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About the Network

The Social Economy and Sustainability Research (SES/ESD) Network is the Atlantic Node of the Canadian Social Economy Research Partnerships (CSERP) — one of six regional research centres across Canada, funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), 2005-2010. The Network has a wide variety of academic, community and government partners representing Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador. /
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Public Policy and the Social Economy in Atlantic Canada: New Brunswick

An inventory of jurisdictional policies, programs and activities that support social economy organizations at municipal, provincial and federal levels

Contents

1.   Introduction

As part of the activities of the Atlantic Node of the pan-Canadian Social Economy and Sustainability Research Network, the public policy working group initiated a project to map and provide an inventory of provincial legislation, policies, programs and initiatives that are directly relevant to community economic and social development, the social economy, and building the capacity and opportunities for engagement in policy formulation and implementation in the Atlantic region. This report provides an overview of the findings relating to the province of New Brunswick.

To provide a baseline comparison, we have followed the reporting format of a similar mapping and inventory exercise carried out and published five years ago (Infanti, 2003). The 2003 report, published by the Canadian Community Economic Development Network (CCEDNet), was specifically focussed on community economic activities highlighting both gaps in policy and investment in community economic development (CED) as well as good examples of government support for such activities.

Although the social economy has been equated with community economic development (CED), the current survey broadens the scope of the research by looking at policies, regulatory frameworks, programs and activities that are aimed at or include reference to *social economy* organizations as opposed to CED per se, but which would nevertheless include those involved in CED activities.

This summary report is part of an overall review of all Atlantic Provinces and federal frameworks: *"Public Policy and the Social Economy in Atlantic Canada: an inventory of jurisdictional policies, programs and activities that support social economy organizations at municipal, provincial and federal levels"*.

2.   What a policy scan can tell us

Policy and policy making is generally seen to be the primary role of governments in terms of legislation and procedures for operation and regulation of, for example, social and human service organizations and the services provided. Yet if public policy and the process of creating and deciding upon public policies is that which best fit "the interests of all members of society" as Torjman (2005, p 4) suggests, then it is appropriate to also consider other commentators on public policy and the processes by which decisions are made. To take account of this, a policy scan can also include non-governmental sources such as academic and non-academic research centres that focus on social and public policy and, indeed, policy alternatives. This also helps to identify other policy scans (often related to specific themes) and bibliographic references (for example, Abbot 2006; Bouchard et al, 2003; Daoust et al, 2003; Légère, 2005; Thompson, 2006).

The process of carrying out a scan allows us to identify a number of things, which together form a base line assessment of 'current' legislation, programs, proposed new work and strategies at different levels of government and which can then be used to monitor future developments. Current for the purposes of this research and report means up to 2008 and before 2008 Federal elections. A policy scan and review also provides for the assessment of proactive and/or reactive engagement in policy development by both those within and outside of government. Furthermore, it gives a platform to assess espoused philosophies and strategies outlined in government department plans and statements with observed or perceived activities at a community level.

Mapping policy developments also gives insight into the changing priorities and language used by successive governments in relation to the diverse sectors of the social economy. It can provide a timeline for the acceptance and embedding of concepts – the move from marginal to mainstream; such concepts could include: 'social economy', 'social capital', 'social enterprise', 'venture philanthropy', and 'social entrepreneurship'. This also links to the visibility of certain sectors – for example 'volunteerism' over (paid) voluntary sector

actors and activity; and third sector seen as primarily non-profit with co-operatives as separate entities or as an adjunct to the sector. These observations also link to the generation and development of sectors in different localities and jurisdictions.

A scan can also highlight departmental responsibilities for aspects of the social economy; and to assess consistency of relationships within one level of government and across governments. The lack of a unifying central department with responsibility for social economy organizations can mean, for example, a mix of jurisdictional responsibilities. This can result in a lack of strategic development in relation to government-sector relations and cross-cutting issues that affect more than one government department and or level of government, particularly where there are limited cross-departmental liaison and communication mechanisms in place.

Scanning for program developments can highlight changing and volatile policy environments. For example, a significant series of events, commented on by particularly non-profit organisations since the major government funding cutbacks in the mid-1990s, can be seen in the varied and short-term nature of programs and funding initiatives. This illustrates a move away from core and long-term funding and grants, to short-term projects and contracts. Other areas that can be identified are commitments to working in partnership or engagement of individuals, associations, communities (via action plans, regulations, annual reports and accountability statements); and examples of joint working (for example, through roundtables and task forces). For New Brunswick, this would include the Premier's Task Force on the Community Non-Profit Sector, which undertook a process of consultation during 2006 and published its 'Blue Print for Action' (Bradshaw Report, 2007). This in turn led to the development of a Secretariat and ministerial brief for Community Non-Profit Organizations.

3.   Findings from the Infanti Report: situation 2003

In 2002, the Canadian Community Economic Development Network (CCEDNet) published their National Policy Framework and this was accompanied by a report on proposals for financing community economic development (CED) activities. Together these reports set out the need for government support and commitment to community economic activity as a vehicle to address change and as a means to strengthen and build capacity of local communities to meet the needs of disadvantaged and marginalized individuals and communities (CCEDNet, 2002 and 2003).

In order for this to be achieved there was an increasing need to develop closer and more productive links with all levels of government, although the report itself had a particular focus on provincial governments and mandates. The purpose of the report was both to illustrate good practice examples and to point out gaps or inadequate levels of support where greater investment on behalf of provincial governments would be required. Additional investments and supports included recognition of the value and contribution of CED activities and also financial and policy commitments.[1]

The report provided a ranking according to the percentage of identified CED components supported by a provincial government (Infanti 2003 p79). The ranking criteria were elements of government support linked to policy, social capital, human capital, financial capital and natural capital.

Out of a ranking of 13 provincial and territorial governments, New Brunswick was ranked 3, with an estimated 62% coverage of the five key CED areas. Appendix A provides a summary of the ranking criteria for New Brunswick.

This section looks briefly at the key elements recorded in 2003.

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[1] The definition of CED used by the Infanti Report, 2003 (p 6) is 'locally-led initiatives that enhance the social and economic conditions of communities on a sustainable and inclusive basis. CED is also the process by which communities build long-term capacity to manage socioeconomic change and foster the integration of economic, social and environmental objectives.

3.1   Policy

Table 3.1 Elements of Government Support identified and recorded in New Brunswick (Infanti, 2003)	
Policy	
1. Is there a department with a mandate to support CED?	Y
2. Is there legislation that commits the province to support CED?	Y
3. Are there policies that define departmental roles in CED?	Y
4. Are there policies that define broader government support for CED?	Y
5. Are there policies that devolve authority to local bodies for regional or community economic development?	Y

The mandated department to support CED in New Brunswick in 2003 was Business New Brunswick under the Regional Development Corporation Act, 1987, which established the Regional Development Corporation. The Corporation, together with Business New Brunswick, supported and funded CED activities.

In addition, support for Co-operative Economic Development Agencies (CEDAs) was acknowledged in New Brunswick's policy framework of 2000, '*New Vision*' as part of the province's 10-year prosperity plan. An objective of the CEDAs was to provide a platform for input from municipalities and community representatives. They were described as 'inclusive rather than exclusive - a horizontal, integrated approach to economic development rather than a focus on one priority or area of interest to the exclusion of other elements of economic growth' (ACOA/Business New Brunswick, 2002). The Enterprise Network, as it is now known, has 15 regional Enterprise agencies and describes an approach to economic development that:

> ...puts communities in the driver's seat of their own economic growth, by giving them real decision-making power and the resources they need to build on their own assets and strengths. It's community development from the ground up based on a partnership between various levels of government and the community
>
> (Enterprise Network, 2005-2009).

The partnerships referred to are mainly with government and members of the business communities.

3.2   Social Capital

Table 3.2 Elements of Government Support identified and recorded in New Brunswick (Infanti, 2003)	
Social Capital	
6. Are there CED programs or initiatives that build social capital through:	
a) CED project funding?	Y
b) Ongoing funding to community and/or regional development organizations?	Y
c) Support for community capacity-building?	Y
d) Co-operative development?	N
e) Aboriginal CED?	Y
f) Rural development?	Y
g) Urban development?	N
h) Regional economic planning?	Y

In New Brunswick, initiatives that build and support social capital are seen as existing within economic development programs and regular funding streams. For rural communities, this was part of the remit of the Rural Community Committees and there was identified support for First Nations and Aboriginal communities through the Aboriginal Joint Economic Development Initiative. Co-operative models of enterprise were, and continue to be seen as part of the business model as identified in the original review (Infanti, 2003, p26) and supported within a broad framework of economic development and private, small business and entrepreneur support mechanisms.

3.3   Capacity Building

The report looked at the support and development of human capital (skills development and training), financial capital (funds, local trusts, loans) and natural capital (including local stewardship projects and sustainable development initiatives). Although New Brunswick was considered strong in building human capital, there was little in terms of financial and natural capital initiatives at the time.

Training and development of individuals was indentified through youth programs and co-operative education programs at the post-secondary education level. There was education and training for CEDA Board and forum volunteers, provided through Mount Allison University, which also provided leadership development opportunities.

In terms of financial support – the Entrepreneur Loan Guarantee Program (via Business New Brunswick) helped budding entrepreneurs to establish new businesses. This was particularly aimed at unemployed people creating their own jobs.

The report concluded that jurisdictions like New Brunswick, which had a legislated approach to CED, generally provided multi-year funding and supportive government policy frameworks that included a long-term commitment to economic, social and environmental sustainability. However, a key issue identified in the report and a key caveat to the observed support for community economic development lies in the definition of 'community'. As Infanti (2003) comments the CEDNet definition of 'community economic development' (see page 7 above) is not necessarily shared by government departments whose mandates contain 'community economic development':

> In fact, many governments seem to consider community economic development as 'economic development locally' neglecting the social and environmental goals identified by the Canadian CED Network. The degree to which some government definitions of CED actually involve community leadership and collective social benefits is questionable as well (p 82).

When broadening the net to include capturing policies supporting social economy and social economy organizations, the problem of definition raises its head again. As in 2003, community economic or social and economic development focuses primarily on economic factors of growth – skills attraction and retention and labour market issues including the promotion and development of small businesses, which may or may not include co-operatives and social enterprises. 'Community' involvement is often elected or appointed officers at the level of municipalities rather than community as in citizen or 'community and voluntary sector' involvement. If 'social economy' is recognised or used, this tends to be in relation to non-profit and voluntary and community groups and 'social enterprise', although

the latter does not necessarily include co-operatives. In one New Brunswick multi-stakeholder grouping addressing sustainable communities and poverty, the term 'social enterprise' was confused with the concept of a 'social firm' (Benefits Blueprints, 2008, p9). So evidence of shared meaning and commonalities of definition are still an important issue as these frame and impact on priorities and subsequent concentration of supports and links with community-based organizations and enterprises.

In developing an analysis and trying to provide a comparison with earlier data, the report focuses on specific aspects of government support for social economy (SE) organizations and activities, for example:

- Identification of department or departments with a mandate to support SE organizations and activities;
- Legislation that commits the federal, provincial and/or municipal governments to support social economy organizations and activities;
- Policies that outline broader government support for the social economy, SE and third sector organizations and activities;
- Specific programs and initiatives that support the social economy through: start up or seed funding for social economy organizations (e.g. co-operatives, non-profit enterprises, etc.) and/or ongoing funding and support (e.g. via infrastructure organizations such as cooperative development agencies or direct to social economy organizations);
- Evidence of support for community and sector engagement in policy formulation;
- Policies geared towards involvement of communities of interest (Aboriginal and First Nations), geographical communities (rural development) and specific sectors (health, housing) in policy development;
- Policies/initiatives at a local level linked to social economy organizations and sector development; and
- Other support and infrastructure organizations geared to supporting social economy organizations (SEOs) or promoting joint working between SEOs and government (and private sector).

4. Supporting the social economy in New Brunswick

In order to provide parameters for the research and policy scan, 'social economy' is seen as an umbrella term for a number of individuals, groups, organizations, and sectors (e.g. voluntary and community sector, co-operative sector) that is broader and more inclusive than the 'third sector', includes 'community economic development' and contributes to a vibrant civil society.

Constituent organizations of the social economy demonstrate a number of principle characteristics. A primary characteristic is social mission. This appears to be geared less towards transformative social change (the social economy as an alternative to neo-liberalism and capitalist ideology and systems) and more towards generative and incremental change (focus on social problems and solutions; well-being of specific groups). Social goals can be achieved through economic means. Thus, the social economy contains organizations that are both market- and non-market focused (and those that are a mix of both) to provide a range of goods and services most often, but not exclusively, geared towards disadvantaged or excluded individuals and groups. Organizations may also provide goods and services that are not readily available through traditional market or state sources. This may include the entrepreneurial development of new services for marginalised communities (as was the case with homeless people, and people with HIV/AIDS), or un-served needs/wants for goods and services (such as wholefoods, organic products and alternative health therapies), which may in the longer-term become mainstreamed in to public and private sector provision.

The organizations meeting these social and economic objectives are primarily non-profit distributing and profits or surpluses are used to development self-sustainability or new goods and services. Those that do distribute profits and dividends to members and/or employees have limits on the way they do this. They embody democratic values and participatory practices operating in the space between government and private sectors, but increasingly in partnership with same sector and cross-sector organizations.

The combination of primary social mission and the focus on non- or limited distribution of profit geared to the benefit of the whole organization and members offers a primary distinction between social economy organizations and those profit-making organizations whose focus is on building an economic and profitable entity first and with supplementary or secondary social benefit as an outcome of successful business enterprise.

For the purposes of this report, social economy organizations include:

- Co-operatives – market (including profit distributing companies) and non-market (non-profit distributing or non-profit), which includes consumer co-operatives, worker co-operatives and stakeholder co-operatives. For example, in Nova Scotia an example of a co-operative business linked to fair trade principles would be Just Us! Coffee Roasters Co-op. A 'non-profit' co-op example would be Team Work Co-operative

- Umbrella or membership organisations such as the Nova Scotia Co-operative Council and networks/associations of organizations such as the Coastal Communities Network

- Voluntary sector development and infrastructure agencies such as Community Services Council Newfoundland and Labrador and Federation of Community Organizations, Halifax Regional Municipality

- Voluntary organizations and associations such as Mineville Community Association and national organizations, some with local branches such as National Aboriginal Diabetes Association

- Volunteer, self help and community groups such as Dartmouth Stroke Support

- Clubs and Societies such as Fredericton Freewheelers

- Credit Unions/Caisses Populaires such as Caisse populaire Sud-Est in Shédiac New Brunswick, part of the Caisses Populaires acadiennes or Credit Union Metro, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.

- Social firms (or 'affirmative business'), such as LakeCity Employment Services in Nova Scotia, whose enterprises include LakeCity Woodworkers, reBOOT NS, and the TREES project

- Social and/or community enterprises (other than co-operatives), such as the [Rising Tide Theatre Company](), in Newfoundland and Labrador.
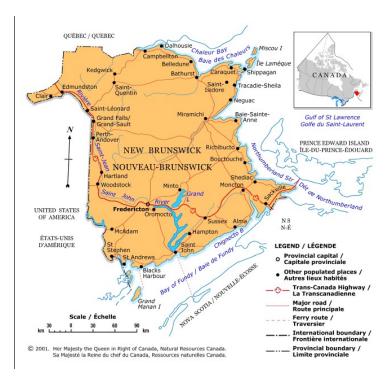
A systematic scan of publicly available government Acts (statutes) and bills, regulatory frameworks and policies up to and including 2008 that relate to aspects of the social economy was undertaken via internet and library searches of provincial and municipal governments and public sector websites. We were looking for documentation and statements of intent regarding infrastructural support and/or guidance for social economy organizations, and/or policy and reports that provided a framework or platform for government-social economy sector relations, dialogue, discussions or jointly-planned delivery of services. A national and provincial search for materials relevant to public policy both in terms of statutory provision and regulations and in terms of public policy debate (annual reports, political platforms and community responses) was concurrently undertaken.

The initial trawl was somewhat indiscriminate in order to 'catch all'. In considering policies that link government and social economy organizations, it is possible to list all departments and a number of programs that relate to supporting aspects of the social economy – for example funding initiatives for single issue concerns involving bi-lateral relationships between one government department and one or more organizations, such as funding for organizations providing services for drug or alcohol dependency. These bi-lateral relationships, policies and programs are important as they affect policy on a special interest and coalition level and may link to new policy development and government interdepartmental collaboration. However, our concern is also to look for broader supports across the social economy. Subsequently, after the first all-inclusive listing -a review of materials was undertaken. Using the dimensions identified above, documents were further reviewed to identify specific mandates, commitments and activities. This analysis is documented in the section below. However, some policies and programs linked to development of particular services have been retained in the original search materials and these materials have been collated utilizing a basic spreadsheet storage and retrieval system to enable transfer into more sophisticated database or web-based systems as required. As part of a review, the recorded information has been partially annotated to highlight specific documents – see Appendix B.

Bibliographic software has also been used enabling the production of an annotated bibliography of literature, web-based resources and websites[2] and selected documents and web resources connected with New Brunswick have been included in Appendix C.

A more detailed explanation of methods and process of the policy scan is provided in '*Policies that support bridging, bonding and building between government and the social economy in Atlantic Canada: Policy scan process report, 2009*'[3].

4.1 New Brunswick in context[4]

In 2008, the total population of New Brunswick was estimated as 747,302 with the highest concentrations of people in Westmorland, York, Gloucester and Saint John[5]. 48% of the population are between the ages of 20 and 64 years of age.

In 2008, there were 13 credit unions in New Brunswick within a total of 207 co-operatives (Thériault et al, 2008). According to the new Community Non-Profit Organizations Secretariat there are approximately 2732 registered charities and over 4000 incorporated non-profits employing nearly 40,000 people in New Brunswick. Every year, New Brunswickers provide on average around 52 million hours of volunteer labour[6], which amounts to an economic value of over $400,000,000[7] . In comparison, there are 89,717

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[2] See Myers (2009) *Referencing aspects of the social economy: an annotated bibliography of practitioner and academic literature, web-resources and websites*, available from the Social Economy and Sustainability network – see end of report for contact details.
[3] Available from the SES Research network – see end of report for details
[4] Source of map: http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/site/english/maps/reference/provincesterritories/new_brunswick/map.jpg
[5] http://www.gnb.ca/0160/Economics/PopulationEstimates1.htm
[6] http://www.gnb.ca/0012/CNPO-OCSB/facts&stats-e.asp
[7] Calculated using the 2008 minimum wage level for New Brunswick of $7.75 per hour (http://srv116.services.gc.ca/wid-dimt/mwa/rpt2.aspx?lang=eng&dec=1)

people employed in the public sector with the vast majority of these (63,693) employed with the provincial government. In 2007, the Bradshaw report (2007) identified 26 separate government departments, each having their own relationship and set of protocols in relation to the voluntary and non-profit sector. This together with other recommendations from the Task Group culminated in the delivery of one main point of contact – the Community Non-profit Organizations Secretariat.

The appointment of a minister with portfolio for the voluntary and non-profit sector came after six years of concentrated activity on policy issues with the launch of PolicyLink NB in 2001. This was made possible through the federal government and pan-Canadian initiative - 'Partnering for the benefit of Canadians' (part of the National Voluntary Sector Initiative) – which focused on child and family poverty to look at building appropriate mechanisms and capacity building to enable more effective input by the voluntary sector into public policy matters. However, Peacock (2009) notes that for him, the turning point that moved the voluntary and community sector to centre stage in supporting government to address social development issues such as poverty, social exclusion and labour market issues was the election of Shawn Graham as premier in 2006. Indeed, the non-profit sector was now seen to be the 'third pillar' in building a vibrant and sustainable New Brunswick, all the more significant given the current economic crisis and where there will be 'additional pressures on the provincial government – and on the non-profit sector – to adapt' in order to face up to the challenges of 'serious public policy dilemmas' compounded by an estimated 1 in 7 people living in poverty and 1 in 20 on social assistance (Peacock, 2009, p 2 and p 5).

Peacock (2009) goes on to identify key non-government players helping to shape policy in relation to poverty and economic development specifically in Saint John: the Urban Core Support Network, Saint John Human Development Council, the Business Community Anti-Poverty Initiative, and the Saint John Community Loan Fund. Together with Moncton's Common Front for Social Justice and social enterprise activities developed by Fredericton's homeless shelter and Moncton's Headstart, these organisations and others in the social economy offer the 'potential to fundamentally reshape the way New Brunswick addresses social development' (Peacock, 2009, 13). Certainly, in 2007, Bulthius reported observations on new ways of working in and across levels of government in Saint John with departments

and agencies 'envisioning and practising a different kind of leadership – one that chooses to listen and to enable' (2007, p 2) as part of a strategy for *True Growth'*. This rhetorical support and moves to more inclusive – and horizontal - ways of working was made manifest in town-hall style meetings, forums and consultations across the region. Bulthius (2007) points to the work of Vibrant Communities Saint John in supporting resident-led initiatives in Crescent Valley and the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's representative in Saint John as being a prime mover for a pilot for affordable home ownership in Old North End (a provincial responsibility but being tackled at a municipal level of engagement).

The report also comments on an important issue of connectivity across departmental agendas and interdependence between government and community in addressing issues. The example given is in relation to crime where police officers recognise the cross-cutting issues of crime in localities and work with 'community organizations in educational, literacy and recreational programs, thereby helping to build a culture of crime prevention … [and] recognizing that going it alone is no longer an effective course of action' (Bulthius, 2007, p 7). In this way, policy implementation and service delivery is no longer a unilateral, top-down process but a negotiated and stakeholder influenced set of relationships. This reflects the growing discourse around social development and public policy, which moves away from the 'mono-sectoral interventions designed and delivered from above by insulated federal or even provincial bureaucracies' (Bradford, 2003, p 6) to recognising the complex and chaordic characteristics of 'wicked problems' (Paquet, 1999 cited by Bradford, 2003), which require local knowledge and context-specific interventions and involve active and collaborative multi-sector, multi-stakeholder alliances. As Bradford notes, these types of connections and place-based examples of co-production (policy implementation and service delivery design) and inter-connected working were significantly absent in policy practice in Canada in 2003 (p 8). However, what Bulthuis reports in 2007 would fit with Bradford's description of what he calls 'administrative learning':

> balanced representation of societal interests, addressing systemic differences in the capacity to participate, convening and organizing meetings, establishing protocols for monitoring progress, and maintaining the focus and commitment of social partners … Like their civil society partners, administrators must learn new skills for building relationships, seeking consensus, assessing risk, and measuring

performance. Hierarchical approaches that presume an in-house monopoly on policy expertise must be rethought (2003, p 11).

It is important, therefore, that we have levels of government, departments within governments, and officers within departments who are willing to listen with the intention of being influenced, but what is also required is an organised non-government sector able to put forth ideas and local solutions. This requires both organized social economy infrastructure and the mechanisms supported by government for increased meaningful and purposeful exchange.

We have examples of this on a sectoral basis (for example certain sections of the voluntary and community sector linking with government to discuss funding issues, evaluation mechanisms and changes in service provision), which are indicative of bi-lateral or transactional relationships between sector / sector organizations and government / government departments. There are also examples of special interest coalitions (task forces and organizations such as the Business Community Anti-Poverty Initiative). There are also examples of inter-connectivity between government departments, and between provincial, municipal and private sector organizations, some of which include social economy representation or strategies and action plans that outline intention to include citizen's organizations and social economy organizations in current and future policy deliberations. The next section details some of the departments, mandates, strategies and policies that:

> mandate or encourage avenues for dialogue with third sector and social economy organizations;

> do / or have the potential for inter-sectoral collaboration and co-operation; and /or provide financial and technical support for specific activities;

> acknowledge interdependence in a mixed economy of care in delivery of a range of services and community development activities; and

> provide a springboard or platform for co-construction, co-production, implementation and evaluation of social and economic policies.

4.2. Policies and frameworks that support the development of the social economy and /or provide avenues for policy dialogue and development between social economy organizations and government.

4.2.1. Q. **Is there a department with a mandate to support social economy organizations and activities?**
A: **No, but....**

There is no specific department with a mandate for 'social economy' or 'third sector'. However, there are departments that are responsible for specific aspects of the social economy, for example:

- *Community Non-Profits Secretariat*: set up as a direct response to the premier's Community Non-Profit Task Force in 2007. It was set up to facilitate better relationships between the non-profit sector and government and has four main functions: a point of contact for government/non-profits; policy development; policy coordination and support to the sector through regular regional conferences, support for professionals in the sector to develop training opportunities and to subsidise training for professionals in the sector to participate in training offered to provincial civil servants.

- *Justice and Consumer Affairs, Credit Unions, Co-operatives and Trust Companies Branch* – responsible for the supervision of credit unions and caisses populaires and the administration of the Co-operatives Act. The mandate of the Department is 'to promote the impartial administration of justice and to ensure the protection of the public interest' (Annual Report 2007-2008). The Branch also advises and recommends policy and legislative changes concerning co-operatives. In the 2006 Co-operatives Annual Report, the Minister of Justice and Consumer Affairs, suggested that as there are nearly 400,000 members of co-ops and credit unions in the province. Co-operators hold an important place in the population and co-ops are a 'potential source of major change in consumerism' including social and

environmental concerns and that they provide consumers with a forum for democratic participation.

- *Department of Social Development* - This department delivers a comprehensive range of integrated supports to individuals and families, such as child welfare; day care and adoption; income and support programs; housing programs; disability programs; and long-term care programs including nursing home services. The Department serves as a focal point for youth policy, seniors' policy and the voluntary sector associated with its mandate.

- *Business New Brunswick* - Business New Brunswick has a regional and community development mission for all regions, focussed principally on New Brunswick business growth and development. It provides a `single-window' entry point for firms and entrepreneurs seeking financial and technical assistance from government. The current regional economic development commissions report through Business New Brunswick.

- *Service New Brunswick* - has a mission to improve the delivery of government services to the public. The Department oversees the registration of non-profits under the Companies Act (see below) and provides information and guidance on registration and duties under the Act.

- *Department of Wellness and Recreation, Municipality of Mirimichi*: mandate and aims of the department include building 'partnerships with community groups, organizations and individuals to provide opportunities to meet the citizens' needs and to avoid the duplication of services'

4.2.1 Q: Is there legislation that commits federal, provincial and/or municipal governments to support social economy organizations and activities?
A: Yes

- *Co-operative Associations Act and Regulations*

- *Credit Unions Act and Credit Unions Regulations under the Act*
- *Credit Union Act – Networking Regulation*

- *Corporations Act* – allows for the registration of non-profits. The Canada Corporations Act will be replaced by the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act in 2009.

- *Regional Development Act* – as noted by Infanti (2003) the Act governs the working of the Regional Development Corporation which is the key agency in negotiating between the Province and federal government and co-ordinates and finances provincial development initiatives. Its primary focus is on job creation, employment and economic development of the region and local communities.

- *New Brunswick Housing Act* - sets up the New Brunswick Housing Corporation. Financial support to non-profit associations (co-operatives) and can incorporate a non-profit corporation.

- *Education Act* includes strategies for establishing partnerships with the community to improve the quality of learning in schools, and in facilitating the use of schools by community groups and organizations.

- *Agricultural Associations Act* – allows for the establishment of member organizations to represent farmers and agricultural organizations

- *The New Brunswick Health Council Act* allows for the establishment of the NB Health Council. Part of the remit of the council includes the meaningful engagement of citizens in dialogue to improve health service quality in the province. The Council is active in community engagement exercises linked to policy development as well as service delivery. Links with the Provincial Health Plan, Transforming New Brunswick's' Health-care System.

4.2.3. Q.   Are there policies that define broader government support for social economy and social economy and third sector organizations and activities?
A.   Yes

- *Delivering on the Blueprint* – the government response to Blueprint for Action

- *The Liberal Party Manifesto Charter for Change 2007* commitments announced in the Speech from the Throne 2007 – cornerstones of the charter are education, energy and economic development.

- *Our Action Plan to be Self-sufficient in New Brunswick* – aims include ensuring that public engagement is meaningful, effective, collaborative and sustainable so that citizens can be active participants in governance; and 'strengthening the non-profit sector and to promote the respect and recognition the sector deserves' (S1.7).

- *Disability Action Plan Strategy* – this is part of the process of inclusion that comes with the Province's goal of self-sufficiency by 2026 (above). One of the aims is to involve consumers in all aspects of planning and delivery of services and facilities. There are also objectives about improving access to employment, but no mention of social firms.

- *Be Ready for Success: a 10-year early childhood strategy*: sees community non-profit and voluntary sector as partners in achieving strategy objectives. Provides funding (see below)

- *Poverty Reduction Strategy* – plan being updated. Leadership for achieving outcomes is seen to rest with government, business and non-profit sector.

- *Wellness Strategy* – the Select Committee on Wellness sees non-government organizations as key stakeholders in achieving the aims of the strategy. One of the recommendations is that a provincial coordinating mechanism to be set up

representing government, non-government organizations, universities and the private sector can provide resources and support to communities and help them build capacity. It also places responsibility on communities in terms of promoting healthier lifestyles.

- *Benefits Blueprints* – Energizing Sustainable Communities Initiative – broad based community initiative which supports community champions and individuals as well as government and non-governmental organizations to research and to seek improvements to policies, programs and investments. The current council does not have co-op or non-profit representation. The summary of findings from its first phase of work is to give a boost to neighbourhood capacity and programs addressing poverty. It mentions social enterprise (which is defines narrowly as a business that hires 'individuals with disabilities, a criminal history, or other barriers to employment', which fits the definition of a 'social firm' rather than a social enterprise per se); the report also mentions action-oriented housing initiatives but doesn't mention housing co-ops.

4.2.4 Q.   Are there programs and/or initiatives that support the social economy through: start up or seed funding for social economy organizations (e.g. co-operatives, non-profit enterprises, etc.) and/or ongoing funding and support (e.g. via infrastructure organizations such as cooperative development agencies or direct to social economy organizations)?
A.   Yes

- *Early Learning and Child Care Trust Fund*, launched 2007: start-up funding grants offered through the Trust Fund have supported the creation of 166 new infant spaces, 116 new rural spaces, 72 new extended hours spaces, and 40 new seasonal child care spaces. The report does not say if these are voluntary/non-profit or co-operative providers, but the strategy, Be ready for Success (see above, looks at voluntary and community organizations as potential partners.

- *Northern New Brunswick Infrastructure Initiative* (Regional Development Corporation) – development of the economy and building community capacity in

Northern New Brunswick – initiatives must be submitted and sponsored by a department, an agency or a Crown Corporation.

- *Family and Youth Capital Assistance Program* (Regional Development Corporation) – capital assistance for youth and family community oriented projects e.g. development of playgrounds, renovation of buildings, purchase of equipment

- *Community Events Program* (Regional Development Corporation) – contribution to festivals and community events

- *Shelter Enhancement Program* (Dept of Social Development) - non-profits and charities providing emergency shelters and second stage housing for survivors of family violence.

- *Growth Fund* – non-profits are ineligible. Provides financial support for start-up and expansion of existing enterprises including some cultural enterprises and craft production, so could possibly include social and co-operative enterprise.

- *Community Mental Health Centres*: programs and services – services are provided through four distinct operational sectors, one of which is non-profits and consumer-run programs. Expansion of the policy has seen development of mental health support services, such as housing, vocational training and community support networks.

- *Affordable Housing Program* – forgivable loans to private non-profit corporations and co-operatives for acquisition and rehabilitation, conversion and operation of rental housing projects.

- *Strategic Initiatives Fund* – under the Arts branch of the Department, this initiative provides funding to cover some of the costs of innovative projects. Projects have to have a focus of strengthening the economic and strategic contribution of the cultural and artistic sector. Open to non-profits.

4.2.5. Q.   Is there support for community and sector engagement in policy formulation?
A: Yes

- *2007: Task Force on Self-sufficiency* to include consultations with citizens.

- *2007: Select Committee on Wellness* – established to engage residents to consider how to improve wellness in the province.

- *2008: Throne Speech* – announced that the poverty reduction plan will be developed with input from individuals, community non-profit organizations and the business sector.

- *Healthy Eating and Physical Activity Coalition* – made up of 5 government departments and seven non-government organizations working collaboratively; currently co-chaired by the Canadian Cancer Society and the Department of Wellness, Culture & Sport.

4.2.6. Q.   Are there specific policies geared towards involvement of communities of interest (Aboriginal and First Nations), geographical communities (rural development) and specific sectors (health, housing) in policy development?
A.   Yes

- *Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat* established in 1999 with a deputy minister appointed exclusively for Aboriginal Affairs in 2003. In 2007, a bilateral agreement was reached on relationship building between the Assembly of First Nations chiefs and the Province of New Brunswick. Aboriginal Affairs Initiative (Regional Development Corporation) – supports activities being carried out by the Secretariat. Administers a grants program.

- *Throne Speech 2007*: Deputy Minister under Department of Health to meet the needs of Francophone and Acadian residents.

- *Canada – New Brunswick Agreement on the Provision of French Language Service*s: provides for funding for three school-community centres (Sainte-Anne; Beausoleil and Samuel-de-Champlain).

- *Premier's Council on the Status of Disabled Persons* – 2007 strategy includes objectives to involve consumers in all aspects of the planning and delivery of services and facilities. There are also objectives to improve access to employment but does not mention social firms. Accountability of partners involved in design and delivery of services includes data collection and reporting of the level of participation by people with disabilities and their advocates in public policy planning processes. The strategy report also contains a number of recommendations for other government departments to establish stakeholder meetings and consultation events.

- *Minister's Working Group on Violence against Women* (Department of Justice and Consumer Affairs) established in 2000 and in 2002 a violence prevention officer was appointed to work with departments and community organizations. The working group is a partnership between government and relevant community groups. The working group presented a strategic framework to government in 2001 and continues to meet annually to review accomplishments. '*A Better World for Women: moving forward 2005-2010*' is the government's second action plan. The report points to inter-departmental project teams and successful partnerships and working relationships with community stakeholders. The Women's Issues Branch of the Executive Council is responsible for leadership and co-ordination function of the action plan (recognising that issues overlap with broad Status of Women's issues). There is also *Provincial Partnerships in Action (PPA) Committee* which brings together representatives from 14 local family violence committees. These committees include service providers from both the community and government sectors. The committee comes together twice a year for training, skills development, networking, information sharing on best practices, and how to develop and evolve a provincial response for the provision of core services to be provided to women and their families.

- *Seniors and Healthy Aging Secretariat* – consultations in 2007 with key stakeholders on long-term care strategy.

4.2.7 Q. **Are there policies/initiatives at a local level linked to social economy organizations and sector development?**
A. **Yes**

- *Economic Development Act / Regional Development Corporation Act*: in 2002, the Province restructured its economic development agencies, as part of a community-based economic development strategy, to create the Enterprise Network. This was noted by Infanti (2003) as a CED initiative related to building social capital. Although funded by the provincial government, ACOA and participating municipalities, the agency is set up as a not-for-profit organization. Part of its remit is to increase business representation, community input (more often than not linked to municipality input rather than community non-profit organizations) and local decision-making power. The 15 agencies include:

  - Enterprise Carleton
  - Enterprise Central NB
  - Enterprise Chaleur
  - Enterprise Charlotte
  - Enterprise Fredericton
  - Enterprise Fundy
  - Enterprise Grand Falls Region
  - Enterprise Kent
  - Enterprise Madawaska
  - Enterprise Miramichi
  - Enterprise Moncton
  - Enterprise Peninsula
  - Enterprise Restigouche
  - Enterprise Saint John
  - Enterprise South East

- *The provincial department Environment and Local Government* is responsible for liaison with municipalities and local service district governance.

- *Saint John Community Council* – funding for social programs

- *'Defining Our Commitments'*: a corporate strategy for the City of Saint John: Citizens' Advisory Group had input into developing the strategy. The plan pledges to incorporate feedback from the community into service delivery decisions and to allow time for meaningful and informed input. The City is looking to set up cross-functional teams to develop collaborative working and to develop partnerships with community groups. There are plans to engage the entire community of Saint John into community planning around sustainability, and the report specifically prioritises an expanded role for Saint John Non-Profit Housing to be responsible for housing in Saint John with appropriate level of resources.

- *City of Dieppe Strategic Plan*: includes priorities to create a vibrant community to support cultural identity, health and well-being and quality of life in Dieppe. Part of this is to encourage volunteering including for committees and councils; to promote inclusion and to encourage participation in community life.

4.2.8. Q.   Are there other support and infrastructure organizations geared to supporting social economy organizations (SEOs) or promoting joint working between SEOs and government (and private sector)?
A: Yes

- *Business Community Anti-Poverty Initiative* in Saint John

- *Community Business Development Corporations*: 10 CBDC offices located in rural areas of New Brunswick, not-for-profit organizations run by volunteers from the business community to provide (high risk) capital and resources particularly for entrepreneurs who have difficulty accessing financial resources through mainstream sources. Part of the Atlantic Association of CBDCs, mainly funded through ACOA. Operate Seed Capital Program, Technology Development Fund, Women in Business

Initiative, Self-employed Benefit program. Mainly geared to individual entrepreneurs has supported child care projects.

- *Enterprise Network* (quango – see above)

- *Vibrant Communities Saint John* (Tamarack Institute for Community Engagement) – 'voice' to government, encourages co-ordination and collaboration. Lead community response on poverty. Brought governments together with business and the non-profit sector and individuals living in poverty to discuss delivery of a 'resident-focused strategy for poverty reduction in Saint John.

- *Human Development Council, Saint John* (a United Way agency): non-profit social planning council, mainly focused on poverty. The Council has supported the development of a number of organizations including the Urban Core Support Network. Saint John Community Loans Fund and Saint John Learning exchange.

- *Saint John Community Loan Fund*: promotes community investing. It recruits investments to build its loan pool and donations to safe-guard the loan pool against losses. Provides loans to help get individuals back to work, business loans and loans to secure housing.

- *Centre Bénévolat de la Péninsula Acadienne* – works to promote and facilitate volunteer action and to provide services for children and young people, adults, seniors and vulnerable people in the four electoral ridings of Caraquet, Tracadie-Sheila, Shippagan-les-Îles and Centre-Péninsule

- *Co-operative Enterprise Council New Brunswick* was incorporated in 2008 to supplement the coverage of its francophone sister organization, Coopérative de Developpement Régional – Acadia (CDR-A). Services include technical support and advice, training and help to put innovative ideas into practice. A 2008 survey of priorities for New Brunswick co-ops is available for download from their website.

- *Credit Union Central New Brunswick* – part of remit is to promote the organization, development and welfare of credit unions and to encourage co-operation between co-operatives and credit unions in New Brunswick. It also advocates a flexible legislative and regulatory environment for credit unions (and promotes compliance) and provides a range of services. Currently seeking amalgamation to become Credit Union Central Atlantic.

- *Bathhurst Sustainable Development* - originally set up in 1995 as a partnership between the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and the NB Environmental Trust Fund. When the project ended in 2001 members decided to set up as a non-profit community organization. The website has information on a variety of programs - urban transit, energy efficiency, solar and conservation programs as well as information on funding.

5. Findings and conclusions

The Table below provides a summary of information from the review in the above section.

Table 5.1 Policies and frameworks that support the development of the social economy and / or provide avenues for policy dialogue and development between social economy organizations and government.	
1. Is there a department with a mandate to support social economy organizations and activities?	N
2. Is there legislation that commits federal, provincial and / or municipal governments to support social economy organizations and activities?	Y
3. Are there policies that define broader government support for social economy and social economy and third sector organizations and activities?	Y
4. Are there programs and/or initiatives that support the social economy through: start up or seed funding for social economy organizations and/or ongoing funding and support?	Y
5. Is there support for community and sector engagement in policy formulation?	Y
6. Are there specific policies geared towards involvement of communities of interest, geographical communities and specific sectors (health, housing) in policy development?	Y
7. Are there policies/initiatives at a local level linked to social economy organizations and sector development?	Y
8. Are there other support and infrastructure organizations geared to supporting social economy organizations (SEOs) or promoting joint working between SEOs and government (and private sector)?	Y

What is clear from this initial investigation is that there is no clear understanding, acceptance or usage of the term 'social economy' to describe activities that involve social enterprises, non-profit organizations, co-operatives and mutuals in New Brunswick. This is not unusual and in many ways reflects how both government and social economy organizations or sub-sectors are organised: theme and issues based activities (e.g. health, education, business); the services provided to particular sections of the communities (e.g. youth, seniors, people with physical disabilities, mental health issues and other specific needs); categorised by organisational legal and governance structures (e.g. charity, volunteer organisation, self-help group, co-operative, credit union).

There is use of the term 'social and economic development' although, as Infanti discovered in 2003, this is often used to promote economic development (growth, attraction and retention of work age individuals including immigrants, new business) which may have social benefits (revitalisation of urban or rural communities).

Rather than a focus on the broader umbrella of 'social economy', this means policies and activities are geared to one or more of the sub-groups that fall under a definition of 'social economy' and we can see this in the caveat given to the allocation of 'no' to department mandates in the table above and in previous discussion. There are departments with specific mandates for specific parts of the social economy. In development and policy areas, this tends to be mainly non-profits, with perhaps the exception of housing co-operatives. For co-operatives and social enterprise, these tend to be grouped with economic development and

'business' and government policies and support tend to be more focused on registration and compliance, technical support and start-up finance. In this respect, charities and non-profit voluntary and community organizations appear to be more 'visible' in terms of contributing and responding to (social) policy developments and initiatives.

Engagement in policy determination and design seems to be of a consultative nature than full participation. There are some cross-cutting issues – such as anti-poverty initiatives – that involve multi-sector organisations and actors although often with an emphasis on public-private sector partnership. Often involvement of 'community' partners is geared to elected members (municipal representatives) and / or individual citizens.

Activity at a provincial level is most visible although there are hubs of activity at municipal level in New Brunswick and this is matched by development initiatives in the third sector, for example: the Urban Core Support Network in Saint John, the Centre Bénévolat de la Péninsula Acadienne, which covers four specific electoral ridings, and Bathurst Sustainable Development. There are also opportunities for cross-departmental and cross-cutting issues to involve non-governmental stakeholders in areas of provision of human service organisations and services.

It is still early days, to evaluate the impact of the Community Non-Profits Secretariat and the commitments to the *Blueprint*. A report from a regional meeting in 2008, where attendees were evenly split between government and community showed that 47% of attendees had not read the delivering on the Blueprint document. Of those that had, 87% had not analysed the document and 92% of attendees had not identified any actions specific to implementing recommendations from the report. What this points to is a need to examine consistencies between espoused actions through policy statements and documents and actual developments and practice. This can help to identify points of fracture between policy and practice with regard to supporting social economy organisations and enterprises and opportunities to identify good practice on the ground and to develop relationships and dialogue between sectors.

We can begin to look at different ways to analyse and describe policy development and engagement with stakeholders – this can be looked at in terms of structural relationships: transaction (single issue and finding relationships which tend to be bi-lateral) and evolution and transformation (multi-stakeholder dialogue and partnership opportunities); place-based and geographical (level of government; geographical – rural /urban); and in terms of levels of participation and engagement of key stakeholders (co-construction and co-production of policies and services)

This desk based research has looked at what information and signs of activities are accessible through publicly available information: government documents and details of current initiatives. It is recognise that the policy environment is a dynamic one and this type of

research cannot account for all the developments and changes that may occur between the time of examination of documents and the reporting of findings. There are key actors – on the ground - from government departments and social economy organisations who can support the development of this information and help to give voice and shape to what's happening on the ground with regard to policy in action. Their experiences and interpretations are important. The policy scan and review gives a useful platform and foundation which can support further research in each province to further develop dialogue with key stakeholders - policy movers, shakers and consumers - around the scope and contribution of social economy organizations and policies and frameworks that can support the support social economy organizations at municipal, provincial and federal levels.

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Elements of government support identified and recorded in New Brunswick (Infanti, 2003)	
Policy	
1. Is there a department with a mandate to support CED?	Y
2. Is there legislation that commits the province to support CED?	Y
3. Are there policies that define departmental roles in CED?	Y
4. Are there policies that define broader government support for CED?	Y
5. Are there policies that devolve authority to local bodies for regional or community economic development?	Y
Social Capital	
6. Are there CED programs or initiatives that build social capital through:	
a) CED project funding?	Y
b) Ongoing funding to community and/or regional development organizations?	Y
c) Support for community capacity-building?	Y
d) Co-operative development?	N
e) Aboriginal CED?	Y
f) Rural development?	Y
g) Urban development?	N
h) Regional economic planning?	Y
Human Capital	
7. Are there CED programs or initiatives that build human capital through:	
a) Youth programs?	Y
b) CED education, training and learning opportunities for practitioners?	Y
c) CED leadership development?	Y
d) Programs for CED volunteers or interns?	Y
Financial Capital	
8. Are there CED programs or initiatives that build financial capital through:	
a) Support for community development financing institutions?	N
b) Capitalization of local trusts and foundations?	N
c) Loan funds?	N
d) Loan guarantees?	Y
e) Tax credits?	N
f) Venture capital funds?	N
g) Community bonds?	N
h) Micro-lending?	Y
Natural Capital	
9. Are there CED programs or initiatives that build natural capital through community resource management programs, like:	
a) Community forestry projects?	N
b) Community fishery projects?	N

c) Other local resource stewardship projects?	N
d) Other sustainable development initiatives?	Y

Policies, programs and documents identified and recorded: New Brunswick

Document Details	Year	Source	Comments
Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat Grants Program	2008	Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat	The purpose of the AAS Grants Program is to fund small-scale, non-profit projects/initiatives of a social, cultural, and educational nature. Its small grants to individuals, First Nation communities, and Aboriginal organizations for a variety of events, projects and initiatives to help improve the government's relationship with First Nation communities and Aboriginal organizations. (2008: http://www.nationtalk.ca/modules/news/article.php?storyid=9482) In 2007-2008 a total of 24 grants were approved by the Secretariat. Grants ranged from $250-$5000 and a total of $37,759.59 was issued. Areas of support included cultural events and powwows; education event.
Annual Report 2007-2008	2008/09	Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat	In 2007-2008, the Secretariat was given a new mandate as the gateway for contact between the province and First Nations and as such the Secretariat plays a lead role in addressing Aboriginal issues within the provincial government. This is a cross-cutting function and links to environment, education, health, housing etc. The Secretariat also makes sure that civil servants are educated and aware of Aboriginal issues and cultural differences. The goal is to develop a formal agreement on relationship development where both the province and First Nations communities can bring issues of concern to the table for discussion. A bi-lateral process (Mi'Kmaq, Maliseet, and Province of New Brunswick Relationship Building Bilateral Agreement) is in place where issues of health services, education services, gaming and resource management are discussed. Where tripartite issues are raised - such as health issues, education funding, policing and economic development, the Federal government is invited to the table for discussions. The annual report outlines a duty to consult on all and any issues that may affect Aboriginal and Treaty Rights. The Committee that undertakes this is the Interdepartmental Committee on Aboriginal Issues (ICAI).
Mi'kmaq and Maliseet-New Brunswick Relationship Building/Bi-lateral agreement	2007	Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat	Bi-later agreement signed in 2007. Sets out parameters for a New-Brunswick-First nations Chiefs summit: chiefs and provincial premier to meet twice a year; ministers responsible for directing this process and implementing/reviewing the results of the technical negotiations committee (TNC) and sub-committees to meet four times a year. The TNC includes an Aboriginal Working Group. The sub-committees' remits include: land and resources, governance and jurisdiction, economic development and sustainability, health, education and social development.
Aboriginal Skills and Employment Partnership (ASEP-NB)	2004	Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat	Aboriginal Workforce Development NB Inc is part of the Aboriginal Skills ad Employment Partnership (ASEP) NB. ASEP is a federally run program through Human Resources and Skills Development Canada. ASEP-NB Inc established in 2004 promotes the development and recruitment of an Aboriginal labour force in NB's forestry industry. The organization focuses on energy and natural resources sectors, offering training-to-employment programs to enable employment and career development. Partners in this project include the Government of New Brunswick, Irving Oil, NB Power Corporation, the Construction Association of New Brunswick, New Brunswick Community College, Armour

Document Details	Year	Source	Comments
			Transportation Systems, New Brunswick's 15 First Nations communities, and the New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council.
Companies Act	2008	Attorney General	Part II Section 138 on covers provincial mutual insurance companies; section 163 covers mutual benefit societies (as covered under the provincial Insurance Act. The department responsible for administration is Services New Brunswick.
Agricultural Associations Act	1967	Business New Brunswick	This allow for the establishment of member organisations representing farmers and agricultural organisations in New Brunswick - to promote all branches of agriculture through the encouragement of education, cooperation and pertinent legislation. Also includes provision for patents and loans.
Annual Report 2006-2007	2007	Business New Brunswick	Report states commitment to continue in a leadership role within government for community economic development and to support the implementation of Community Economic Development Agency action plans in accordance with provincial and regional priorities. Community Economic Development is a partnership represented by the provincial departments of Business New Brunswick and Post Secondary Education, Training, and Labour, and the provincial Regional Development Corporation; the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency and Human Resources and Social Development Canada (representing the federal government); the local municipalities; and the Enterprise Network (representing the 15 Enterprise Agencies). The mandate of this partnership is to support and enhance the community economic development framework within the Province. The framework is responsive to regionally defined priorities and opportunities, addresses regional differences within the Province, and builds on current strengths. It provides a vehicle to ensure real and meaningful input from municipalities and community representatives as well as the business community. Finally, it provides adequate operational and developmental funding to address regional development objectives and achieve regional priorities. Funded projects for 2006/07 include: business plans and sector strategies; young entrepreneurs; training/workforce retention and tourism(p 27)
Community Economic Development Program	N/A	Business New Brunswick	Specifically for First Nations and Innuit communities for public services in economic development
Economic Development Act	1975	Business New Brunswick	Para 3: may provide financial assistance to aid and encourage the establishment or development of industry. Here 'industry' means 'any commercial enterprise'
Economic Development Act - General Regulation	1982	Business New Brunswick	
Enterprise Network Launched	2002	Business New Brunswick	2002 News release announcing the set up of the restructured economic development agencies into the Enterprise Network: 'The 15 Enterprise Agencies will provide leadership in economic development at the community level and coordination among government partners. Each agency will have its own board of directors made up of business leaders and community stakeholders in their area. An advisory forum made up of about 50 people from the community will also provide the agency with input and feedback... It's a one-stop shop for information, small business development, export development, investment and more'

Document Details	Year	Source	Comments
Farm Credit Corporation Assistance Act	1966	Business New Brunswick	Establishes Farm Credit Corporation part of Farm Credit Canada (Canada's largest provider of business and financial services to farms and agribusiness), which, which working with all sectors across Canada, has a policy role
Growth Fund	N/A	Business New Brunswick	This program provides eligible entrepreneurs up to $100,000 for the establishment of a new business, and up to $60,000 for the expansion, diversification or productivity improvement at an existing business. Eligible business sectors include manufacturing and processing industries, information technology companies, year-round or seasonal full-time tourism operations, commercial service firms, and some cultural enterprises (film and video production, performing arts businesses, music and sound recording and production services, book and periodical publishing (excluding the publication of news periodicals), and craft production). Non-profits are ineligible.
Self-Sufficiency _Transforming our economy: strategic priorities 2007-2011	2008	Business New Brunswick	No mention of community economic development or social enterprise. The report focuses on cluster development (also useful for CED, but nothing related)
Blue Print for Action	2006	Community Non-Profit Organizations Secretariat	This document is part of the NB Premier's Community Non-Profit Task Force outputs. The Task Force put forward a structure that works horizontally through community organizations to break down function-based silos: a regionally based agency. The proposed model is a hybrid of ACOA, New Brunswick's Enterprise Network, and the Heritage Branch of the Department of Wellness, Culture and Sport. It requires two kinds of funding: an operating budget for the agency itself and a community development fund to resource the community non-profit sector the Community Service Development Agency (the choice and arm of community based non-profit sector). The report sets out the role and functions of the proposed organisation as well as commitment, resources and action required by government. Also in annotated bibliography.
Delivering on the Blueprint: the government's response to Blueprint for Action	2007	Community Non-Profit Organizations Secretariat	
Regional Conference Report, 2008	2008	Community Non-Profit Organizations Secretariat	Of the people attending this meeting, 47% (27 out of 57) has not read the Delivering on the Blueprint document. When asked how many organizations had analysed the document - 87% said 'no' and 92% said they had not identified any implementation actions related to the Blueprint. The setting up of a volunteer centre was raised to help with infrastructure problems and to support coordination of regional partnerships and organisations like the Centre Bénévolat de la Péninsula Acadienne should be encouraged in other locations: "This should be encouraged in all municipalities, or at least all counties. They can assist groups and provide information on how to set up a non-profit; how to manage; and how to set up meetings. They are an organization that provides training for their board members about insurance and funding. This is an excellent example of a network that exchanges information and where the weakness of one is the strength of another".

Document Details	Year	Source	Comments
			Other ideas put forward included: Regional meeting of all non-profits has not happened before. Organize another similar meeting. Develop common objectives for the region. Look at amalgamation or clustering by interest. Identify key people and common resources. Exchange information and experience. Partnership with municipalities - reduction of taxes
Annual Report 2006-2007 Agriculture and Aquaculture	2007	Department of Agriculture and Aquaculture	
Education Act	1997	Department of Education	The Act allows for the establishment of a Parent School Support Committee of between 6 and 12 members, where the majority are parents of pupils. It is the role of the Committee to advise the principal on the establishment, implementation and monitoring of the school improvement plan. This includes strategies for establishing partnerships with the community to improve the quality of learning within the school, and facilitating use of the school by the community (community groups and organizations).
Benefits Blueprints - Energizing Sustainable Communities Initiative	2008	Department of Energy	This is a broad-based community initiative that brings together stakeholders from across New Brunswick. The Steering Committee or council will support the work of community champions, individuals with relevant expertise tasked with assembling the research and the various governmental and non-governmental stakeholders needed to create progress toward new or improved policies, programs and investments (the current Council does not have co-op or non-profit representation), but the initial process did have an advisory forum with community and public sector leaders as well as business people.. Benefits Blueprint is supported by the Government of Canada, the Government of New Brunswick, and Irving Oil Limited. Summary of findings phase 1- http://www.benefitsblueprint.org/summary_of_phase_1_findings.pdf - takes a broad approach - one of the points is to set up a neighbourhood capacity building program aimed at giving a boost to those programs focusing on poverty reduction. it also mentions social enterprises which it defines as 'businesses who hire individuals with disabilities, a criminal history, or other barriers to employment' (p9). Also looking to set up a social purchasing portal. Talks about action-oriented housing initiatives but doesn't mention housing co-ops.
Energy Efficiency and Conservation Agency of New Brunswick Act	2005	Department of Energy	Establishes the crown corporation Energy Efficiency and Conservation Agency of New Brunswick. The Agency's remit includes development and delivery of programs and initiatives related to energy efficiency and conservation; promote energy efficient services industry; and acts as the primary promotion agency in the province. The Agency can collaborate with partners in both the public and private sectors; assist in the establishment and development of enterprises and institutions; identify the need for programs to train people for employment in energy efficiency services industry and work with enterprises and institutions to design, establish and promote such programs; and to make grants contributions, loans or issue loan guarantees.
Community Planning	1972	Department of	

Document Details	Year	Source	Comments
Act		Environment	
Clean Environment Act	1989	Department of Environment	Allows for the setting up of intergovernmental and other committees and a stewardship board.
Clean Air Act	1997	Department of Environment / Department of Health	Allows for the establishment of intergovernmental and other advisory committees whose duties would include policy and program advice and proposals and public consultations and meetings.
Environmental Trust Fund Act	1990	Department of Environment and Department of Finance	The trust fund can receive contributions from individuals, partnerships and corporations ('gifts'). The assets of the funds are used to pay for costs incurred for environmental protection, provide for environmental restoration, promote sustainable development of natural resources, conserve natural resources, educate on matters relating to environmental issues and sustainable development of natural resources, maintain and enhance the visual environment; and can also reimburse any department, corporation or governmental agency that made an advance to finance any of the costs of the above.
Budget 2008-2009	2008	Department of Finance	The Budget speech is framed by the Liberal agenda, Charter for Change, which places New Brunswick on a trajectory for self-sufficiency by 2023 (Conservatives won office in NB in 2008 elections). The speech outlines the development of an integrated and efficient health care system putting patients first and increases the health care budget; also rationalising the regional health authorities from 8 down to 2. Mentions renaming of Dept of Family and Community Services to Department of Social Development. Under the section 'Transforming our Relationships' , the speech announces $400,000 to establish a Secretariat for the Community Non-Profit Sector - thereby recognizing the importance of the work of, and challenges facing, non-profit organizations throughout the province (p 13). The new secretariat is designed to revitalize the relationship between government and the non-profit sector and support the culture of volunteerism...(p 13)
Annual Report 2006-2007	2007	Department of Health	Provincial government annual report covering all areas of mandate specifically in relation to 'protection of those most at risk' (mental health services); Prevention and education/awareness; ambulance services; and reference to specific networks and services e.g. New Brunswick Cancer Network; addiction services; and community mental health centres. Although mainly a review of the statutory services, the report does include mention of work with community partners e.g. around HIV/AIDS; child care and postnatal services; The New Brunswick Anti-Tobacco Coalition; community partnerships in the provision and operation of community health centres (community development, self help); and Portage Atlantic - a non-profit providing long term residential treatment for young people aged 14-21 (addictions, mental health). The report also outlines a Dialogue on Health forum held in 2001 to engage citizens, policy makers and health professions as well as academics in influencing the health-related decision making process.
Community Health Centres Program	N/A	Department of Health	

Document Details	Year	Source	Comments
Community Mental Health Centres: programs and services	n.d.	Department of Health	Mental health care provision in New Brunswick is shaped by a policy set out in 1988, which aimed to de-institutionalise psychiatric care and to promote the development of alternative, community-based initiatives. The policy has expanded since 1997 to include early intervention with young people and their families. Clients and families are involved in the planning, assessment and delivery of mental health services and there has been development of mental health support services, such as housing, vocational training, consumer-run services, and social and community support networks. The service also encourages participation of citizens and local stakeholders in the community. Services are provided through four distinct operational sectors, one of which is non-profits and consumer-run programs as well as support groups such as self help groups. Crisis intervention includes CHIMO and Kids Help Phone hotlines (both non-profits).
New Brunswick Health Council Act	2008	Department of Health	Allows for the establishment of the New Brunswick Health Council. Objects of the Council include: to development implement mechanisms to engage the citizens of NB in meaningful dialogue for the purpose of improving health service quality in the Province. Council to prepare public accountability reports. Council consists of 16 members and is active in community engagement exercises linked to policy development as well as service delivery.
Provincial Youth Treatment Program	N/A	Department of Health	The outline for the program cites research suggesting that work with young people with severe behavioural problems requires a multi-agency approach and as such the 14 regional teams are attempting to working closely and in collaboration with various organizations and agencies.
Mental Health Services Act	1997	Department of Health	
Mental Health Services Advisory Committee Regulations - Mental Health Services Act	1997	Department of Health	
Transforming New Brunswick's Health-care System: the provincial health plan 2008-2012	2008	Department of Health	Pg 22 details community partnerships - mainly top-down, but service and program reports give more detailed efforts of engagement
Co-operative Associations Act	1978	Department of Justice and Consumer Affairs	
Co-operative Associations Regulations	1982	Department of Justice and Consumer Affairs	
Credit Unions Act	1992	Department of Justice and	

Document Details	Year	Source	Comments
		Consumer Affairs	
Credit Unions Regulations under the Act	1994	Department of Justice and Consumer Affairs	
Credit Unions Act - Networking Regulation	2001	Department of Justice and Consumer Affairs, Credit Unions Co-operatives and trust Companies Branch	
Annual Report 2007-2008	2008	Department of Justice and Consumer Affairs	The report announces that in 2008 the credit union consulted with stakeholders on changes to the Credit Unions Act. In 2007 there were 53 credit unions/caissses populaires, information which was included in the main body of the report. Information on co-ops was in the appendix: an attachment of the 2007 co-operatives annual report. There were 221 co-operatives as of Dec 2007. The report announced web-based information soon to be available.
Co-operatives Annual Report, 2006	2006	Department of Justice and Consumer Affairs, Credit Unions Co-operatives and trust Companies Branch	Future reports will be summary reports as part of the Departmental annual report as information will be available publicly on the website
Annual Report 2007	2007	Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour	This departmental (PETL) annual report outlines the activities, responsibilities and specific grants falling under the departmental remit of secondary education, training and labour. Key areas of interest are labour and legislative development (pp 33-41). The departmental report stresses partnerships. Reports include: • In co-operation with Departments of Family and Community Services and Education, the Ministerial Employ-ability Action Group continued to address 30 stakeholder recommendations for increasing the presence of persons with disabilities in the workforce. • Work Ability Program - provides wages subsidies to eligible employers who provide job experience as defined in an individual's employment action plan. • The Workforce Expansion Program aims to stimulate creation of long-term employment opportunities in the private sector although it can also assist unemployed individuals in securing

Document Details	Year	Source	Comments
			sustainable self-employment. • Student Employment and Experience Development Program - includes providing students with an entrepreneurial experience • Employment Services Program: to help community groups, communities and other agencies to improve their capacity for dealing with human resource requirements
Employment Development Act	1988	Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour	Development and financial support for employment development programs
Employment Development Act: General Regulations	1989	Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour	Details circumstances for financial assistance. For example, under the Entrepreneur Program, financial assistance decided upon by the minster without approval from the Lieutenant Governor in Council is a guarantee of a repayment of a loan that does not exceed $10,000.
Employment Development Act: student entrepreneurship	n.d.	Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour	This program provides an interest free loan to help students to start a summer business that will create at least one full-time student summer job and provide experience of running a business.
Human Rights Act	1985	Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour	
Family Services Act: General Administration Regulations	1981	Department of Social Development	
Affordable Housing Program	N/A	Department of Social Development	This program provides assistance to private entrepreneurs, private non-profit corporations (includes off-reserve native population), and co-operatives for the construction, acquisition & rehabilitation, conversion and operation of rental housing projects. Assistance is in the form of a forgivable loan and is based on the cost of eligible work and the number of eligible self-contained units or bed units within a project. The maximum forgivable contribution for projects sponsored by non-profit groups is $30,000 per unit and may include 100% of the units within a project. The website gives details of eligibility and criteria.
Be Independent Longer	2008	Department of Social	Long Term care strategy some of which comes from consultations with seniors and their families in meetings but also using internet surveys, emails etc. According to the 2006 Census there are 107,635

Document Details	Year	Source	Comments
		Development	citizens aged 65 years and over in New Brunswick, which accounts for 14.7 per cent of the total provincial population. By 2026 it is projected that there will be 188,300 citizens aged 65 years and over in New Brunswick, which will account for 25.7 per cent of the total population.
Be ready for success: a 10-year early childhood strategy	2008	Department of Social Development	Mentions community non-profit and voluntary sector as part of working with partners. The Early Learning and Child Care Trust Fund offers funding to eligible child care providers and have led to an increase in new places for children.
Communities Raising Children	n.d.	Department of Social Development	Supports community based initiatives such as school readiness programs, parent learning clubs and parents workshops; literacy activities. This is part of an initiative of Family and Community services to engage communities in identifying, developing and co-ordinating opportunities to improve parent support and health child development. Provincial/federal /territorial agreement over 5 years (2001 - 2006/7).
Community Based Services for Children with Special Needs	N/A	Department of Social Development	
Day Care Assistance Program	N/A	Department of Social Development	To help families access financially affordable, quality child care at an approved child day care facility
Disability Support Program	2005	Department of Social Development	
Energy Efficient Retrofit Program for Low-Income Households	N/A	Department of Social Development	Provides financial assistance to providers of accommodation for low income households
Family Income Security Act	1994	Department of Social Development	This act also includes provision for the creation or facilitation of projects which will provide employment, training and/or education to persons eligible for assistance under the Act.
Family Income Security Act: General regulations	1995	Department of Social Development	
Family Services Act	1980	Department of Social Development, Department of Justice, Department of Consumer Affairs	

Document Details	Year	Source	Comments
Family Services Act: Interventions for Autistic Children	n.d.	Department of Social Development	
Home Ownership Program	N/A	Department of Social Development	Families on less that $40,000 a year are eligible for loans to help build or buy first home
Housing Assistance for Persons with Disabilities	N/A	Department of Social Development	Financial assistance for home owners or landlords for accessibility work on homes
Long-term Care Services for Adults and Seniors	N/A	Department of Social Development	
New Brunswick Housing Act	1967?	Department of Social Development	Sets up the New Brunswick Housing Corporation. Objectives are to study housing needs particular in relation to low-income families and individuals; to facilitate increase and improvement of housing accommodation; to recommend legislation pursuant to this objective; to obtain participation of municipalities in housing projects. Financial support to non-profit associations (co-operatives) and can incorporate a non-profit corporation. The Corporation can encourage and promote the formation and organization of associations for the purpose of building and providing sufficient and suitable housing in an pat of the Province and selling and leasing of housing units, including advancing loans
New Brunswick Special Care Home Association	N/A	Department of Social Development	
Non-Profit Housing Program	N/A	Department of Social Development	
Rural and Native Basic Shelter Rental Program	N/A	Department of Social Development	
Services for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder	N/A	Department of Social Development	
Shelter Enhancement Program	N/A	Department of Social Development	For non-profits and charities providing emergency shelters and second stage housing for survivors of family violence. Forgivable loans for repairs and to increase the number of units available to women, children and young people.
Vocational Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons Act	1989	Department of Social Development	

Document Details	Year	Source	Comments
Vocational Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons: General Regulations	1991	Department of Social Development	
Go NB! Taking Action through Sport	2008	Department of Wellness, Culture and Sport	This is a 3-year program from 2008 and is a bi-lateral agreement/partnership between the Government of NB and the Government of Canada (Sport Canada). It's aimed at getting children and young people active in sport by supporting community-based initiatives (equipment, training and support, sports leadership and program development on First Nations Communities), Information on the grants was signposted relating to community services (businesses and non profit organizations - http://app.infoaa.7700.gnb.ca/gnb/Pub/EServices/ListServicesBySector.asp?SectorID1=154&AreaID1=1)
Strategic Initiatives Fund	n.d.	Department of Wellness, Culture and Sport	Under the Arts branch of the department.. This initiative provides funding (grants) to cover some of the costs of innovative projects that go towards strengthening the economic/strategic contribution of the cultural and artistic sector in NB. Open to non-profits.
A Better World for Women: Moving Forward 2005-2010	2005	Executive Council Women's Issues	
Child and Youth Advocate Act	2007	Legislative Assembly	This Act provides for the establishment of the Office of the Child and Youth Advocate, The Act covers the appointment and duties of advocates, including informing the public and making recommendations to government.
Charter for Change: Liberal Party manifesto	2006	Liberal Party	- Attracting immigrants: partner with community-based organizations to improve local settlement services and increase retention rates - Arts: ensure the eligibility of cultural entrepreneurs for start-up capital that would be available to small business in NB - Schools - enable non-profits to use schools more easily after hours - Homelessness - develop a youth homelessness strategy - Create a Youth at Risk Unit to coordinate regionally-based services - Health Innovation Working group (geared to research investment) - Appoint a minister responsible for seniors issues - Creation of a new crown corporation to engage with non-profit and community service groups to create and maintain new housing units... Minister responsible for housing - P32 - specifically deals with relations with non-profit organizations - this set up the task force that led to the Blueprint
Healthy Eating and Physical Activity Coalition	N/A	New Brunswick Advisory Council on Youth	A coalition of 5 government departments and seven non-government organizations working collaboratively. HEPAC is currently co-chaired by the Canadian Cancer Society and the NB Dept of Wellness, culture & sport.

Document Details	Year	Source	Comments
Our Action Plan to Be Self-Sufficient in New Brunswick	2007	Office of Self-Sufficiency	Aims set out in the document include: ensuring that public engagement is meaningful, effective, collaborative and sustainable so that citizens can be active participants in governance; moving forward with the historic Mi'kmaq, Maliseet, and New Brunswick Relationship Building Bilateral Agreement to address effective governance social justice and economic sustainability for our First Nations communities; and strengthening the non-profit sector and promote the respect and recognition the sector deserves. (S1.7)
Enabling Accessibility Fund	2007	Premier's Council on the Status of Disabled Persons	Aimed at community-based projects across the province.
Disability Action Plan Strategy 2007	2007	Premier's Council on the Status of Disabled Persons	Part of the process of inclusion that comes with the province's goal of self-sufficiency by 2026. Input from stakeholders to the Premier's Council agreed the need for a coordinated disability action plan (from a survey of 1200) and a stakeholder summit. The report provides a timeline of events leading towards the strategy. One objective is to involve consumers in all aspects of planning and delivery of services and facilities. There are also objectives to improve access to employment but does not mention social firms. Accountability of partners involved in design and delivery of services includes data collection and reporting of the level of participation by people with disabilities and their advocates in public policy planning processes. The report also includes a number of recommendations for other departments including stakeholder consultations.
Premier's Council on the Status of Disabled Persons Act	1982	Premier's Office	
Regional Development Corporation Act	1987	Premier's Office	Formerly constituted the Community Improvement Corporation, which under this Act changes its name to Regional Development Corporation. The objects and purposes of the corporation include 'to assist in the establishment and development of enterprises and institutions operated by corporations, trusts, partnerships, societies and individuals; to assist municipalities and rural communities in planning and developing works or projects of benefit to the general public; and to prepare plans for regional development. The Corporation can issue grants, contributions, loans and loan guarantees in line with its objectives. It can also provide training programs to assist persons back into work or for new employment opportunities; run information and education programs.
Speech from the Throne 2007	2007	Premier's Office	
Speech from the Throne 2008	2008	Premier's Office	
Annual Report 2008	2008	Regional Development Corporation	Provides an overview of the agency's work and a list of all grants and funding made under the various economic development funds during the year.

Document Details	Year	Source	Comments
ecoTrust Fund	2009	Regional Development Corporation	Part of Federal program - funding for eco-fuels, energy efficiency. Administered by Regional Development Corporation
Family and Youth Capital Assistance Program	N/A	Regional Development Corporation	Capital assistance to non-profits, local service councils and/or municipalities engaged in youth and family related projects such as playgrounds, sports/recreational facilities, community centres and community equipment. Examples of the sports/recreational facilities include the following: baseball fields, soccer fields, volleyball courts, tennis courts, football fields, skateboard parks, arenas/rinks, curling, youth camps, and local and municipal parks. Examples of centres include community, seniors, women's institutes, youth and recreation. Examples of community equipment include recreational, band, fire brigade. Non-repayable grants, once per each project.
Miramichi Regional Economic Development Fund	N/A	Regional Development Corporation	Now Enterprise Miramichi
Restigouche-Chaleur Economic Development Fund	N/A	Regional Development Corporation	Part of Northern Economic Development Fund
Wellness...we each have a role to play	2008	Select Committee on Wellness	This is the Final Report of the Select Committee on Wellness to the Legislative Assembly in 2008. The Wellness Strategy also identifies five strategic directions for achieving wellness: partnership and collaboration, community development, the promotion of healthy lifestyles, surveillance, evaluation and research, and healthy public policy. it suggests that communities partner with employers and schools to promote healthy living and invest in healthy neighbourhoods (e.g. active transportation e.g. cycling). Non-government organisations are seen as key stakeholders and recommends a provincial coordinating mechanism to be set up representing government, non-government organizations, universities and the private sector can provide resources and support to communities and help them build capacity
Companies Act		Service New Brunswick	Provides for the incorporation of non-profits. The Canada Corporations Act is due to be replaced by a more streamlined legislation: Canada Not-for-Profit Companies Act in 2009
Corporations Act	1978	Service New Brunswick	
Advisory Council on the Status of Women Act	1975	Status of Women	This provincial government act created the Advisory Council - 13 appointed members plus a small staff team who: advise governments, increase awareness of the population on issues, programs and services, recommend legislation, policies and practices to the Government of New Brunswick, facilitate networking among women's groups, gather, research and disseminate information. Members are appointed for a period of three years. The Council's website contains publications and positions papers: http://www.acswcccf.nb.ca
Strategic Plan	2009	Municipality: Dieppe	Plan includes priorities to create a vibrant community to support cultural identity, health and well-being and quality of life in Dieppe. Part of this is to encourage volunteering including for committees and

Document Details	Year	Source	Comments
			councils; to promote inclusion and to encourage participation in community life.
First to Kyoto: Corporate Inventory and action plan for Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction	2006	Municipality: Fredericton	
Community Wellness and Recreation Department Mission Statement		Municipality: Mirimichi	Includes an objective to 'strive to build partnerships with community groups, organizations and individuals to provide opportunities to meet the citizens needs and to avoid the duplication of services'. City Hall also provides grants to non-profit groups
Defining Our Commitments: a corporate strategy for the City of Saint john	2009	Municipality: Saint John	City Manager thanks Citizens' Advisory Group for their input into developing the strategy and the plan pledged to incorporate feedback from the community into service delivery decisions and to allow time for meaningful and informed input. Looking to develop cross-functional team to develop collaborative working and to develop partnerships with community groups and plans to engage the entire community of Saint John into community planning around sustainability, and to specifically Expand the role of Saint John Non-Profit Housing to be responsible for housing in Saint John with appropriate level of resources.

Appendix C
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SES/ESD Network Research Goals

- Contributing to the theory and practice of social economy in the Atlantic region
- Internal bridging, bonding, mentoring & capacity building
- Encouraging use of the "social economy" as a framing concept in the region
- Linking Atlantic partners with other parts of Canada and the world

SES/ESD Network Research Themes and Questions

Conceptualizing & describing the social economy in Atlantic Canada

- What does the social economy look like? What needs does it address?
- How can we best capture this sector conceptually?
- What, if anything, makes it distinctive or innovative? How interconnected are its facets,
- & to what effect?
- What are the characteristics of social economy organizations?
- What are the implications for government policy?

Policy inventory and analysis

- How are different understandings of "social economy" reflected in government policy?
- What needs are not being met, & what changes are needed in regulatory environment?
- What indicators can we develop to aid in policy development?

Community mobilization around issues of common concern (natural resources; food security; inclusion and empowerment)

- Do social economy organizations contribute to social inclusion, the democratization of the economy, & empowerment?
- What inputs are needed to overcome obstacles & build capacity?
- What can we learn from research on mobilization around food security, empowerment & inclusion, community management of natural resources & energy?

Measuring and Financing the Social Economy

- What can social accounting, co-operative accounting, social auditing, & other techniques contribute towards a better understanding of the work and contributions of social economy organizations?
- Where do social economy organizations obtain the financing that they need?
- What do social economy organizations contribute toward financing the social economy?

Modeling & researching innovative, traditional, & IT-based communication and dissemination processes

- How can social economy actors best communicate?
- What can our Network team members contribute by developing & modeling processes and techniques?
- What can be gained from exploring technology as an equalizer vs. technology as a barrier?

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- Dr. Luc Thériault, Professor, Sociology, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, NB

SN2: Mobilization : Inclusion and Empowerment in the Social Economy
- Dr. Irené Novaczek, Director, Institute of Island Studies, University of Prince Edward Island, Charlottetown, PEI

SN3: Mobilization : Food Security and Community Economic Development
- Dr. Patricia Williams, Assistant Professor, Applied Human Nutrition, Mount Saint Vincent University, Halifax, NS

SN4: Mobilization : Natural Resources and Livelihood
- Dr. Omer Chouinard, Professeur, Sociologie, Université de Moncton, Moncton, NB

SN5: Financing and Measuring the Social Economy
- Dr. Sonja Novkovic, Associate Professor, Economics, and
- Dr. Judith Haiven, Associate Professor, Management, Saint Mary's University, Halifax, NS

SN6: Communication Practices and Tools
- Ms. Penelope Rowe, Chief Executive Officer, Community Services Council Newfoundland and Labrador, St. John's, NL and
- Dr. Ivan Emke, Associate Professor, Social/Cultural Studies, Sir Wilfred Grenfell College, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Corner Brook, NL

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