

CICC Strategic Dialogue on Climate Change Policy Research: Comments on Theme 1 – Cohabitation in governance

Professor Monica Gattinger, Director, Institute for Science, Society and Policy; Chair, Positive Energy, uOttawa

September 14 2020

POSITIVE ENERGY

CANADA'S ENERGY FUTURE IN AN
AGE OF CLIMATE CHANGE



uOttawa

Recap of Framing Document

Cohabitation in governance: new policy approaches?

- **Theme Framing:** 'Climate governance in Canada is complicated by the political and constitutional context in which policymaking takes place, which results in challenges to designing efficient cohabiting policies able to deliver when coordination or collaboration is not always ensured' (p.5)
- **Theme challenges:** disagreements over jurisdiction, parallel policies, regional politics/preferences, lack of coherence across topics/sectors/agencies, complex/neglected issues (including Indigenous governance)
- **Examples of questions:** frameworks for effectiveness/efficiency, benefits of collaboration, new policy approaches, cohabitation reality, transforming natural resources

Overview of Comments

Rename the challenge

- Transforming decision-making: institutional innovation

Go deeper

- Develop finer-grained approach to intergovt relations

Cast the net wider

- Include Indigenous and municipal governments
- Include implementation, notably at community level
- Include climate and energy imperatives
- Include regulation
- Include emerging political challenges to collaboration

Expand the research tent

- Grow the climate policy research community
- Use co-production models

Go Deeper on Intergovtla Relations

For example:

Figure 1: Spectrum of Intergovernmental Policy Relations and Approaches to Canadian Federalism

Conflict-----Independence-----Harmonization
|-----Parallelism-----|-----Coordination-----|-----Collaboration-----|
Competitive Federalism--- Classical Federalism --- Cooperative Fed'm --- Collaborative Fed'm

Gattinger, 2015

Cast the Net Wider

Include Indigenous and municipal governments

- Growing role, influence and authority in energy/climate decision-making
- Indigenous: 'nothing about us without us,' traditional knowledge, equity partnerships, environmental stewardship
- Municipal: community energy planning, distributed energy, closest to citizens

Include implementation, esp at community level

- From the What to the How of decision-making
- Community support pivotal for new infrastructure

Cast the Net Wider

Include climate and energy imperatives

- concerns over affordability, security, reliability, competitiveness, investment climate, etc., often challenge collaboration

Include regulation

- Many challenges will play out in regulatory system

Include emerging political challenges to collaboration

- polarization, partisan politics, misinformation, motivated reasoning, risk perception differences, declining/shifting trust
- untangle respective influence of these factors on willingness/durability of collaboration and decisions

Expand the Research Tent

Grow the climate policy research community

- In both disciplinary and thematic terms
 - ✓ political science, public administration, sociology, psychology, communications, administrative law, etc.
 - ✓ especially energy policy and regulation (security, reliability, geopolitics, etc.) but also federalism, Indigenous and polarization/partisanship

Use co-production models

- Work in genuine partnership with 'users' of the research to maximize relevance and traction (fed-prov-Indigenous-municipal governments, civil society, industry)