



# Tri-National Agricultural Accord

## Rural Development Workshop

# Overview of Canadian Provinces

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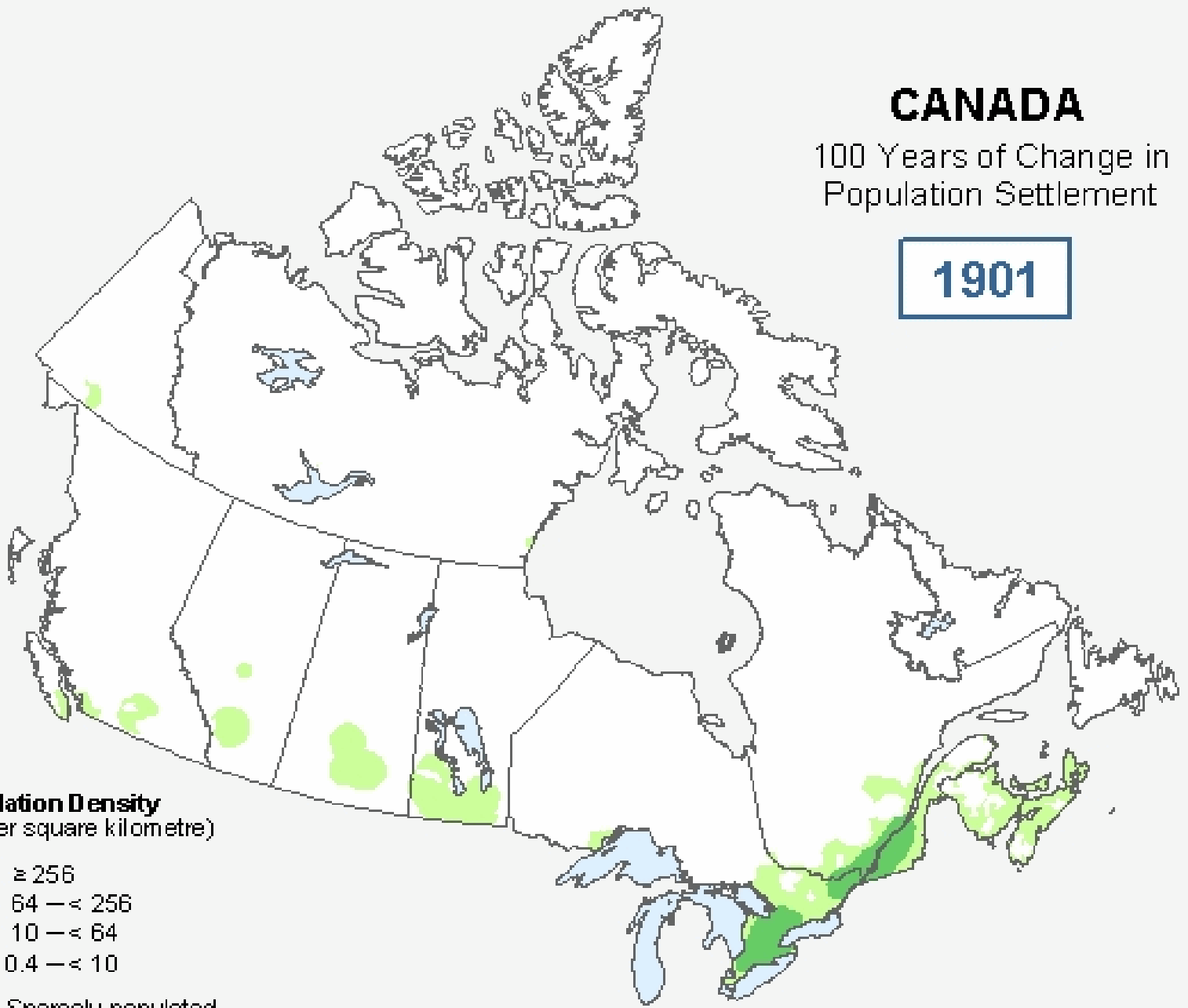
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# CANADA






100 Years of Change in  
Population Settlement


1901



### Population Density

(persons per square kilometre)

-   $\geq 256$
-   $64 - < 256$
-   $10 - < 64$
-   $0.4 - < 10$
-  Sparsely populated



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

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

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

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



## Rural Development: Definitions

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



# Rural Development: Strategy vs. Structure

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## Strategies:

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



# Rural Development: Strategy vs. Structure

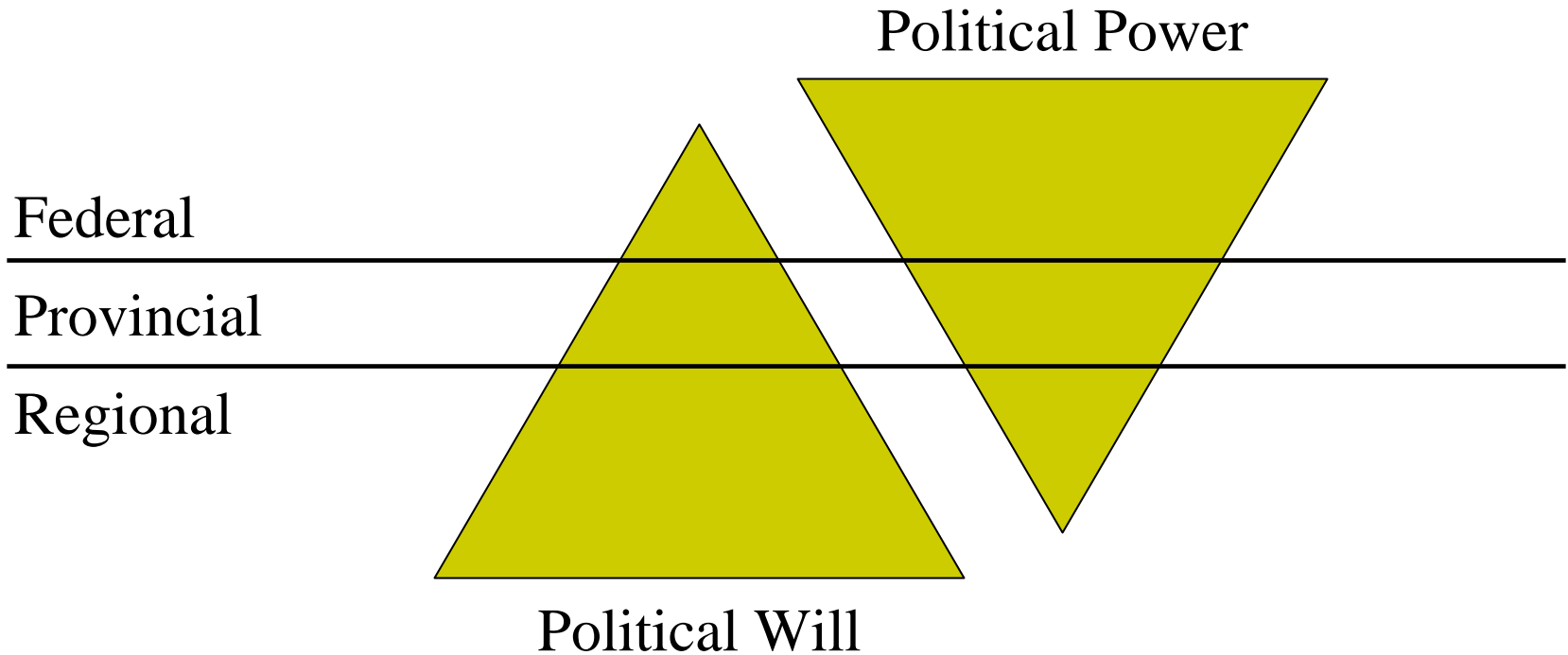
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## Structures:

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

# *Political Power* *vs. Political Will*

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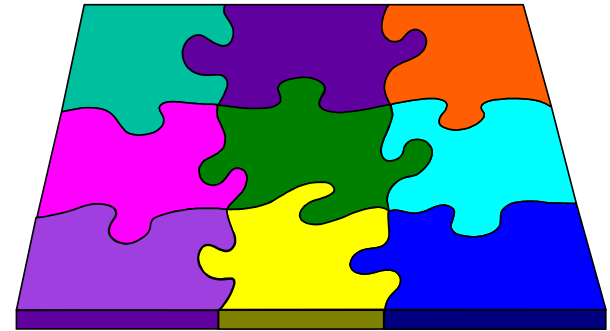




# *Organizational Structures for Local Development*

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



# Provincial Government Structures for Rural Development (1)

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Top-down:

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

# Provincial Government Structures for Rural Development (2)

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Bottom-up:

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

# Rural Development Strategies

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



# Rural Development Trends / Emerging Strategies

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



## Concluding Remarks

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