Louise Comeau

848 Route 616, Keswick Ridge, New Brunswick, E6L 1T3 | 506-238-0355 | louise27comeau@gmail.com

**Peer Reviewed PUBLICATIONS AND Grey Literature PAPERS**

Sherren, K., Beckley, T., Greenland-Smith, S., & Comeau, L. (2017 In Press). How provincial and local discourses aligned against the prospect of dam removal in New Brunswick, Canada. *Water Alternative, 10*(3).

Parkins, J. R., Beckley, T., Comeau, L., Stedman, R. C., Rollins, C. L., & Kessler, A. (2017). Can Distrust Enhance Public Engagement? Insights from a national survey on energy Iisues in Canada. *Society & Natural Resources*, 15. doi:10.1080/08941920.2017.1283076

Comeau, L. A. (2017). Healthy Water Healthy People: New Brunswickers’ concerns and attitudes about fresh water and preparedness for extreme weather events. Fredericton: Conservation Council of New Brunswick.

Comeau, L. A. (2017). *Carbon talk: Getting the frame right on carbon pricing*. Retrieved from University of New Brunswick, Fredericton.

Comeau, L. A. (2016). *Climate Action Plan for New Brunswick*. Fredericton: Conservation Council of New Brunswick.

Comeau, L. A. (2016). *Community Capacity to Adapt to Climate Change: Fredericton*. Fredericton: Conservation Council of New Brunswick

Comeau, L. A. (2015). *Canadian perspectives on climate change, energy and policy priorities for climate action and the Paris climate negotiations*. Ottawa: Climate Action Network – Réseau action climat.

Comeau, L. A. (2015). *How to make the case for climate solutions: Ontarians' views on carbon pricing and cap and trade*. Ottawa: Climate Action Network - Réseau action climat Canada.

Comeau, L. A., Parkins, J. R., Stedman, R. C., & Beckley, T. M. (2015). *Citizen Perspectives on Energy Issues in Canada: A National Survey of Energy Literacy and Energy Citizenship*. Edmonton: University of Alberta, Resource Economics and Environmental Sociology.

Comeau, L. A., Beckley, T. M., & Teitelbaum, S. (2015). *Assessing Community Capacity to Adapt to a Changing Climate: A “how to” Guide for Communities*. Fredericton: University of New Brunswick.

Gifford, R., & Comeau, L. A. (2011). Message framing influences perceived climate change competence, engagement, and behavioral intentions. *Global Environmental Change, 21*, 1301-1307.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, New Brunswick 2017, 2016

**Instructor**, Environmental Studies Climate Change 2023

Course covers the science, social/psychological/communications

and international, national and provincial policy

University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, New Brunswick 2012- 2017

**Co-Instructor**, Environment and Natural Resources 4973

6-day Intensive Fall Camp

Facilitate discussions, one-on-one mentorship and evaluate

student presentations

Royal Roads University, Victoria, British Columbia 2013, 2012

Co-Instructor, Online Environmental Ethics 429

Adapted existing syllabus, course structure, administered grades

University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, New Brunswick 2012, 2011

Teaching Assistant, Resource Management Issues,

Ethics and Communications 1001

Full responsibility for instruction in labs two of 13 weeks, marking, in-class support

University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, New Brunswick

Guest lecturer

Research Methods, Graduate: Ethics in Research 2017, 2016

Resource Management Issues, Ethics and Communications: panel 2016

Environmental Law: Undergraduate: Pathway to Paris 2016

Political Science: Undergraduate: Politics of Climate Change 2016

Keynote: FOREM Graduate Seminar 2016

Environmental Ethics 2206, 3233 2011, 2010

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

*Re-Imagining Canada’s Energy Landscape: 2011-2016*

*Understanding Energy Literacy and the Cultural Implications*

*of Energy Alternatives*

Funded by: SSHRC; $400,000

Principal Investigator: John Parkins, University of Alberta

Qualitative and quantitative assessment of carbon pricing narratives 2015-2017

Funded by: European Climate Foundation; Environmental Trust Fund

*Community Self-Assessment Tools for Positive Transformational Change* 2014-2016

Funded by: Environmental Trust Fund, $50,000

*Exploring the ethical orientations of environmental lifestyle 2009-2014*

*practitioners: A mixed-method study,* PhD research

Funded by: SSHRC, $105,000

Principal Investigator: Louise Comeau

*Effects of framing on Ontarians perceived competence 2008*

*to act on climate change*, Master’s thesis

Funded by: Louise Comeau

Principal Investigator; Louise Comeau

*National Climate Action Plan* 2007

Funded by: Oak Foundation, $50,000

Principal Investigator: Louise Comeau

**EDUCATION**

University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, New Brunswick 2009-2014

PhD Forestry and Environmental Management

Dissertation: *Exploring ethical orientations of environmental lifestyle practitioners:*

*A mixed-method study*

Royal Roads University, Victoria, British Columbia 2008

**MA Environmental Education and Communication**

Thesis: *Effects of framing on Ontarians perceived competence to act on climate change*

University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario 1996

Partial completion BA Environmental Studies: Geography

Ecology, Atmosphere

Centennial College, Toronto, Ontario 1982

**Diploma: Organizational Communications**

Honours

**AWARDS**

Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship: 2009-2012

Doctoral ($105,000)

University of New Brunswick President’s Tuition Award ($15,000) 2009-2012

**Recognition**

Lifetime Achievement Award Sustainable Buildings Canada 2015

Honorary Research Associate, UNB 2015

Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Medal for community service 2012

Queen’s Golden Jubilee Medal for community service 2002

Named by Maclean’s Magazine one of Canada’s 50 most 2003

influential people

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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| --- | --- |
| Director, Environment and Sustainable Development  Research Centre, University of New Brunswick  Fredericton, New Brunswick   * Climate Change mitigation and adaptation research   Focused on education, awareness and capacity building,  Research collaboration, as well as policy-related research  Covering mitigation and adaptation.  **Research Associate**, University of New Brunswick  Fredericton, New Brunswick   * At the University of New Brunswick, responsible for executing energy transition and climate change communications research projects and teaching.   Director, Climate Change and Energy Solutions, Conservation Council of New Brunswick  Fredericton, New Brunswick   * At the Conservation Council, responsible for research, policy development, education and developing social consensus toward solutions relating to climate action, including energy transition, electrification and impacts and adaptation.   Executive Director, Part-time, Climate Action Network Canada  Ottawa, Ontario; Fredericton, NB  Responsible for a national coalition of more than 90 organizations that brings labour, development, faith-based, and aboriginal groups together with the key national and provincial environmental organizations working on climate change. Duties include network-wide communication and policy analysis and coordination, international-national coordination relating to climate change negotiations, day-to-day financial management and fundraising.  Policy Analyst, Ontario Climate Secretariat  Province of Ontario | Present      2016-2017  2014-2016    2009 |
| Toronto, Ontario  Responsible for Privy Council Climate Change Secretariat coordination of climate policy relating to cap and trade carbon offsets and climate change adaptation; coordinated content and production of Ontario’s 2008 Climate Change Annual Report (Contract position pending start of PhD) updating Ontarians on progress toward implantation of the province’s climate action plan. Responsibilities required engaging with ministers and their political staff, as well as central agency and line department officials ranging from deputy ministers, assistant deputy ministers and directors to coordinate inter-departmental contributions to climate mitigation and adaptation policy and the climate change annual report. I managed interdepartmental committees to establish provincial carbon offset policy and to secure input and approval of the climate change annual report. I was responsible for executing cabinet direction establishing a stakeholder committee to make recommendations on provincial carbon offset policy. I contributed to finalizing Secretariat and line department cabinet submissions as required. I managed all aspects of the interdepartmental contributions to the content, editing, design, production, budgeting and release of the climate change annual report. | |
| Executive Director Public Outreach & Strategic Engagement, Climate Change Secretariat  Province of British Columbia | 2007-2008 |
| Victoria, British Columbia  Coordinated development of LiveSmart BC and Youth Alliance, including focus group and survey research to support program launch. Completed master’s thesis in period between ending this project and work at the Ontario Secretariat. The B.C. Climate Change Secretariat reported directly to Premier Gordon Campbell who chaired the Cabinet Climate Change Committee. The Secretariat coordinated line department submissions to cabinet on climate change and coordinated execution of cabinet related decisions relating to the province’s climate action plan. I presented to cabinet on public engagement related opportunities, coordinated development of early stage citizen engagement and behaviour change initiatives through inter-department engagement, coordination, and branding. Responsible for behaviour change research and non-governmental organization engagement. | |
| Director, Sage Climate Project, Sage Centre | 2004-2007 |
| Ottawa, Ontario  Developed evidence-based climate change action plan for Canada that formed the basis of a federal advocacy campaign. Plan proposals positively received by then Prime Minister Paul Martin and his team and were well represented in the 2005 federal budget. Climate change action plan included measures definition to support micro and macro-economic analysis. I developed a similar plan in 1997 in collaboration with the Climate Action Network (*Rational Energy Plan*). I also executed a climate change communications research program in support of Climate Action Network campaign execution that required significant and daily network coordination of non-government organizations, message development, management and execution and media background briefings. I facilitated international and domestic environment network co-ordination and collaboration in the lead up to and participation in the United Nation’s Eleventh Conference of the Parties Meeting on Climate Change held in 2005 in Montreal, Quebec. Climate change impacts research included coordination of a study summarizing the implications of two degrees global warming on the Athabasca River watershed. During the period with the Sage Centre I also executed part-time management and research contracts with Fuel Cells Canada, the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives and the International Institute for Sustainable Development.  Director, Centre for Sustainable Community Development;  Policy Analyst and  Director General, Policy, Advocacy, and Communications,  Federation of Canadian Municipalities 1998-2004  Ottawa, Ontario  Established the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) as a leader in sustainable community programming and as a leader on environmental and climate change policy, including on local level mitigation and adaptation. Environmental policy responsibilities included management of the Environmental Policy Committee comprised of municipal mayors and councillors, including keeping the committee apprised of emerging federal environmental issues affecting municipalities and communities, securing support for ratification of the Kyoto Protocol, annual approval and execution of the FCM environmental policy. Policy statements represented the annual work plan for staff. I coordinated environmental policy implementation with other FCM staff managing committees with policy and program overlap, particularly relating to municipal infrastructure. I was responsible for initiatives that saw the Partners for Climate Protection program grow from two staff and a handful of participating municipalities to a program supporting more than 100 participants. I established the biannual Sustainable Communities Conference that now attracts hundreds of participants based on a philosophy of peer teaching and supporting municipal staff and political champions; each conference set out to expose local politicians and their staff to leading edge thinking on sustainability and to establishing networks for ongoing learning and support. I established the Sustainable Community Awards to recognize staff and political courage in bringing sustainability thinking to community programs and policies. My team coordinated an annual Energy Mission to Europe to expose municipal politicians and staff to leading edge thinking, policy and projects relating to community energy systems and renewable energy. I raised funds from federal departments to execute these initiatives. Program support was enhanced with the successful FCM campaign, that I helped coordinate, to secure funds to finance municipal feasibility studies and green infrastructure projects. Under my tutelage, the Green Municipal Fund grew from $125 million to $250 million; I participated in securing an additional $100 million to support brownfields development. The Green Municipal Fund (now valued at $550 million) recently celebrated its 10th anniversary and continues to sustain itself as a revolving fund, to generate projects and to develop case studies to share learning across Canada and the world. As the first executive director of the Fund and the Centre for Sustainable Community Development that housed these initiatives, I take great pride in the fact these initiatives remain vibrant. At the Centre, I was responsible for 30 staff and a $10 million operating budget. My work with FCM ended with service as Director General of Policy, a position requiring coordination of all policy development, coordination and execution.  Campaign Director, Energy and Atmosphere,  Sierra Club of Canada 1992-1998  Ottawa, Ontario  Established the Sierra Club of Canada’s Energy and Atmosphere campaign, coordinated establishment and operation of the Canadian Climate Action Network, and raised more than $1 million to fund program initiatives, including citizen engagement and education programs. I participated in international climate negotiations extending from the Earth Summit in 1992 to the Eleventh Conference of the Parties meeting in Montreal in 2005. Participation at these events included participation on the Canadian delegation negotiating the Kyoto Protocol. I also coordinated domestic and international policy development, advocacy and media engagement, and public education initiatives on climate change for the Sierra Club of Canada and the Canadian arm of the Climate Action Network. I was an active participant in the International Climate Action Network, including serving on the Board of Directors. Publications included Canada’s first climate action plan itemizing options for achieving Kyoto level greenhouse gas reduction targets; climate change primers and policy briefs. | |

**BOARDS AND APPOINTMENTS**

Federal Expert Panel on Climate Change Adaptation and Resiliency 2017 to 2018

Panel of Environment and Sustainable Development

Advisors, Office of the Auditor General of Canada 2014 to 2017

Board of Directors Ontario Power Authority 2004-2007

Co-chair Climate Action Network – International 2004-2007

Board Tree Canada Foundation 2005-2007

Member of the Joint Public Advisory Committee to the

Commission for Environmental Co-operation established under the

North American Free Trade Agreement 1993-1995

**PRESENTATIONS, SPEECHES, DELEGATIONS**

North America Environment Education Conference 2017

CBC Political Panel on Climate Change 2016

Expert Presenter to the Select Committee on Climate Change 2016

Public Policy Forum Panel on Climate Change Presentation 2016

to Federal Finance Minister Bill Morneau

Member of the Canadian Delegation to the Paris Climate 2015

Negotiations

**LANGUAGES**

English