CHALLENGE

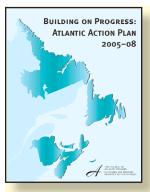
To provide quality and efficient public services, and grow a competitive regional economy across the Atlantic provinces.

SOLUTION

The second action plan of the Council of Atlantic Premiers: Building on Progress: Atlantic Action Plan 2005-2008.

RESULTS

To further strengthen regional ties and achieve even greater benefits from regional co-operation.



Building on Progress expands on the initiatives launched under the first action plan, Working Together for Atlantic Canada 2001-2003. Since the release of the action plan in June 2005, the four provinces have collaborated on a number of important fronts.

Examples include:

Energy: The Atlantic Energy Ministers' Forum has made steady progress in streamlining the regulatory environment and the ministers continue to advocate for regional co-operation on electricity, oil and gas, renewable energy and other energy initiatives.

Procurement: Provinces have developed and adopted a set of standard terms and conditions governing the submission and evaluation of vendor submissions to Atlantic government tender opportunities.

Harmonized Insurance: Provincial departments responsible for insurance are drafting legislation

and regulations of a *Maritime Harmonized Insurance Act*.

Environment: Atlantic environment ministers formed the Atlantic Council of Ministers of Environment to formalize the commitment to collaboration on key environment issues, such as a new approach to environmental sustainability and management.

Transportation:

The Harmonization Trucking Strategy is reducing red tape and business barriers to efficient truck transportation. Initiatives include harmonization of over-size loads, training requirements for escort vehicles, as well as the development of common enforcement practices and training.

QUOTE

"Greater Maritime and Atlantic co-operation is at the heart of our vision for a more competitive New Brunswick. It is based on the belief that our province is stronger when we work together with our neighbours in Atlantic Canada ..."

Hon. Bernard LordPremier of New Brunswick

Business & Government working together to cut red tape



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