



Advisory Council on Coastal Resilience Update

The advisory board is led by Co-Chairs Mayor Brian Saunderson (Collingwood, ON) and Mayor Jim Carruthers (Traverse City, MI) and Vice-Chairs Mayor Gordon Ringberg (Bayfield, WI) and Mayor Sandra Easton (Lincoln, ON). The council is comprised of 15 elected officials, supported by an additional 20 stakeholders, government officials, academic, and industry leaders. The first official meeting occurred on February 9.

The meeting covered:

- The project team members supporting the Advisory Council
- Adoption of the Advisory Council charter
- Identifying priorities of the Advisory Council members
- Agreeing to a working schedule to ensure we achieve outcomes with tangible products

Some of the key themes discussed at the Advisory Council included:

- A realization that there is not enough data from across the region to guide local decision makers responsible for protecting our shorelines
- Without standardized data, there will be challenges in developing local solutions
- Intergovernmental coordination and cooperation is needed
- Knowledge and skill transfer combined with identifying “best practices” need to be shared among local government officials to ensure cost-effective solutions
- Local governments do not have the fiscal capacity to address economic and environmental issues alone