

Back to the Future

These days there is lots of talk of resettlement from Small Coastal Communities or SCCs scattered throughout Newfoundland to the Greater Town Areas or GTAs of Newfoundland.

Actually, it would be better to do resettlement in reverse, from GTAs to SCCs. Years ago, life in an SCC was sustained by the Fishery. What could sustain it now?

Many tasks these days require just a good computer and good internet service. Good internet service is becoming common place. This makes SCCs very good places for tasks such as engineering design and innovation.

This could provide many high paying jobs locally and support small scale manufacturing locally. Service providers could add many more jobs locally.

Schools could employ "jack of all trades" teachers, like in years gone by. Water and sewer could employ wells and septic tanks, like in years gone by. A remote SCC could be supplied by Schooners, pushed by sails, like in years gone by.

Most vegetables could be grown locally. Meat supply from farm animals could be augmented by moose and other game. Small hydro or energy from the ocean could power the SCC.

There could be a central health clinic for a group of SCCs. This could be manned by local volunteers. The clinic could provide emergency medications for conditions like strokes and appendicitis. Transfer to a GTA would be a last resort.

SCCs could pay for most of their services. They would have the tax base to do so. They would not rely heavily on GTAs. SCCs could bring a lot of young Newfoundlanders back home. An SCC would be a great place to raise a family.

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