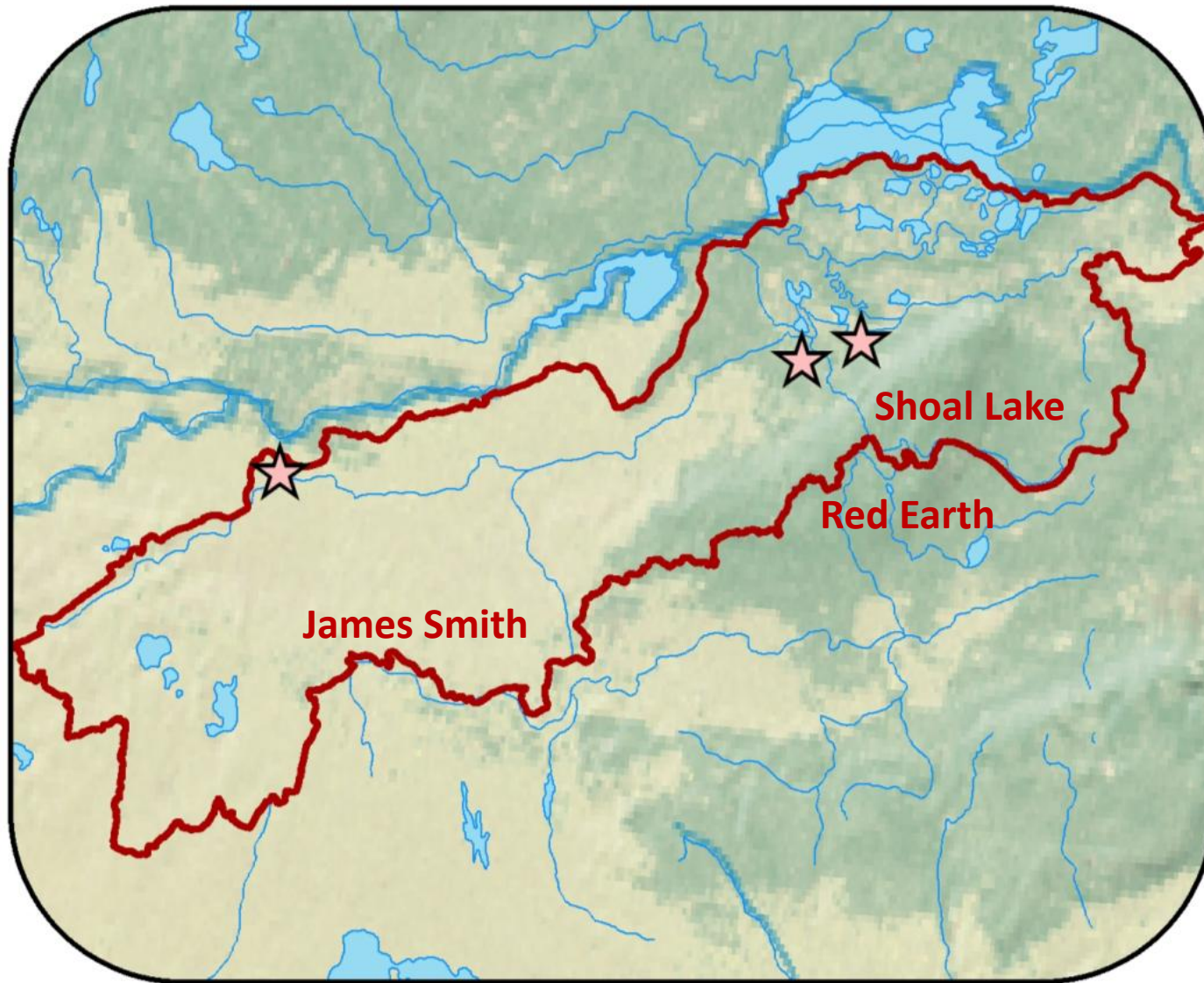


Extreme events preparedness planning in First Nations communities in Canada

Jeremy Pittman

Saskatchewan Watershed Authority



Objectives:

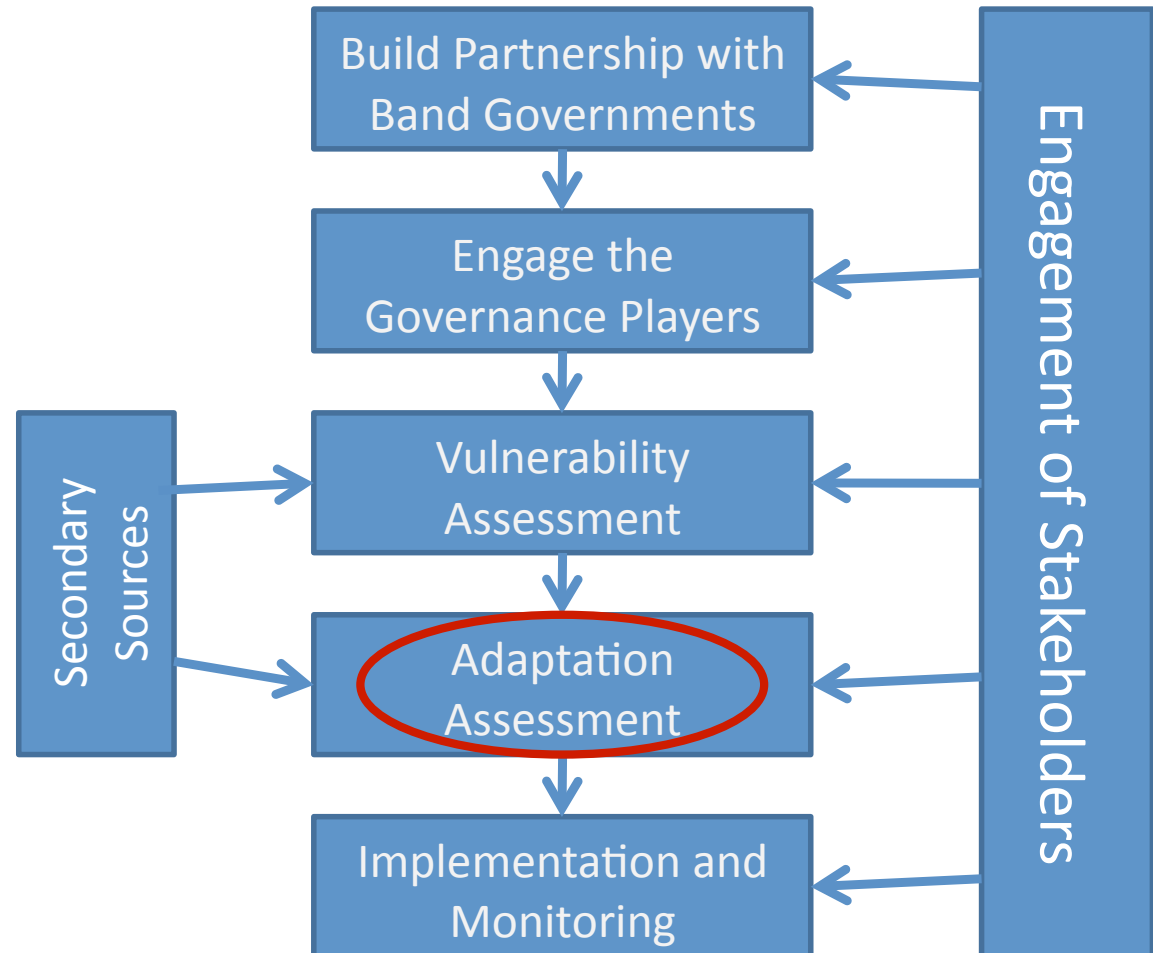
- Assess vulnerability
- Obtain Elders' guidance
- Pursue preparedness planning

Stakeholder Engagement

- Guided interviews
- Elders circles
- Focus groups
- Participatory mapping

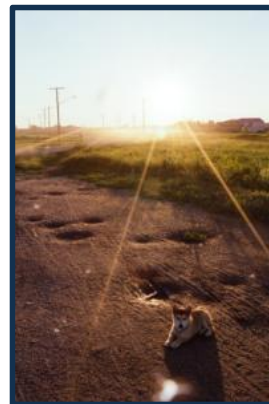
Secondary Sources

- Climate and streamflow observation records
- Climate change scenarios



Key outputs to date

Objective	Tangible
Understand vulnerability to extreme events	Documented exposures and adaptive capacities
Obtain Elders' guidance	Elders circle videos



Challenges and opportunities

- **Main challenge:**

- Working towards respectful coexistence in the current socio-political context

- **Main opportunity:**

- Strengthening networks and fostering relationships for knowledge and information sharing leading to appropriate and effective actions on-the-ground

Adaptation or adjustment?

- **A bit of both:** thinking long-term while coping in the short-term

Issue	Already exposed?	Potential or applied coping strategy
Water quality	Yes	Source water protection*, upgrade treatment facility
Water quantity	Yes	Water conservation, match quality & use*, monitoring
Flooding	Yes	Preparedness planning*, infrastructure development
Drought	Not recently	Preparedness planning*, mainstreaming*

Note: the nature of the issues and strategies are different between communities; they are only summarized here.

*strategies linked most closely with Indigenous knowledge

Acknowledgements

The Elders who participated in this project

The individuals who were interviewed

The Chiefs and band council members

The communities of James Smith, Red Earth and Shoal Lake

Wilbert Head, Bill and Maureen Marion, Vincent Young

Willie Ermine, Phyllis Flett, Edgar Cook

Prairie Regional Adaptation Collaborative

Natural Resources Canada

Prince Albert Grand Council

Saskatchewan Watershed Authority

Saskatchewan Emergency Management Organization

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

Thank you!