

Newfoundland seems to have found the best of both worlds. People can live in a highly decentralized pattern, and enjoy the benefits of working and shopping in a centralized pattern. At the same time they have available and use effectively, those services which can only be provided in substantial towns or small cities -- hospital services, secondary and post secondary education, shopping for large household items and style goods, repair of more complex motor vehicles and machinery and so on. This combination of decentralized living and more centralized economic activity seems to be quite attractive both socially and economically. When we identify this pattern as an element of strength in the Newfoundland economy, we are taking a position that is much different from the much hated resettlement program in Newfoundland which began in the 1950s and intensified in the 1960s. That program required that families be uprooted and relocated. By contrast, we propose that Newfoundlanders continue to live in the homes they currently occupy.

Oil and Gas Regimes

There are important lessons to be learned with respect to the oil and gas regimes. First, a complex set of factors -- prices, costs, royalties, taxation, institutional forms, and so on -- can produce widely differing results in the development and in the sharing of the benefits among the provincial governments, the federal government and the producers. At the moment there is very considerable uncertainty about the outcome. With respect to the