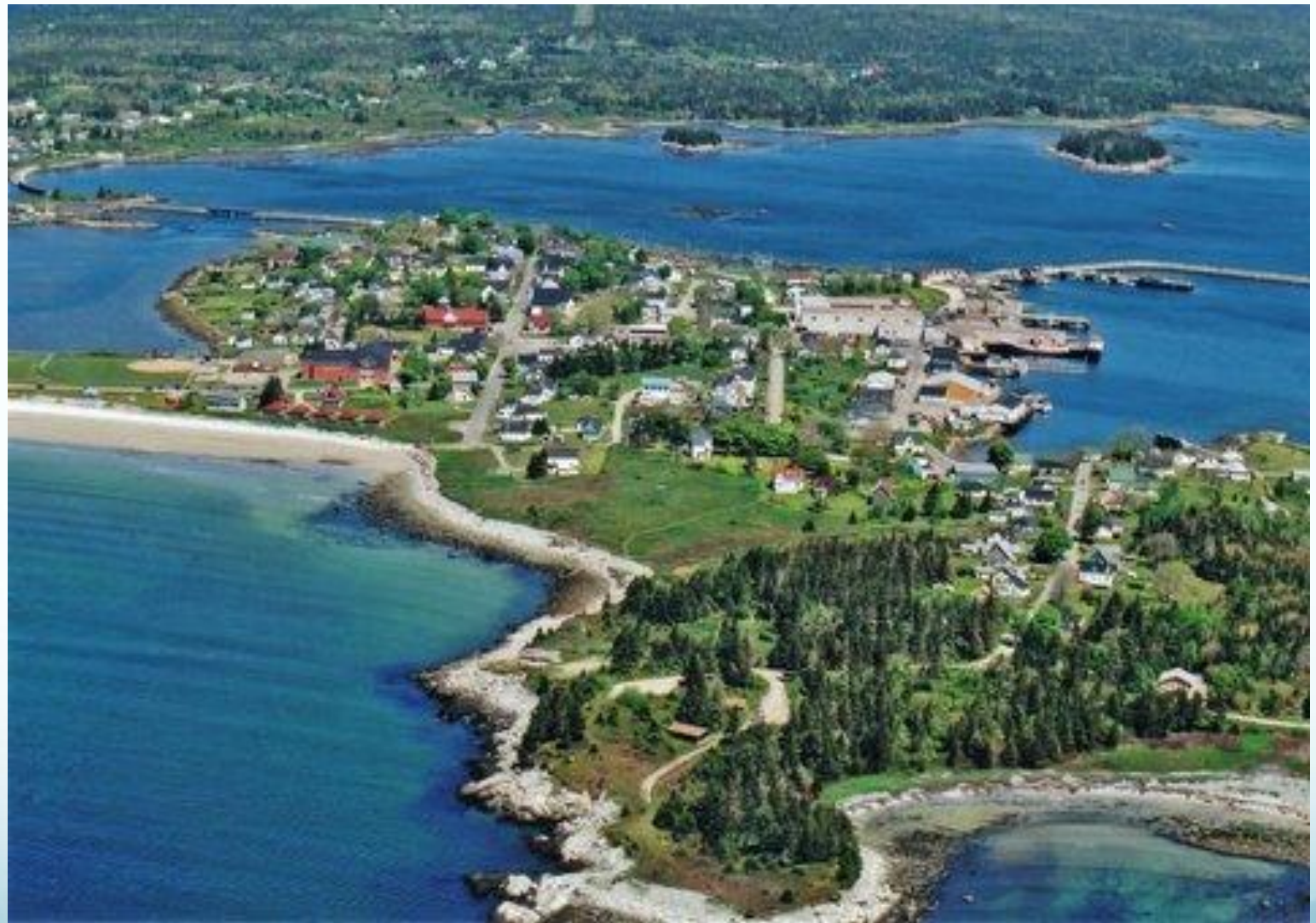


# Engagement and Participatory Governance

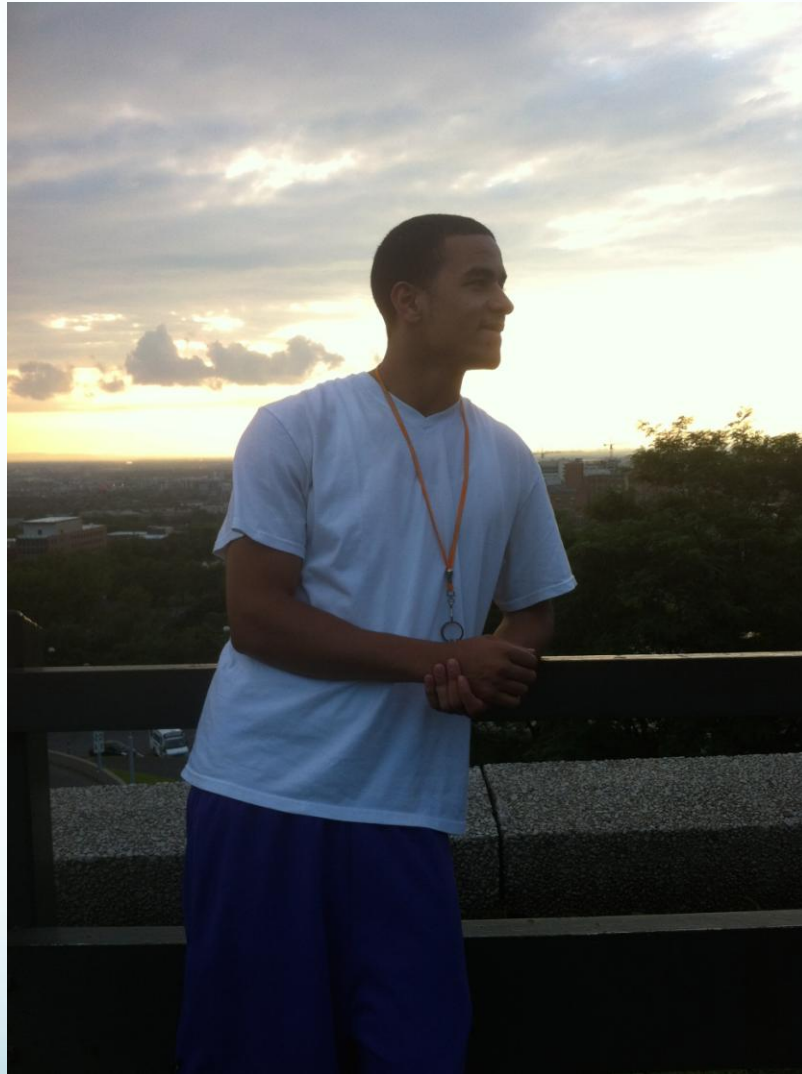
Dayle Eshelby  
Councilor, Town of Lockeport











A power greater than me,  
Emiliano's virtues,  
A tad of my influence  
and  
the hand of fate

Should have:

Invested more time and  
effort in the process

Encouraged him to be  
more actively engaged



Do you want to leave  
running a municipality to:  
Whoever can best talk you  
into or out of something?  
Some force greater than us?

Best way to run a  
municipal unit:

**INVEST IN THE PROCESS**

The delightful and painful,  
the emotionally and  
physically taxing and the  
**rewarding process of**

# **PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE**







# FoodARC

research inspiring change



<http://foodarc.ca/project-pages/ourlobster-ourcommunities/>

**Our Lobster,  
Our Communities**



**Engagement is an irresistible force,  
the task is to adapt to it**

**Participatory forms do not come  
easily**

**When 'designed' they require  
active strategies to keep them going**



# Create conditions for:

- Making choices
- Setting priorities
- Developing common strategies
- Clarifying purpose
- Consulting the public
- Managing expectations
- Communicating clearly
- Establishing trust
- Getting into the field

**Engagement** is understanding where people are coming from and making sure they know which of their concerns might (or might not) be affected as a result of participation



govtech.com:

# **Five Ways to Improve Citizen Engagement Initiatives**

1 .Provide an easy-to-use innovation and engagement platform - empowerment and engagement should be easy

2. Empower citizens- Give away authority and power in the decision-making process

3. A comprehensive communications strategy to frequently reach out to citizens via all means possible



4. Provide incentives by determining what motivates and put that motivation to work



**5. Ensure sufficient staffing, partners, and resources and to move and track citizen engagement initiatives**



- Collect and share clear information.
- Talk to everyone for the broader picture.
- Write a summary, inform, ask for engagement, “frame” future engagement.
- Clarify engagement issues and questions for future pays-offs.
- Ask engagement stakeholders to comments on initial plans.
- Use key questions, a project timeline and identify activities to answer them.
- Go where the people are with technology and in person.



Calgary.cbcnews.ca  
www.saine.co.za  
Crowdsourc.org



**Please encourage your citizens and municipal unit to be more actively engaged and participatory!**

