



NABCI-Canada Council Teleconference Meeting

Monday 29 May, 2017 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm (Eastern)

Primary Meeting Objectives	
1) Council is informed of the consultation results	
2) Decision is reached regarding NABCI-Canada's new 3-4 roles and associated functions that will guide its strategic direction	
3) Decision is reached regarding NABCI-Canada's membership composition	
1) NABCI-Canada Terms of Reference (for reference only) – most up to date version is from 2008	 NABCI Oct 2008 - 12D - NABCI ToR Upc
2) Draft vision statement on the conservation of birds for the next century presented at the Trilateral meeting	 Vision Statement - Trilateral Final revisec
3) Presentation on the consultation results	 Consultation_results. pptx



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Time	Item	Lead	Documents
1:00pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome 2. NABCI-Canada Chair Update 	Bob McLean	<i>May 29 Meeting Agenda.docx</i>
1:10pm – 1:25pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Update from the Migratory Birds Table of the Trilateral Committee for Wildlife and Ecosystem Conservation and Management meeting <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Vision for next century of bird conservation b. Priorities at Migratory Birds Table 4. Update on the State of Canada’s Birds next report <p>Preferred outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council has international context for NABCI-Canada program - Identify any resulting action items for NABCI-Canada 	Veronica Aponte (replacing Charles Francis)	<i>Vision Statement – Trilateral Final revised.pdf</i>
1:25pm – 2:25pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. NABCI-Canada Consultation Results <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. NABCI-Canada roles and functions 6. NABCI-Canada membership models and subcommittees <p>Preferred outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council is informed of the consultation results - Discussion of results and what they mean for NABCI-Canada’s direction - Council provides feedback on draft proposed roles/functions - Decisions regarding NABCI’s roles and functions, and membership 	Veronica Aponte	<i>Consultation_results.pptx</i>
2:25pm – 2:40pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. NABCI-Canada website <p>Preferred outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Secure financial support for the revamping of the website 	Veronica Aponte	
2:40pm – 3:00pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Timing of face to face meeting in the fall 9. Round table <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. NABCI-Canada attendance at the 2018 International Ornithological Conference 10. Summary of action items and decisions 	Bob McLean/Steven Price	

RECORD OF DECISIONS

NABCI-Canada Council Teleconference Meeting (May 29, 2017)

Lead	Item	Status
	ACTONS	
Council	NABCI-Canada Council members to provide endorsement and/or comments on the revised Vision statement by end of week (June 16, 2017). Nil response will be considered endorsement.	COMPLETE
NABCI-Canada Coordinator	NABCI-Canada Coordinator will partially revise the Terms of Reference and clarify governance links with other organizations.	IN PROGRESS
Executives and NABCI-Canada Coordinator	NABCI-Canada Coordinator will work with Executive to develop priority areas and actions for presentation at the next teleconference.	COMPLETE
NABCI-Canada Coordinator	NABCI-Canada Coordinator will develop a formal project proposal detailing the website work and cost required and will provide it to Council at next teleconference.	COMPLETE
	DECISIONS	
	General consensus on the 4 proposed roles (Coordinate, Communicate, Track Bird Conservation and Influence Policy).	COMPLETE
	Executive will meet in mid-June. (meeting occurred in August)	COMPLETE
	NABCI-Canada Council to determine priority areas and actions before expanding current membership.	COMPLETE
	NABCI-Canada Council will have a teleconference late September/early October working towards the face-to-face meeting in November 2017.	COMPLETE
	The role for NABCI-Canada at the 2018 International Ornithological Conference will be discussed during the next teleconference call.	COMPLETE

Overview of the Responses to the Consultation Questionnaire

Presentation for the NABCI-Canada Council

Prepared by Veronica Aponte – Interim NABCI-Canada
Coordinator

May 29, 2017



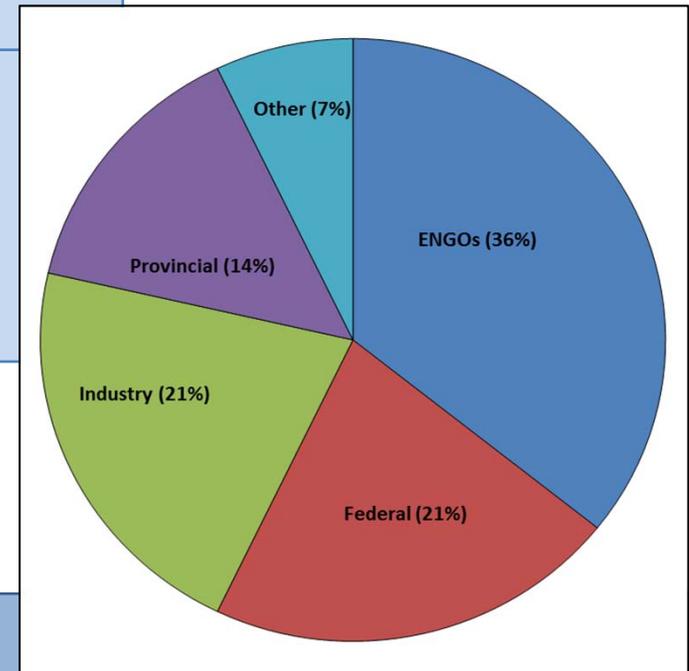
Outline



- Response statistics
- Roles of NABCI-Canada
- Comments on the four roles chosen
- The best and the worst of NABCI-Canada
- How member organizations can contribute
- How NABCI-Canada should contribute to bird conservation
- Miscellaneous comments
- Next steps

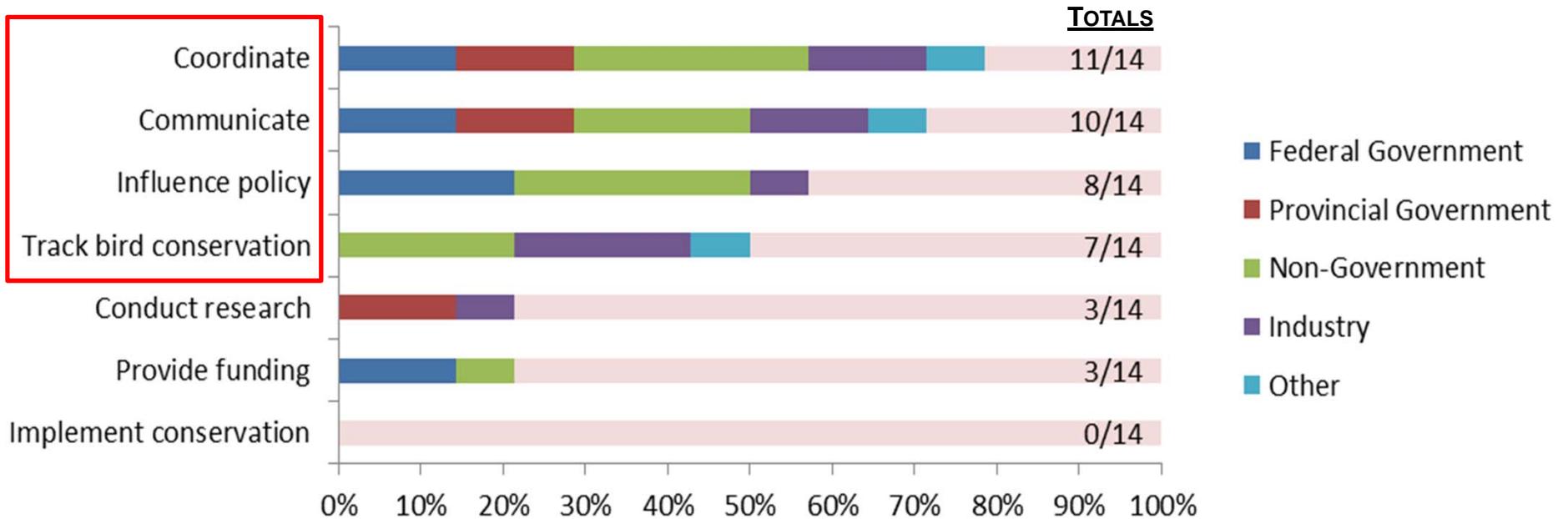
Response statistics

Timing of consultation	January and February 2017
Number of respondents	14 out of 31 responded 45% response rate 11 out 14 agreed to follow up phone interviews
List of respondents	ENGOs: 5 out of 8 Federal: 3 out of 5 Industry: 3 out of 4 Provincial: 2 out of 13 Other: 1 out of 1



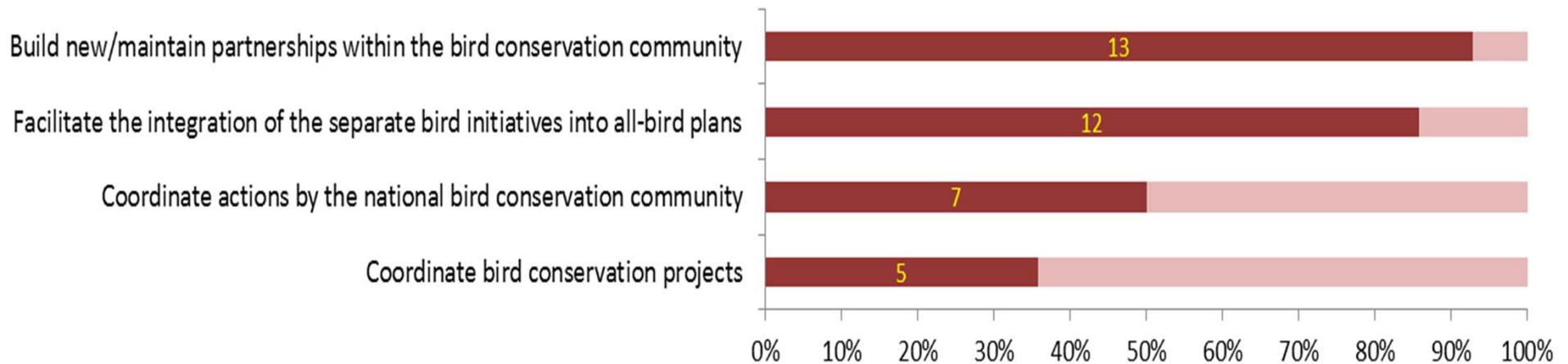
Roles of NABCI-Canada

Roles of NABCI-Canada



Coordinate

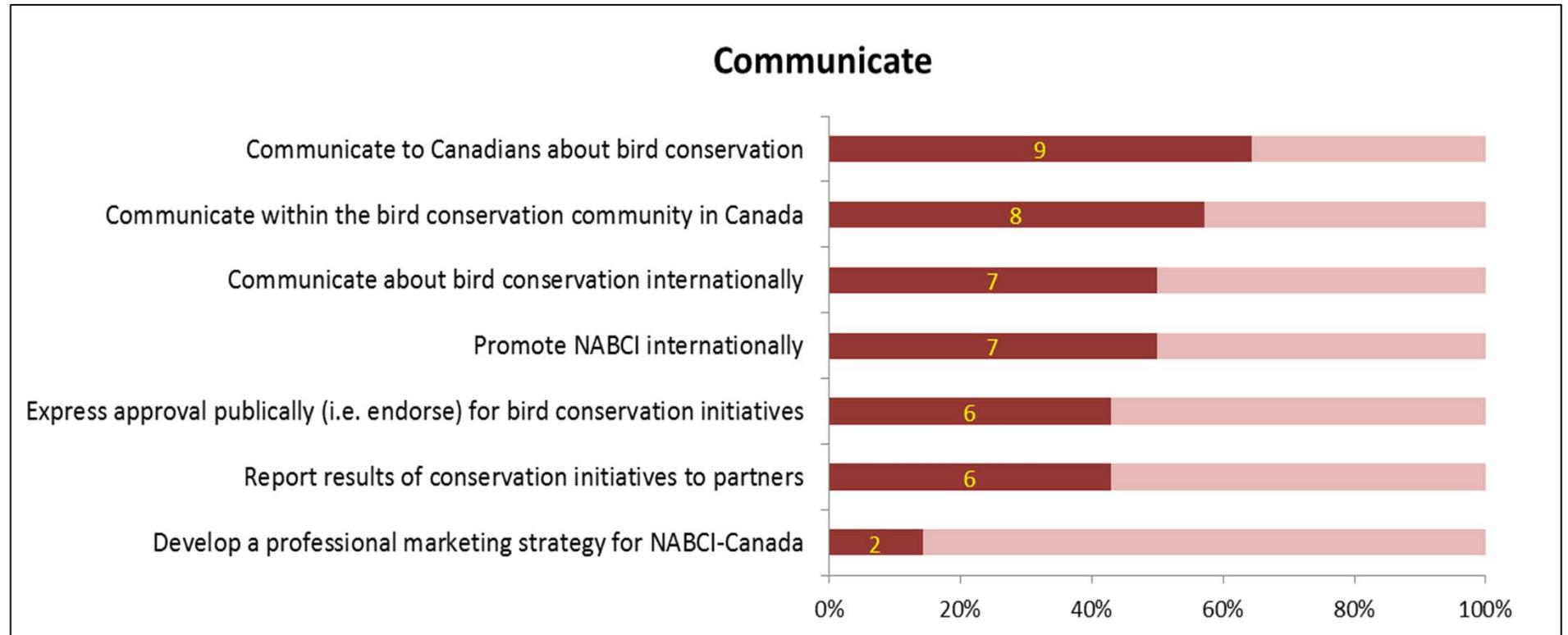
- **Definition:** bring the different elements of a complex activity or organization into a relationship that will ensure efficiency or harmony.
-



Comments on “coordinate”

- “There isn’t very **good integration between bird planning and other ecosystem efforts** such as Ecosystem Status and Trends, and Biodiversity Plan. The lack of synergy is because bird conservation is not the central focus for ecologists, despite the fact that birds cover all types of habitats”
- “NABCI needs to be vertically **integrated**”
- “NABCI should work to bring **partners together** and **promote projects**”
- “The **secretariat should be jointly funded** by the partners and should be governed independently of any one partner”

Communicate



Comments on “communicate”

- “The **public** deserves to know what the status of birds is”
- “NABCI should communicate to the general **public** and make itself and bird conservation more **mainstream** to all through media platforms”
- “NABCI is a forum that can **amplify the bird conservation voice** which is often not heard”
- “NABCI could have an important role in **disseminating information** among partners and stakeholders”
- “The **website** needs more information”
- “It would be good to have a **reference list of funding programs** that are available for bird conservation projects on the NABCI website”

Influence policy

Influence Policy

Promote operating practices/Beneficial Management Practices of industry

7

Influence policy that affects important bird habitat in Canada

7

Guide policy internationally that affect birds

6

Guide actions that contribute to bird conservation in Canada

6

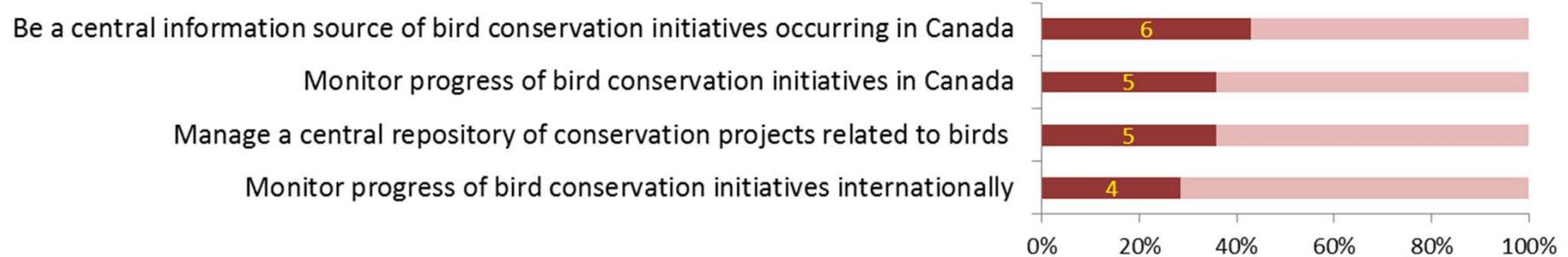
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Comments on “influence policy”

- “NABCI can produce high level **products** which can influence priorities and influence work on the ground”
- “NABCI could create a **policy round table** with all non-government members and have government members sitting as ex-officio”
- “NABCI should **promote** better conservation practices”

Track bird conservation

Track Bird Conservation



Comments on “track bird conservation”

- “NABCI should **share information** about what the different partners are doing”
- “**Priorities** have been developed; now NABCI needs to **track progress** that has been made towards the goals that have been set”

MIGRATORY BIRD JOINT VENTURES SHOWCASE PARTNER WORK



Migratory Bird Joint Ventures

Joint Ventures work together to build a healthy world for birds, other wildlife, and people. As we celebrate the 30th Anniversary of this model for international collaboration in 2017, joint Ventures look ahead to the next thirty years and beyond of building strong, effective partnerships for bird and habitat conservation. See below for some of our recent accomplishments. Check out the full gallery of Joint Venture images.

Pacific Birds Habitat Joint Venture

TILLAMOOK BAY ESTUARY PROJECT
Five hundred acres of tidal wetlands were recently restored in a major multi-partner project in Tillamook Bay, Oregon. The

9 Northern Great Plains Joint Venture
10 Oaks and Prairies Joint Venture
11 Pacific Birds Habitat Joint Venture
12 Playa Lakes Joint Venture
13 Prairie Pothole Joint Venture
14 Rainwater Basin Joint Venture
15 Rio Grande Joint Venture
16 Sea Duck Jr.

Migratory Bird Joint Ventures across the U.S. are celebrating conservation successes! The Joint Venture model for collaborative, on-the-ground habitat conservation was established 30 years ago and has been enormously successful in conserving crucial habitat for migratory birds and other wildlife species. See some recent partner projects in the [new story map](#) from Migratory Bird Joint Ventures.

What have you liked **MOST** about NABCI-Canada?

- “The **products** have been a strong point about NABCI”
- “NABCI has set **priorities** at the higher level so that local partners understand how their work fits in the bigger picture”
- “NABCI provides the opportunity to have a **national dialogue** about bird conservation between industry, government and the ENGO community”
- “NABCI’s role in **raising awareness** of the value of bird conservation at the tri-national level”

What have you liked **LEAST** about NABCI-Canada?

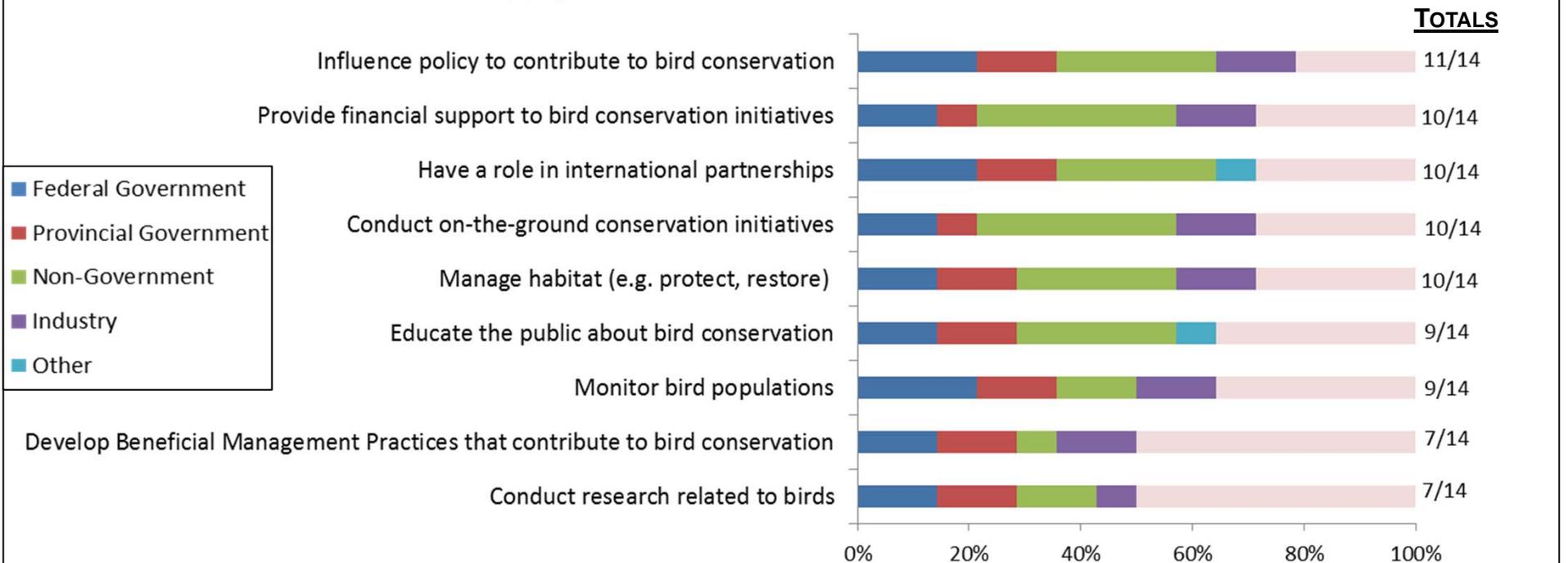
- “**Federal dominance** on meeting agendas and discussion”
- “The meeting agendas were **vague** and lacking depth”
- “The **balance has been off** at the meetings because the private sector is not bringing much to the table”
- “Interest in NABCI likely waned due to a **lack of focus/relevance** and perhaps an expectation of financial resources by partners”
- “Even those on the council **do not really understand the NABCI vision** and the possibilities this partnership offers”

How can NABCI-Canada add more value to *bird conservation*?

- “NABCI should create **dedicated tasks** for partners to strive to achieve; NABCI should create **themed subcommittees** to undertake certain projects and initiatives”
- “NABCI should have **dedicated funds**”
- “NABCI should convert the BCR strategies into meaningful **bird conservation actions**”
- “The key in this renewal phase will be to **re-engage relevant partners** with a clear understanding of how they would be woven into NABCI’s governance”
- “NABCI should choose a **mandate that is realistic** with the resources available”

How do you see your organization helping NABCI-Canada to deliver *bird conservation* in Canada?

Question 3. How do you see your organization helping NABCI-Canada to deliver *bird conservation* in Canada? Please select all that apply.



How can NABCI-Canada help your organization reach its conservation objectives?

- “By coordinating different groups to reach a common goal”
- “By facilitating partnerships and conservation initiatives”
- “By having a strong secretariat”

Coordinate

- “By endorsing BMPs”

Policy

- “By developing a central repository of bird conservation information in order to integrate optimal strategies for conservation”
- “By providing information on the conservation needs in Canada for various bird species”
- “By continuing to develop high level products”

Track and Communicate

Other comments from respondents

- “NABCI should set a nationally consistent **standard** for collecting and using monitoring information”
- “NABCI should consider **social science** research as an important element of bird conservation”
- “There is a big capacity gap in **Mexico** and unless that issue is resolved, what Canada and the US do will not be enough. Building capacity in Mexico should be a priority for Canada and the US”

Other comments from respondents

- “NABCI should include **academic institutions** from the west and east that are leaders in bird research”
- “One voice that has been absent at the NABCI table is that of **Indigenous people** – it’s a different perspective that needs to be a part of the partnerships, particularly because the land in some Indigenous owned lands are protected”
- “In the U.S., the USDA plays a big role, whereas in Canada it is challenging to get Agriculture Canada to NABCI meetings and currently we only have the cattlemen’s association as part of NABCI. **Agriculture and Agri-food Canada** does not see conservation as their role, despite the fact that grassland birds are in decline and that private landowners are the major owners and managers of grasslands in Canada”

Turning feedback into positive change

- Ensure that meetings/discussions are a true reflection of a partnership and are not federally dominated
- Improve our communications skills
- Maintain momentum and engagement of partners
- Continue to produce high quality state of the birds products
- Set realistic and establish clear roles and objectives that all partners can rally around and work towards in a coordinated and unified manner

Draft proposed roles and functions

1. Coordinate, NABCI-Canada will:

- Offer guidance on bird conservation in Canada
- Facilitate partnerships between governments, industry and ENGOS
- Integrate the separate bird initiatives
- Coordinate bird conservation at the national and international level to ensure that it is efficient and harmonious

2. Communicate, NABCI-Canada will:

- Use various media platforms to communicate about the state of bird conservation and what is being done for birds to the bird conservation community and the general public, at the national scale international and

3. Track Bird Conservation, NABCI-Canada will:

- Be a central repository of information and resources on bird conservation
- Track progress on bird conservation actions at the national level

4. Influence Policy, NABCI-Canada will:

- Promote BMPs
- Influence policy that affects birds in Canada and/or internationally

Follow up discussion

- Given these proposed roles and functions:
 - Should we make changes to the current membership model?
- Should we create subcommittees?
 - If so, which ones do we start with?
 - What will their membership look like (e.g. ex-officio members)?
- Should we invest in revamping the website?
 - If so, what content do we want on it given our “communication” role?

Next Steps

- Based on our discussion today, on decisions made and the comments provided in the questionnaire, draft the new ToR and strategic/action plan for the next 5 years
- Have a face-to-face meeting in the fall to decide on the topics to focus on

ANNEX

Current NABCI-Canada Council

Federal Government	CWS – HQ and regional directors
Provincial Government	Provincial and Territorial wildlife directors
Joint Ventures	Habitat Joint Venture representatives
ENGOS	Bird Studies Canada Nature Conservancy of Canada Ducks Unlimited Canada Wildlife Habitat Canada Nature Canada
Industry	Canadian Electricity Association Mining Association of Canada Forest Products Association of Canada Canadian Cattlemen’s Association
Ex-Officio	AFWA; NABCI coordinator

Conduct Research

Conduct Research

Total:3/14

Undertake periodic status assessments, at a North American scale, of all North American species



Conduct research on threats to birds in Canada

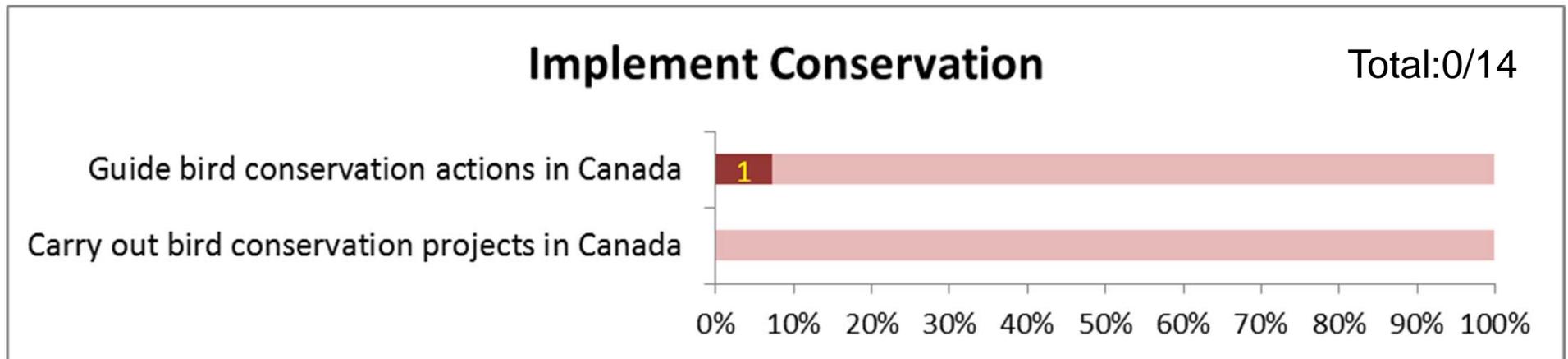


Conduct social science research



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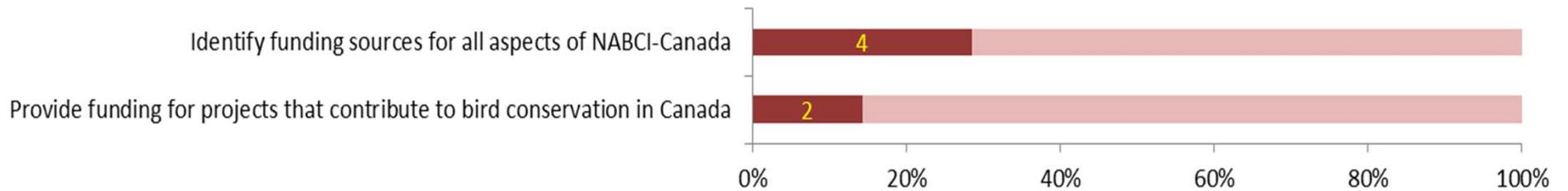
Implement Conservation



Provide Funding

Provide Funding

Total:3/14



In Favor of “Provide Funding”

- NABCI is the poor cousin of NAWMP and NAWCC
- Establishing ways to finance projects is essential
- NABCI could create a Canadian fund, for instance the “Avian Conservation Foundation” and approach donors to contribute to it
- NABCI could have a similar program as NAWCA with a matching fund system

Against “Provide Funding”

- “Provide” is not the right word: NABCI should *“facilitate”* the development of funds
- NABCI as an entity should not become a competitor for conservation funding
- The Canadian government should have a pot of money to support the work
- Similar to being a central information source for bird conservation, perhaps NABCI-Canada could maintain a database of external funding sources