

# Factors Influencing Energy Transition in a Local Community – A Case Study of Hinton

## Alberta

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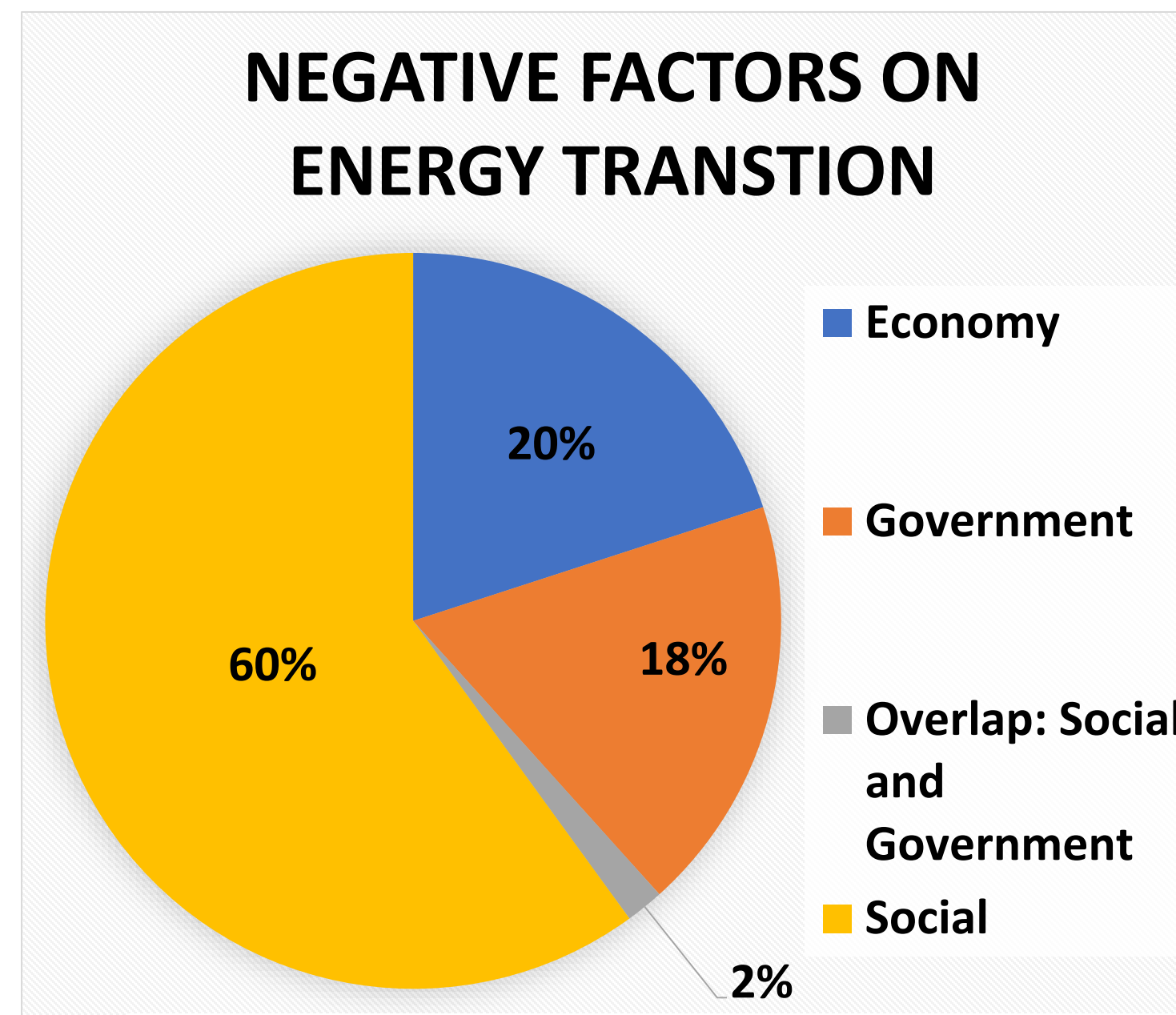
### Introduction

- Canada has experienced an increase in the frequency of extreme weather events in recent times. Energy transition offers a potential solution to mitigating these climatic effects.
- This research sought to investigate factors influencing energy transition in a local community by conducting a case study of Hinton, Alberta.
- The research also sought to compare community sentiments observed in this study to the communication and transition policy recommendations of the Alberta Narrative Project (ANP).

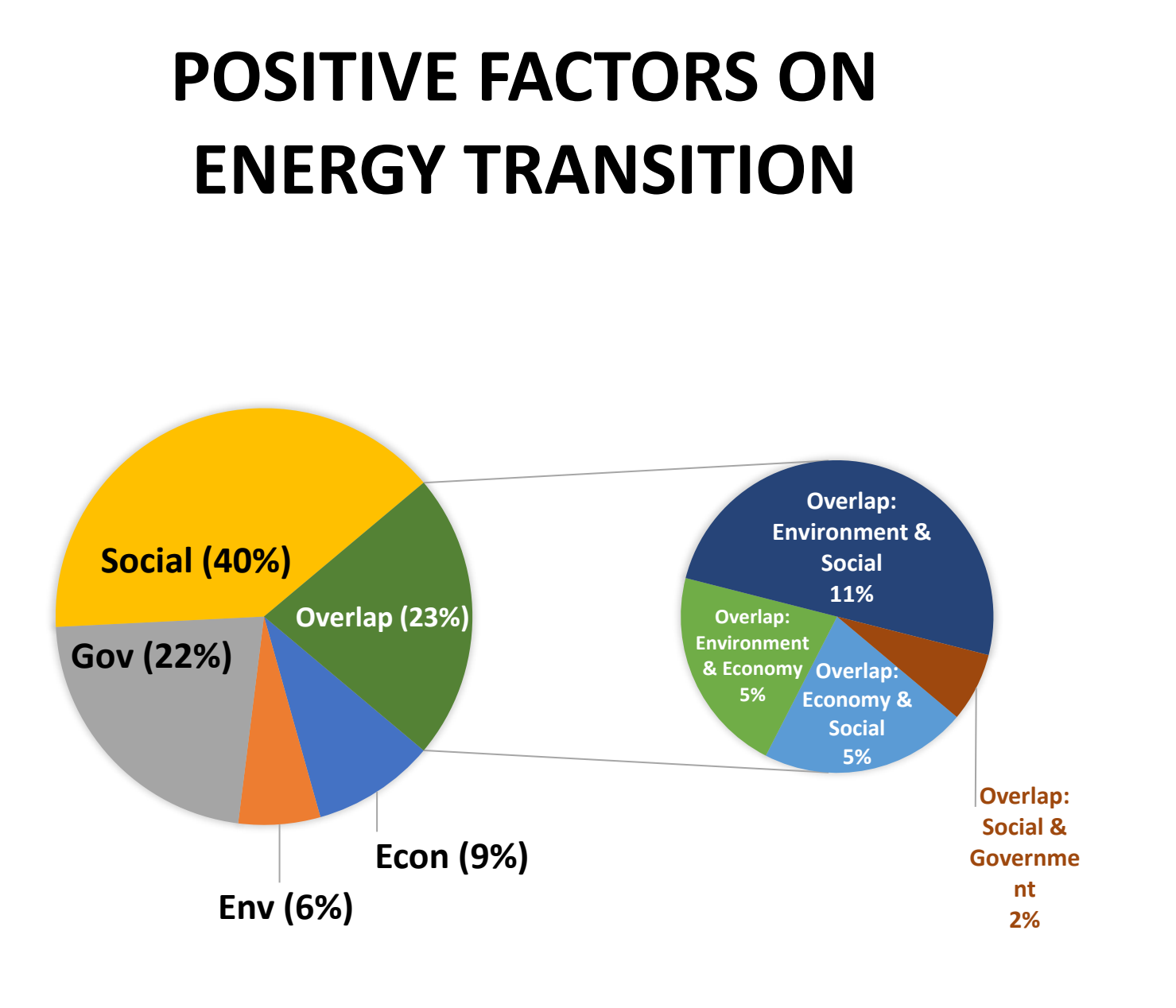


### Results

- Negative factors on energy transition comprised 32% of all coded quotes



- Positive factors on energy transition comprised 68% of all coded quotes



### Results Cont. – ANP Recommendations

Transition Policy Recommendations	Energy Communication Recommendations
Focus on overall diversification, not just one centered on the oil and gas industry.	Communication language should be built around people's values and identity, focusing and highlighting common grounds and values from the beginning.
Transition should build upon Alberta strengths and could also be seen as a steady "rebuilding, restructuring, evolving, etc." towards something new, not away from something old.	The message should be delivered from trusted messengers and sources to ensure success.
Should be a continual process and one in which all people can debate long-term choices.	Communication should be void of absolutes.

This table was adapted from Marshall et al., (2018)

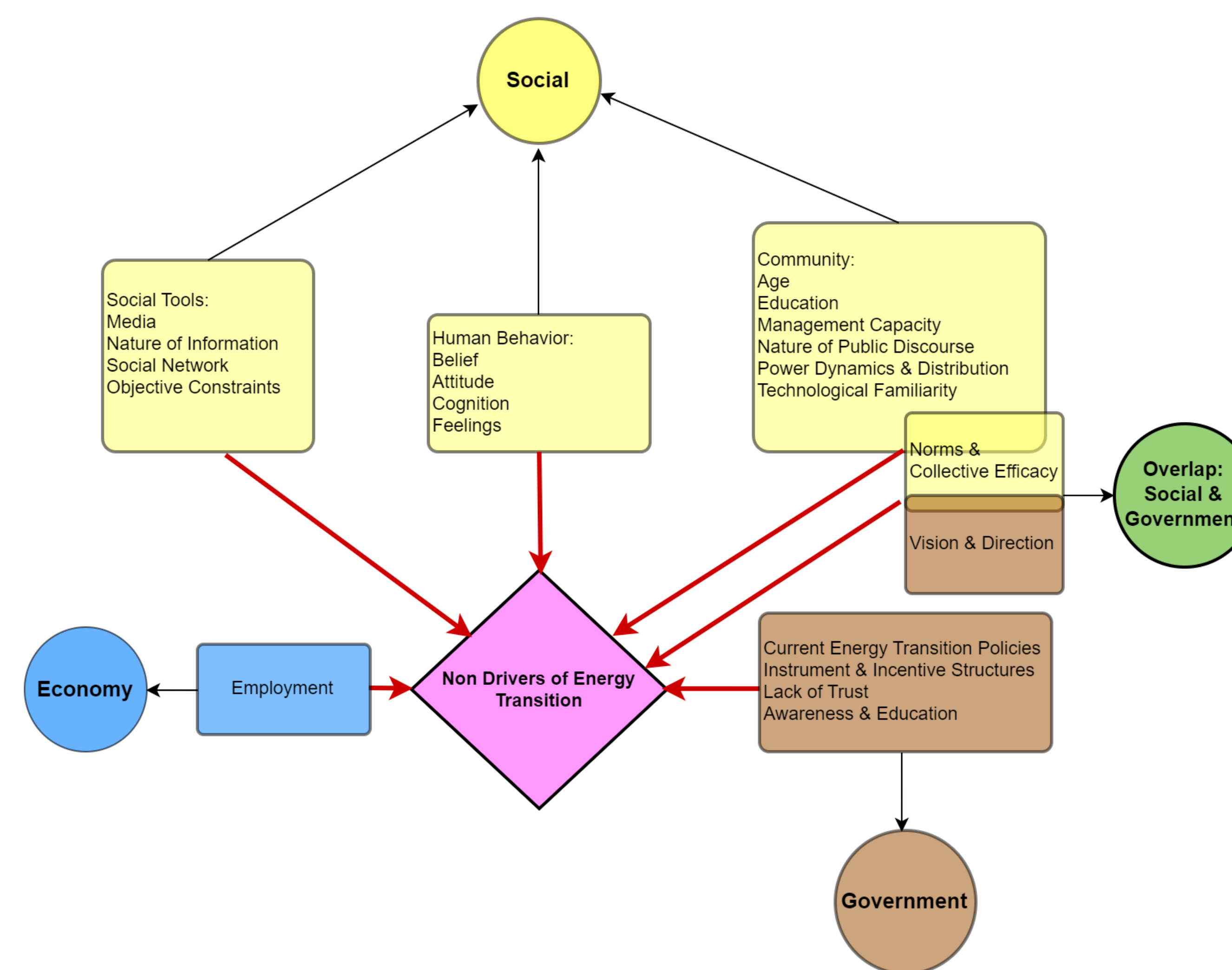
- In comparison to the ANP transition policy and communication recommendations, 29% of all coded quotes were related to these recommendations.

### Interdisciplinary Nature of the Research

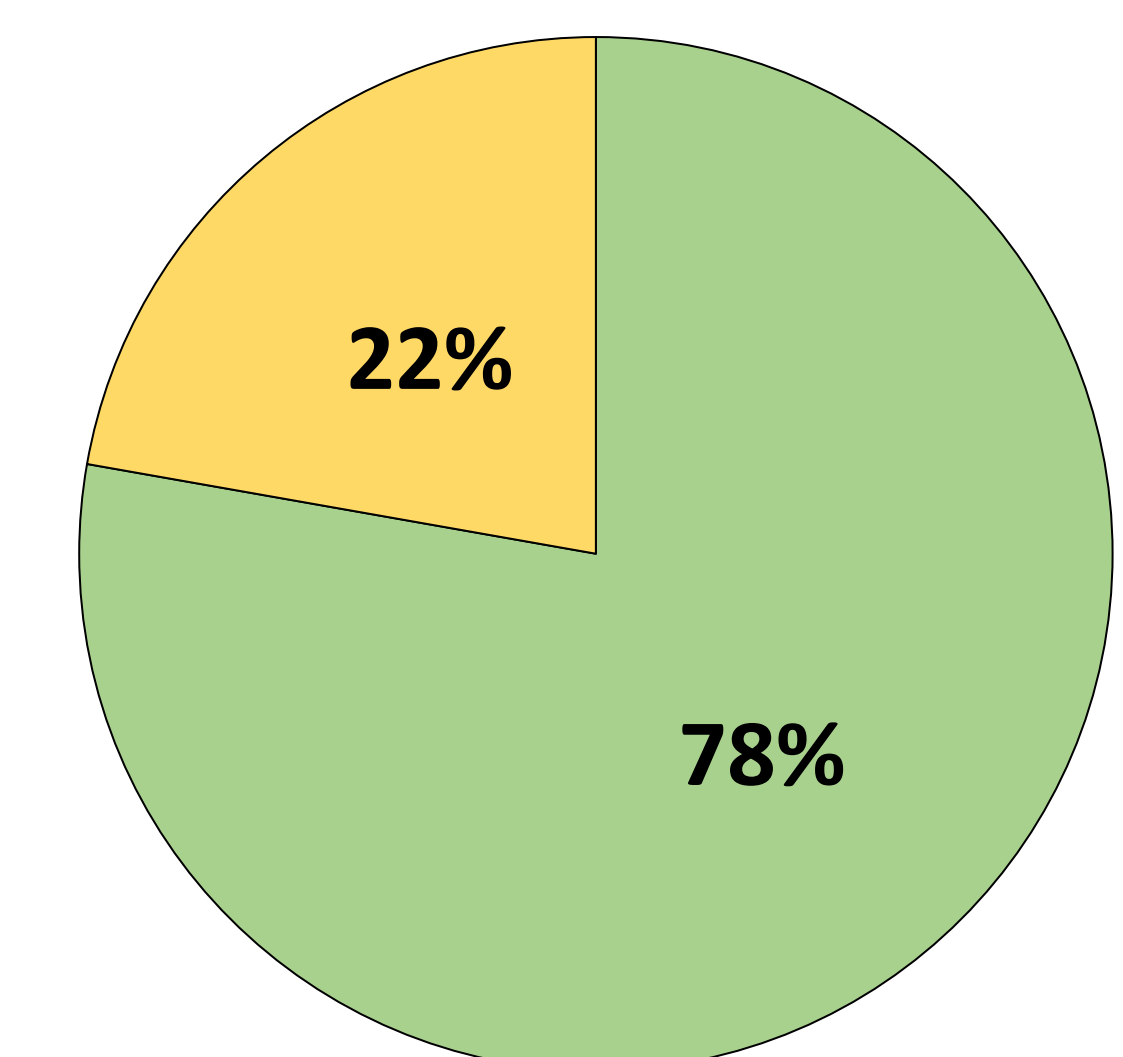
This research study analyzes the dimensions of energy, environment, and social aspects of sustainability in conjunction with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDG) of 8 – Decent work and economic growth, 11 – sustainable cities and communities, and 13 – climate action.



#### THEME 1: FACTORS NEGATIVELY INFLUENCING ENERGY TRANSITION



#### SENTIMENT SIMILARITY WITH THE ALBERTA NARRATIVES PROJECT

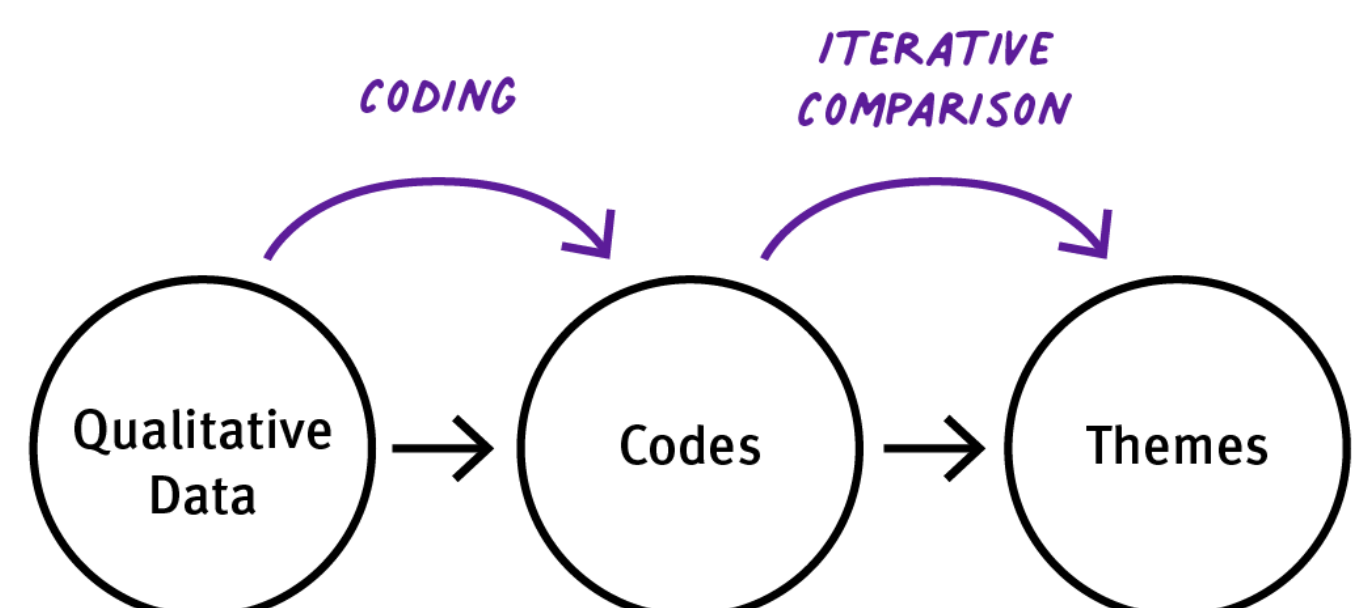


■ # of quotes similar to ANP ■ # of quotes not similar to ANP

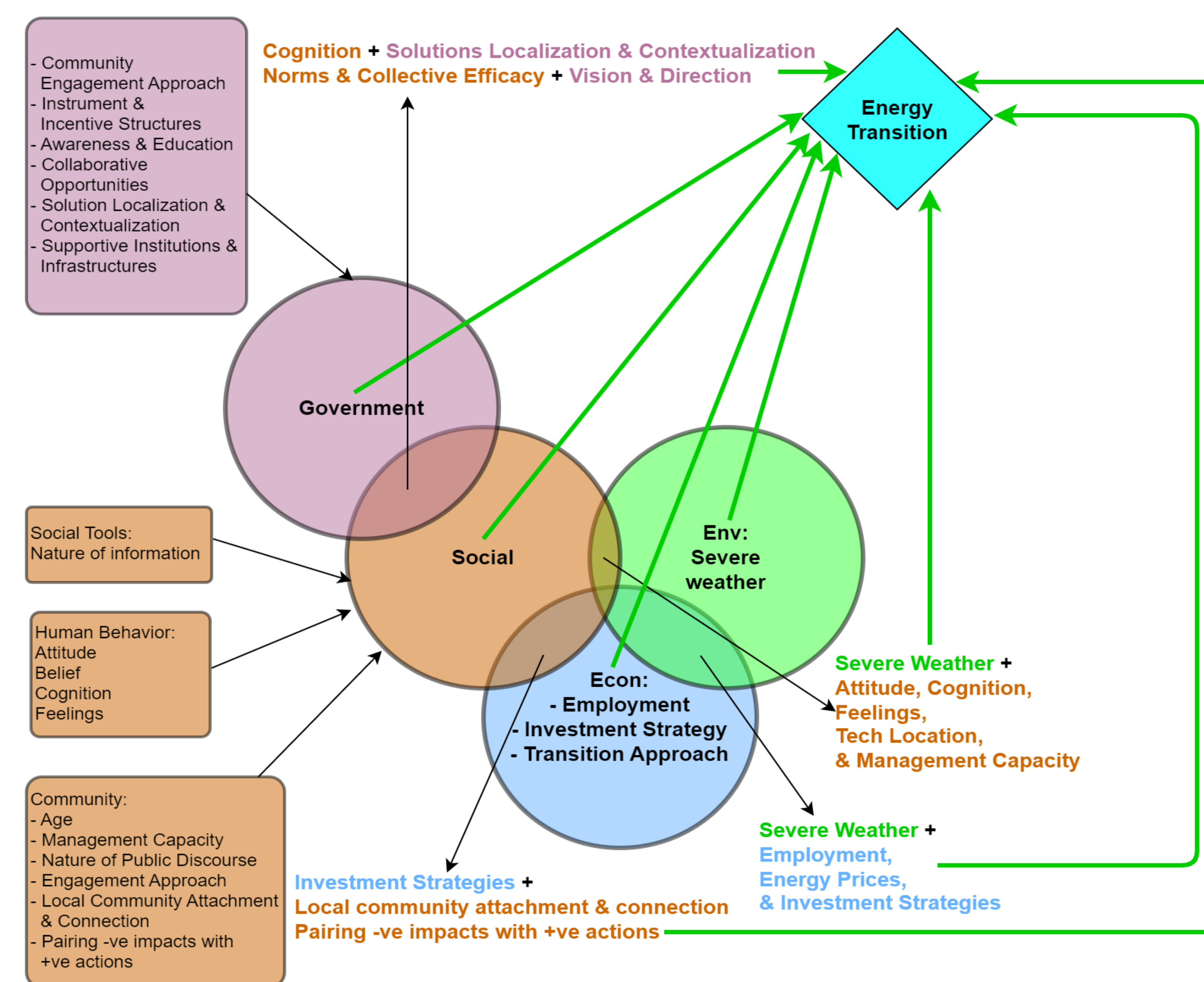
### Methods

- This research involved a qualitative case study of factors influencing energy transition in Hinton, AB, alongside comparing the community's sentiment to the ANP's communication and transition policy recommendations.
- Anonymized transcripts of a town hall discussion on climate impacts and income security from Iron and Earth organization was used to conduct this analysis.
- Manual coding of ~ 186 codes using excel
- Open cycle coding to determine elements of each factor
- Axial coding to link each factor to themes
- Themes:
  - Negative factors influencing energy transition
  - Positive factors influencing energy transition
  - Sentiments comparison to ANP recommendations

#### Thematic Analysis



#### THEME 2: FACTORS POSITIVELY INFLUENCING ENERGY TRANSITION



### Recommendations and Future Research

- Investigate the role of demographics (specifically job type, gender, politics, and region) in driving or limiting energy transition in the community and around similar regions across AB.
- Examine ways by which applicable and localized needs assessment can be incorporated into the development and implementation of energy transition policies whose impact affects communities with a fossil fuel-leaving job sector.

### Conclusion

In summary, factors of the economy, government, social, and overlap (between social and government), were found to have negatively and positively influenced energy transition in the community. Environmental and overlapping (environment and social, environment and economy, and economy and social) factors helped drive energy transition in the local community. Study participants sentiments were similar to the ANP's energy communication and transition policy recommendations, with only a small subset being different.

### References

Marshall, G., Bennett, A., & Clarke, J. (2018). *Communicating Climate Change and Energy in Alberta -- Alberta Narratives Project*. 70. <http://albertanarrativesproject.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/ANP-Report-1-Final-Online.pdf>

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