

### **Aging in Resource Communities: An International Symposium held in Tumbler Ridge**

The Community Development Institute (CDI), in partnership with the Trent Centre for Aging and Society at Trent University, the District of Tumbler Ridge, and a wide variety of community groups, hosted **the 2014 International Symposium in Aging Resource Communities: Population Dynamics, Community Development and the Voluntary Sector** in Tumbler Ridge, August 23-28.

The Symposium brought 17 international experts from Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, Norway, the UK and USA together with community members from northern BC to exchange ideas and foster links to understand the ways in which voluntarism shapes and is shaped by the interactions among older people and their aging communities, and how resource-dependent communities are responding to the challenges and opportunities of population aging.

Greg Halseth, Co-Director of the CDI said, "Both the University and the CDI have deep ties to the communities of Northern BC, and Tumbler Ridge provides the perfect venue for showcasing how academic research and community interests can benefit from the mutual exchange of ideas."

The Symposium program focused on the links between population aging, community development, and voluntarism. UNBC participants included Greg Halseth, Neil Hanlon, and Laura Ryser.

Funding for the Symposium was provided by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) of Canada.

**To learn more about the Symposium, visit:**  
[www.unbc.ca/community-development-institute](http://www.unbc.ca/community-development-institute)

### **New Realities, New Relationships: Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation National Conference**

The CDI is set to host the Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation's annual conference in Prince George from September 25-27, 2014. Close to 150 professionals and academics from across BC and Canada will gather to exchange information and ideas related to the opportunities and challenges emerging in rural Canada.

In addition to an extensive selection of workshops, the conference will feature:

- Keynote speaker, Dr. Keith Storey, who will share his knowledge and perspective on resource sector development in communities, including fly-in fly-out workers, local impact benefit agreements, and workforce accommodation.
- A keynote address by Bill Reimer, entitled "Facilitating Collaboration for New Rural Realities," which will discuss the personal, professional, and institutional challenges to collaboration posed by new rural realities. Mr. Reimer's talk will also suggest strategies – relevant to future individual, government, and community action on behalf of rural revitalization – to address these challenges.
- An industry panel with key industry leaders to discuss changing realities for industry and the impact these changes have on communities.

The event will connect stakeholders and communities across northern BC with other local, provincial, and federal organizations, policy-makers, and leaders across Canada. The conference also provides an excellent opportunity to bring issues that are critical across northern BC to the forefront of national debates.

**To register and for further information, visit:**  
[www.crrf.ca](http://www.crrf.ca)

## Jennifer Hall Joins the CDI Team

The CDI is pleased to welcome Jennifer Hall as Community Development Project Manager. Jennifer brings to the CDI extensive project management, community engagement, and stakeholder relations experience gained from a number of community economic and social development initiatives across British Columbia. She has worked in the public, private, and non-profit sectors in Canada and internationally. She holds a BA from McGill and an MA in International Leadership from SFU.

## Tumbler Ridge Community Open House for Regional Sustainability Plan

The CDI will host “*Talk about Tumbler: Today and Tomorrow,*” on October 16, 2014 from 4-9pm. This marks the final phase in the development of a sustainability plan for the District of Tumbler Ridge. Residents can drop by to comment on the sustainability strategies developed through 14 months of community engagement. A photo contest will be part of the event, encouraging residents to share pictures of what they love about Tumbler Ridge.

## Vanderhoof Housing Study Underway

The CDI is working with the District of Vanderhoof to complete a housing study and needs analysis. The purpose is to provide a deeper understanding of the housing market and an assessment of present and future housing demand for Vanderhoof and the surrounding area. The study and needs analysis are intended to offer community leaders and stakeholders a basis for formulating housing priorities, policy alternatives, and potential intervention strategies.

## Funding available for Commercialization of Technologies, Products, or Processes

Western Economic Diversification has announced the second intake period for the Western Innovation Initiative (WINN). WINN offers repayable contributions to SMEs proposing to commercialize a new technology, product, or process in Western Canada.

WINN will be taking applications September 30-October 30, 2014. For more information visit: [www.wd-deo.gc.ca/eng/14857.asp](http://www.wd-deo.gc.ca/eng/14857.asp)

## Upcoming Events

### BC Non-Profit Housing Association Conference

Richmond, BC, November 16-19, 2014

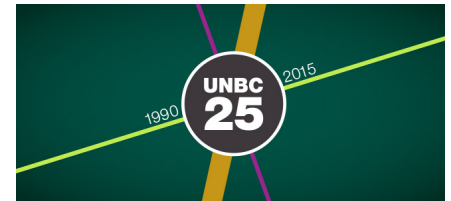


[www.bcnpha.ca/events/conference](http://www.bcnpha.ca/events/conference)

### UNBC Turns 25!

Watch for special events throughout the year as UNBC celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

[www.unbc.ca](http://www.unbc.ca)



### CDI Speaker Series

The CDI is putting the final touches on plans for our Fall Community Speakers Series. Watch for an announcement regarding the topic, speaker, and host communities. The CDI Community Speakers Series talks are free and open to the public.

#### The Community Development Institute at UNBC

The Community Development Institute at UNBC is dedicated to understanding and realizing the potential of BC's non-metropolitan communities in a changing global economy, preparing students and practitioners for leadership roles in economic and community development, and creating a body of knowledge, information, and research that enhances our understanding and our ability to deal with the impacts of ongoing transformation.

In keeping with the vision of the University of Northern British Columbia, the Community Development Institute is committed to working with all communities – Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal – to help them further their community and regional development aspirations.

#### For more information contact:

Marleen Morris, Co-Director by phone at 250 960-9806 or email at [marleen.morris@unbc.ca](mailto:marleen.morris@unbc.ca) or visit our website at [www.unbc.ca/community-development-institute](http://www.unbc.ca/community-development-institute)