



Community Contacts Newsletter

June 2010

Volume 6, Number 3

*“Northern Strength
to Northern
Strength.”*

Past editions of the CDI
Community Contact Newsletter
are available at:

<http://www.unbc.ca/cdi/newsletters.html>

Welcome

We are pleased to present the June 2010 newsletter of the Community Development Institute (CDI) at UNBC. We hope that this quarterly newsletter will help to keep you informed about developments at the CDI. If you have any comments on how we can improve the newsletter, or if you have news that you would like us to include in our next edition, feel free to contact our coordinator at manson@unbc.ca

In this Edition:

- The CDI at UNBC
- Notices
- Institute News

The CDI at UNBC

The Community Development Institute at UNBC is interested in two fundamental issues for communities in northern BC: community capacity and community development. By undertaking research, sharing information, and supporting education outreach, the Institute is becoming an important partner to communities interested in making informed decisions about their own futures.

The Institute emphasizes the importance of capacity-building, collaboration, learning, and complementarity. Research that is undertaken balances academic credibility with practical relevance. Beyond research, the Institute is involved in outreach activities and serves as a conduit to expand local educational opportunities related to community development.

For more information please visit: <http://www.unbc.ca/cdi/>

Working with Community Transition

Recent events have again focussed on the issues of community transition and being prepared for change. The importance of these issues for so many northern BC communities also focuses attention on two recent CDI projects:

- **Community Transition Toolkit**

A Community Transition Toolkit for assisting communities with economic emergency preparedness and planning. Community Transition Toolkit reports are available at: <http://www.unbc.ca/cdi/toolkit.html>

- **From Planning to Action: Reconciling Community Development Strategies with Regional Assets and Infrastructure**

The purpose of this project is to produce information that will help to overcome a persistent barrier in economic development planning: the gap between planning and implementation. The project used a case study approach to explore this gap between planning and implementation with a view to demonstrating how to reconcile local/regional assets and aspirations with the array of economic development possibilities.

This report is available at: http://www.unbc.ca/assets/cdi/research/reorient_report.pdf

Notices

2006 Aboriginal Community Data Initiative

The 2006 Aboriginal Community Data Initiative (ACDI) reports are now available for First Nations communities in British Columbia with populations greater than 100.

Reports for BC First Nations are available at:

<http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/lss/abor/profile/abprof.asp>

The Social Economy Research Network of Northern Canada

The Social Economy Research Network of Northern Canada (SERNNOCa) has recently come out with

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***“Research Having an
Impact,
People making a
Difference”***

a spring edition of its newsletter for 2010. The newsletter is available at:
<http://ycdl4.yukoncollege.yk.ca/frontier/files/sermoca/NewsletterMay112010comp.pdf>

On the Bright Side: Rural Canada Works

The 2010 [Rural Development Institute](#) (RDI) and [Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation](#) (CRRF) annual policy conference will be held in Brandon, Manitoba October 14-16, 2010. For this conference, looking on the bright side means emphasizing what's working and describing a fuller range of activities that form pathways to many different futures.

For more information: <http://www2.brandonu.ca/organizations/rdi/crrf2010english.asp>

Institute News

The CDI in Russia

From June 1st – 14th, 2010, Greg Halseth, Canada Research Chair and Director of the CDI, travelled to Siberia to participate in an international summer school hosted by the Institute of Economics and Finance at Yakutsk State University in Russia. The program involved three days of summer school activities with students at the university, followed by a series of community-based workshops in small villages in the surrounding region. The village workshops were also sponsored by the University of the Arctic's Thematic Network on Local and Regional Development. Participating in the summer school activities were speakers from Russia, Canada, Norway, and Finland. The invitation to the CDI was made in recognition of the significant contributions made in understanding the impacts of global economic change on rural regions and the frameworks that can be put in place to assist rural and small town places in meeting opportunities and challenges on their own terms.

Community Connections 2010

This Spring the CDI offered presentations on *Lessons Learned: Community Development in Northern BC*. Our sincere thanks to the many communities that participated. These free lectures are part of the CDI's commitment to Community Capacity Building and to Knowledge Transfer. The PowerPoint slides are available at: http://www.unbc.ca/assets/cdi/summer_2010_presentation_for_website.pdf

Northern BC Economic Development Vision and Strategy Project 2 (NEV2): The Recession Response Project

In September 2009, the CDI launched NEV2. The response from the communities who participated was very positive. Our goal is to produce materials that are directly relevant to communities and policy-makers. This project will provide a first-phase look and report on how government strategies have been received and integrated into the development activities of rural and small town communities in northern BC. We are very grateful to the many communities that participated.

While this important project did not receive funding, the CDI is still committed to holding roundtables in several communities to discuss the draft report this fall.

For further information: <http://www.unbc.ca/cdi/nev2.html> or contact Don Manson at manson@unbc.ca

Understanding indigenous economic development

This fall, the Community Development Institute will host a small workshop featuring participants from northern BC as well as international researchers to talk about "Understanding indigenous economic development in northern, rural, and remote settings". The workshop is part of the University of the Arctic's Thematic Network on Local and Regional Development. Speakers will explore the framework of current indigenous economic development actions, key barriers/opportunities related to successful development, and the actions needed to achieve desired changes. This workshop held at UNBC is tentatively proposed for November 21st – 27th, 2010.

For further information: contact Don Manson at manson@unbc.ca

Community Speakers Series

The Community Development Institute at UNBC is pleased to announce that Ramona Rose, Head, Archives & Special Collections, the Northern B.C. Archives and Special Collections, University of Northern British Columbia, will be our speaker this fall. Ms. Rose's talk will be; "Collaboration in Preserving First Nations Archives in Northern BC". The talk would take place on the evening of Tuesday, October 05 at the UNBC campus in Prince George and on Wednesday, October 06, 2010 in Williams Lake.

Past Community Speakers Series presentations are available at:

http://www.unbc.ca/cdi/speakers_series.html If your community would like to co-host our next Community Speaker's Series event, please contact: Don Manson at manson@unbc.ca