



Community Contacts Newsletter

December 2010

Volume 7, Number 1

*“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 December 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

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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/>

Notices

StatsCan: Trends in Dropout Rates and the Labour Market Outcomes of Young Dropouts.

Using data from the Labour Force Survey is used to examine provincial trends in high-school dropout rates over the 1990/1991 to 2009/2010 period. The article also examines the labour market outcomes of dropouts in terms of unemployment rates and median weekly earnings during the recent economic downturn. The article also compares dropout rates for **Aboriginal**, non-Aboriginal, immigrant and Canadian-born youth.

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/81-004-x/81-004-x2010004-eng.htm>

Institute News

Voluntarism, Ageing and Place: A Critical Review

Population aging coupled with changes in the delivery of health and continuing care services means that more attention must be paid to the role of the voluntary sector (formal and informal) in providing needed services in rural and small town places. This project undertook a critical review of the available literature in the topics of volunteerism, population aging, rural health and social care, and rural and small town community development. The purpose was to provide a better understanding of the pressures facing small communities in supporting older residents via voluntary services.

http://www.unbc.ca/assets/cdi/research/giesbrecht_et_al_2010_voluntarism_ageing_place.pdf

CDI Publication Series

A Primer For Understanding Issues Around Rural Poverty

Poverty remains an important, but complex and challenging research, policy, and lived world issue. In northern BC, communities have been exposed to a range of pressures over the past 3 decades that have led to concerns about poverty and associated support services. The purpose of this primer is two-fold. The first part explores economic and social restructuring processes that have affected resource-based communities, as well as how opportunities and challenges to address poverty are affected by the unique places, infrastructure, and institutions of rural and small town communities. The second part

Contact us at:

Greg Halseth,
Institute Director
University of Northern
British Columbia
3333 University Way
Prince George, BC
V2N 4Z9
Office: New Lab 8-141
Phone: (250) 960-5826
Email: halseth@unbc.ca

Don Manson,
Institute Coordinator
University of Northern
British Columbia
3333 University Way
Prince George, BC
V2N 4Z9
Office: 4-158
Phone: (250) 960-5018
Email: manson@unbc.ca

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

includes information about measuring and executing qualitative research on rural poverty. The complex and sensitive nature of rural poverty requires that more engaged, personal, and flexible approaches to conducting rural poverty research need to be adopted.

This article and other CDI publications are available at:

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

Trusts Governance Review

In 2007 the CDI completed a review of various regional trusts within BC and around western North America for the Cariboo-Chilcotin Beetle Action Coalition. Products included a summary of key features and issues faced by each of the reviewed trusts. A ‘Trusts Review’ report summarizes information on over 17 regional trusts, while a ‘Trends Report’ outlines emerging issues in the structure and organization of trust governance.

http://www.unbc.ca/assets/cdi/trusts_review.pdf http://www.unbc.ca/assets/cdi/trends_report.pdf

The Laxgalt’sap Village Government and the Community Development Institute

This partnership between the Laxgalt’sap Village Government and the Community Development Institute at UNBC has produced a Community Development Framework for Future Strategic Planning entitled *Embracing our Past – Building our Future*. This project is completed December 2010.

There will be a public presentation to the community in January 2011. For further information: contact Don Manson at manson@unbc.ca

A partnership between the District of Clearwater and the Community Development Institute

This partnership between the District of Clearwater and the Community Development Institute at UNBC is to review past development plans and talk with local residents to create a new Community Economic Development plan. The CDI has a longstanding relationship with the people and communities of the North Thompson Valley. This project is expected to be completed in April 2011.

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

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

With the support of the Omineca Beetle Action Coalition, the CDI will be launching the next phase of the community discussions in early January 2011. The draft report from phase one will provide the bases for the next round of discussions.

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

The Urban Aboriginal Economic Development National Network

The Urban Aboriginal Economic Development National Network is an open and inclusive multi-stakeholder network of researchers and practitioners working in urban Aboriginal and Métis communities. This includes organizations, universities, federal/ provincial/ municipal and Aboriginal governments, private industry, community groups, and NGO’s. The network’s focus is on mobilizing economic development knowledge and strengthening organizational capacity. Ray Gerow, President and CEO of the Aboriginal Business and Community Development Centre in Prince George, BC and the CDI’s Greg Halseth are the Networks Co-Directors. The Urban Aboriginal Economic Development National Network hosted its final Network gathering in Ottawa in November. The three year project will be completed at the end of March 2011.

For more information on the network: <http://abdc.bc.ca/uaed/>

Understanding Indigenous Economic Development

This fall, the Community Development Institute hosted 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 was part of the University of the Arctic’s Thematic Network on Local and Regional Development. Speakers explored the framework of current indigenous economic development actions, key barriers/opportunities related to successful development, and the actions needed to achieve desired changes. The CDI will be producing an edited volume of the presentations.

For copies of the presentations and more information on the workshops:

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

Community Speakers Series

The Community Development Institute at UNBC will be holding its next Speakers Series this spring. We will be providing further details in the new year.

If your community would like to co-host our next Community Speaker’s Series event, please contact: Don Manson at manson@unbc.ca

Past Community Speakers Series presentations are available at:

http://www.unbc.ca/cdi/speakers_series.html