



Community Contacts Newsletter

December 2011

Volume 8, 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 2011 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

Employment Shifts in Natural Resource Sectors: A Focus on Rural Value Chains

Alessandro Alasia and David James Hardie, Statistics Canada

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/21-006-x/21-006-x2008007-eng.htm>

Toronto Aboriginal Research Project (TARP): Final Report

A community based report commissioned by the Toronto Aboriginal Support Services Council

(TASSC). For more information visit: <http://abdc.bc.ca/uaed/harvest/other-urban-aboriginal-research/t-2/toronto-aboriginal-research-project/>

Rural Health Services Research Network of BC

The Rural Health Services Research Network of BC (RHSRNbc) is a newly established research

network. For more information visit: <http://www.rhsrnb.ca/>

The 2012 BC Community Forrester Association Conference and AGM

The conference will be held in the Kootenays May 24-26, 2012.

For more information visit: http://www.bccfa.ca/index.php?option=com_k2&view=item&id=219:plan-to-attend-the-2012-bccfa-conference-and-agm

Institute News

Institute Director named a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair

Dr. Greg Halseth is a nationally-recognized leader in the study of rural and small town community change. The UNBC Geography professor and Canada Research Chair has been involved with research on northern B.C.'s communities since 1994.

For more information visit: http://www.unbc.ca/releases/2011_/10_12crtierone.html

Research Days 2011: a showcase of rural and northern health research presentations

CDI Director, Greg Halseth's presentation "Where do we go from here?"

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

http://www.unbc.ca/assets/cdi/111031_where_do_we_go_from_here_halseth.pdf

CDI Coordinator, Don Manson’s workshop presentation
“Introduction to Conducting Community Based Research in Rural BC”
http://www.unbc.ca/assets/cdi/bcrhsrn_presentation_28nov_0329.pdf

Working ‘away’: Community and family impacts of long distance labour commuting in Mackenzie BC

In the fall of 2011, the Community Development Institute at UNBC hosted meetings with residents, service providers, businesses, volunteer groups, industry, and government in Mackenzie to talk about the impact of long distance labour commuting on community and family life. The CDI will be producing a summary report from these meetings. An interim community report will be available in the new year on the CDI website.

For further information, please contact Greg Halseth at halseth@unbc.ca.

The Transformative Role of Voluntarism in Aging Resource Communities

In the fall of 2011, the Community Development Institute at UNBC visited Tumbler Ridge and Quesnel to talk with residents about the role of seniors and volunteer groups in supporting older residents and influence community developing in aging resource communities. An interim community report will be available in the new year on the CDI website.

For further information, please contact Neil Hanlon at hanlon@unbc.ca.

Kitimat community transition planning

As Kitimat, BC prepares for a series of large industrial projects, the Community Development Institute is again assisting a northern BC community with transition planning. In 2007, Greg Halseth facilitated a community planning dialogue to prepare for Kitimat’s proposed smelter rebuild. With the newly announced Rio Tinto Alcan project, as well as others currently underway, he was back in Kitimat on December 6 to facilitate a new dialogue meeting of community partners. Drawing upon the CDI’s experience with community transition planning, the new dialogue meeting was to help groups prepare to address emergent opportunities, issues, and challenges.

Community Education Videos/Tools

The Community Development Institute at UNBC is pleased to extend its information sharing and knowledge mobilization tools. As you know, sharing information and supporting educational outreach are two of the cornerstones of our work. In this new section of educational videos and companion tools we bring these tasks together. For more information visit: <http://www.unbc.ca/cdi/commed.html>

Fall 2011 Speakers Series Presentation

This fall’s Community Speakers Series speaker Dr. Glen Schmidt of UNBC’s School of Social Work gave a presentation on "The Social Aspects of Rapid Economic Growth" in Prince George and Mackenzie.

Glen’s PowerPoint presentation is available on the CDI website at:
http://www.unbc.ca/assets/cdi/speakers_series/social_effects_growth.pdf

This presentation was simultaneously broadcasted through Elluminate to participants around northern BC and the Yukon. It was saved in a format that is able to be posted and viewed on the Internet. To view Glen's presentation, please click on the link. <http://blip.tv/play/g8Mlgt6mfgA.html>

CDI Publication Series

One of the initiatives launched by the Community Development Institute (CDI) at UNBC is a peer reviewed “Publication Series”. This focuses upon invited reports on a range of topics relevant to the mandate of CDI and important to northern British Columbia. The peer review aspect of the Series ensures that only high quality research is published. <http://www.unbc.ca/cdi/publications.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 March.

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

From all of us at the CDI

Have a Happy and Safe Holiday Season

We look forward to continuing to work with you in 2012