

NEWS RELEASE

OIL & GAS PROGRAM DEVELOPS STRATEGY FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The University of Northern British Columbia today released *A Strategy for a Community Information, Knowledge and Learning System*, the fourth in a series of publications about BC offshore oil and gas.

The unique strategy, developed in partnership with Jacqueline Booth and Associates, proposes a user-friendly system to help citizens gather information and learn about the issues surrounding offshore oil and gas. It is meant to encourage public participation in the discussion about offshore oil and gas in a way that is meaningful to local community members.

“This project builds on the longstanding recognition that the people and communities closest to prospective offshore oil and gas development need to be fully engaged in all aspects of possible development, and that to do this, they need information and understanding about key issues,” said Norman Dale, Program Manager with UNBC’s Northern Coastal Information and Research Program (NCIRP). “A key part of the proposed approach is that communities would be directly involved in creating a system for ongoing learning about the challenges of the offshore.”

This research report is the fourth in the NCIRP series, the UNBC Community-Collaborative Studies on British Columbia Offshore Oil and Gas. NCIRP is a program of UNBC’s Northern Land Use Institute. Funding was provided by the BC Ministry of Energy and Mines.

Copies of *A Strategy for a Community Information, Knowledge and Learning System*, as well as other NCIRP publications, can be downloaded from www.unbc.ca/nlui/ncirp or ordered at cost from Peggy Crough: fax (250) 960-5545 email croughp@unbc.ca