

UNBC Community Development Institute

Annual Report 2012

The Community Development Institute (CDI) at UNBC is pleased to present its 2012 Annual Report. This report covers the period from January to December 2012.

Background:

The mission of the Community Development Institute (CDI) at UNBC is to support the research, information, and development needs of northern BC's rural and small town communities as they adjust to change in the new economy. The CDI is interested in two fundamental issues for northern BC's communities: community capacity and community development. By undertaking research, sharing information, and supporting community outreach, the CDI has become a vital partner to communities interested in making informed decisions about their own futures.

Under changing social and economic conditions, communities need the capacity to respond. Community capacity refers to:

the ability of residents to organize their assets and resources to achieve objectives they consider important. These objectives may be reactive, where people are faced with a challenge, or innovative, where new visions are established and pursued. Community capacity is built and maintained by the norms, traditions, regulations, and social relationships enabling otherwise disparate individuals to co-ordinate their actions for collective ends.

Capacity can be enhanced through community development. In a general sense, community development concerns:

improvements to local social and cultural infrastructure. It is most often identified with increasing the skills, knowledge, and abilities of residents to access information and resources and to then use these tools to create strategies and partnerships which can take advantage of changing circumstances.

The three foundations of the Community Development Institute at UNBC are:

- Research
- Education
- Outreach

The Annual Report is organized under each of these foundations.

CDI News:

There are two items of special news for the CDI this past year.

CDI Renewal

Work to create the CDI began before 2000 as the result of several research projects on the social and economic development future of northern BC communities. The CDI was formally created by the UNBC Board of Governors in January 2004 with a broad mandate in community, regional, and economic development. With more than a decade of work and experience, the CDI team initiated a process of renewal to ensure that we continue to meet the growing need for community development expertise, leadership, and experience. As part of this process, the CDI is also seeking to establish a more stable and sustainable funding and operating base with which to carry out this renewed vision, programs, and services.

Over the past year, we have engaged in a wide ranging set of discussions with leaders and innovators from the community, government, business, industry, social, and academic sectors. We have spoken with both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community representatives and have ensured that a provincial perspective is obtained. From these dialogues, we have developed a new vision for the CDI. We have also established the need and demand for programs and services in three areas.

Vision for an Expanded Community Development Institute

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, regional, and economic development aspirations.

To realize this new vision, the CDI will provide programs and services in three broad areas:

- Community Transformation and Renewal
 - Support for communities and regions to develop long-range strategies and plans for community, regional, and economic development and diversification.
- Education for Community and Economic Development
 - Developing leaders and practitioners who can work effectively for community, regional, and economic development in Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal governments, industry, business, and the non-profit sector.
- Community-Based Research for Local and Regional Development
 - Creating and sharing information, knowledge, and insights to assist those involved in community and regional transformation and renewal.

With regard to creating a more stable funding and operating base, the CDI will establish four revenue streams to sustain its programs and operations:

- Endowment income and long-term funding commitments;
- Cost-recovery educational programming in credit and non-credit professional development programs;
- Targeted sponsorships; and
- Fee-for-service research.

With regard to the establishment of an endowment and long-term funding commitments, the CDI has developed a strategy that revolves around contributions from:

- Key industries in the resource sector;
- The financial services sector;
- Foundations and trusts;
- Government; and
- Private donors.

In order to support the renewal process, the CDI received short-term “bridge” funding from three contributors:

- BC Housing: \$50,000
- The Estate of Katherine J. Heller: \$100,000
- Anonymous donor: \$73,000

New Associate Director at CDI

UNBC's Community Development Institute (CDI) has been there when communities have needed them, and the CDI wants it to stay that way. To ensure that the CDI remains vital and sustainable for the future, the Institute will expand its vision and capacity, and has hired Marleen Morris as Associate Director to lead that process.

Marleen brings to the CDI over 30 years experience in executive and senior management positions in the health, housing, and education sectors. She has also been appointed to several senior governance positions. Organizations she has been involved with include BC Housing, the Vancouver/Richmond Health Board (Vancouver Coastal Health), St. James Community Service Society, BC Winter Games, Vancouver City Planning Commission, United Way of the Lower Mainland, and the North Vancouver Chamber of Commerce. Most recently, Marleen served as President of Marleen Morris & Associates, where she worked in communities across BC helping organizations in the public, business, and non-profit sectors develop strategies for revitalization and change.

Research:

The Community Development Institute at UNBC maintains a clear focus upon research. Its goal is to balance both applied and basic work so as to maintain academic credibility and to be of practical relevance to communities. Copies of all completed project reports have been sent to community partners, funding agencies, the Geoffrey R. Weller Library at UNBC, and most local government/band offices and public libraries in places where the research was carried out. Reports and other research information are also placed on the CDI website (www.unbc.ca/cdi) as an integral part of our mission to share research widely across northern BC. Additionally, summaries of projects are also noted in the CDI newsletters, which are published quarterly and distributed across northern BC via e-mail.

Projects

Northern BC Economic Development Vision and Strategy Project UPDATE 2009-2012 Completed

Completed in 2004, the community driven “Northern BC Economic Development Vision and Strategy Project” (NEV) changed the way we approach community and economic development in northern BC. It provided the foundations for regional collaborations, enhanced resource revenue sharing programs, consideration of new energy issues, relationship building among Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and attention to the key foundations (human, community, physical, and economic) needed for our communities to be flexible and responsive in the global economy.

In September 2009, the CDI launched NEV2. The economic downturn is forcing public and private sector interests to make difficult choices and adopt what they think are the best coping strategies so that they are poised, equipped, and ready to take advantage of the next economic upswing. In partnership with selected small local governments in northern BC, we explored:

- the choices and decisions made in response to the 2008/2010 economic downturn,
- the impacts of those choices / decisions as the economy began to recover, and
- recommendations on how small local governments can and should respond to dramatic economic change.

In 2011, with supplemental funding support from the Omineca Beetle Action Coalition, we completed this project with a series of roundtables held across northern BC at which the preliminary findings were shared and refined.

Project reports include:

- NEV2 Project Update
- Interim NEV2 Project Presentation, October 2010

*Lessons from Economic Upswings: A Case Study
of the Peace River Region*

2012

Completed

When industrial investments come to small communities, the impacts can be significant and transformative. These impacts occur in all sectors – social, community, service, economic, and governance. The Terrace and Kitimat region of northwest BC has been home to a range of large industries since the early 1950s. The region is now on the cusp of new and large industrial construction projects that will change and renew the local and regional economies. The projects will also impact and change the communities.

Other regions in BC have considerable experience with large industrial projects. Most notable is the Peace River region in northeast BC which has recent and continuing experience with major coal, oil, and gas developments. This project was designed to collate lessons and experiences from the Peace River region so as to inform decision-makers and community economic and social development organizations in the Terrace-Kitimat corridor on effective responses to the opportunities and pressures of large industrial projects.

The project work was carried out by a research team from the UNBC Community Development Institute in the spring of 2012. Project reports include:

- An Inventory of Strategies Across the Peace River and Northern Rockies
- Summary Theme Report
- Summary Theme Tables
- A Historic Guide of Recent Events Across the Peace River

Community-Based Research Centres in Canada

2012

Completed

As communities prepare for, and respond to, economic, social, and political change, they need timely, relevant, and useful information to help them make decisions. Community-based research institutions can be an important source of information for these small communities and can support innovation and competitiveness, inform strategic planning exercises and community development initiatives, mobilize resources, build local capacity, facilitate local and regional networks, empower community engagement, and improve the quality-of-life in small places. This report contains an inventory of community-based research centres in Canada with information on contact information, background / mandate, general information brochures, student information brochures, annual reports, and policy documents.

Project reports include:

- Community-Based Research Centres Final Report

*Working 'Away': Community & Family Impacts of
Long Distance Labour Commuting in Mackenzie, BC* 2011 - present On-going

The town of Mackenzie is one of BC's 'instant towns', built in the late 1960s to house the workforce for a new regional forest industry. A significant economic downturn in Mackenzie beginning in early 2008 resulted in the closure of all major forest industry operations (sawmills and pulp and paper mills) in the community. As a result, some of these forest sector workers had to engage in long distance labour commuting (LDLC). This project is exploring the implications of LDLC at both an individual and community level.

The first part of the project occurred in Sept/Oct 2011 to assess the scope, scale, implications, and experiences of long distance labour commuting for workers, their families, community groups, and the local business community. A report from this first part is:

- Working 'Away': Community & Family Impacts of Long Distance Labour Commuting in Mackenzie, BC

Part two of the project occurred in May/June 2012, with a household survey to assess the scale and scope of LDLC. Interviews were also completed with workers to explore the motivations behind different pathways that workers take to either continue with, or to stop, their engagement with LDLC, as well as to explore the contributions that LDLC can bring to enhance community capacity as workers return to Mackenzie and apply new lessons and insights to their workplace. We also spoke with community organizations to explore how LDLC has shaped their program needs and operations.

Project reports include:

- Assessing the Scale of Long Distance Labour Commuting in Mackenzie, BC
- Contrasting Pathways with Long Distance Labour Commuting in Mackenzie, BC
- Hollowing Out the Community: Community Impacts of Extended Long Distance Labour Commuting
- Long Distance Labour Commuting Contributions to Community Capacity in Mackenzie, BC

*Dimensions of Voluntarism in Aging Resource
Towns: Preliminary Scan of Quesnel and
Tumbler Ridge, BC*

2011 – present

On-going

Since the 1980s, the population of many rural and small town places in northern BC communities has been aging. This research project examines the role that voluntary organizations, community groups, and volunteers play in both supporting older people and in influencing community development in aging resource communities. It also examines the influence of seniors in volunteer organizations and community development initiatives. Reports have been completed to provide preliminary information about the dimensions of voluntarism in two pilot study towns to establish the empirical foundation for further phases of the project. These communities include Quesnel and Tumbler Ridge. The project is based out of the UNBC Community Development Institute in collaboration with Mark Skinner at Trent University and Alun Joseph at the University of Guelph.

Project reports include:

- Dimensions of Voluntarism in Aging Resource Towns: Preliminary Scan of Quesnel, BC
- Dimensions of Voluntarism in Aging Resource Towns: Preliminary Scan of Tumbler Ridge, BC

*Tracking the Social and Economic Transformation
Process in Kitimat, BC*

2011

on-going

When industrial investments come to small communities, the local social impacts can be significant and transformative. The town of Kitimat has been an industrial centre in northwestern British Columbia since the early 1950s. The town is now experiencing a large number of industrial construction projects that will change and renew the local economy. These construction projects will also impact and change the community. This project involves a long-term tracking study of the economic and social transformation processes now getting underway in Kitimat, BC.

The CDI is also working with a number of local groups to help steward bi-annual local roundtable conversations among small businesses, social service providers, and economic development interests.

(Re)Defining poverty in resource dependent rural and small town places

2011 – present

On-going

Poverty remains an important, but challenging research, policy, and lived world issue. It is found in all communities – in all regions. In Canada, most poverty research has been urban focused and our knowledge about the dynamics, experiences, and complex underpinnings of rural poverty is more limited. Since the early 1980s, Canadian rural and small town places have experienced accelerated change due to economic and social restructuring. These have generated new pressures and trends that affect those living on low-income and households at risk of living in poverty. These impacts are especially important in resource-based economies and those places located at a distance from major urban centres.

Based on a pilot study in the McBride and surrounding region, this project explores how key factors, attributes of place, and institutional processes affect rural household journeys into and out of poverty. This includes exploring interactions between low-income households and service support networks to develop a greater understanding of emerging issues for households in resource-dependent towns undergoing intense economic and service restructuring.

Project reports include:

- Pilot Study Summary Report
- A Review of Socio-Economic Characteristics in Robson and Canoe Valleys
- Methodology Report

Clearwater Age-Friendly Needs Assessment Project

2012

Completed

In this project, with funding from the Union of BC Municipalities, the CDI worked in partnership with the District of Clearwater. Consultations included one-on-one interviews, meetings with stakeholders, an Age-Friendly needs assessment survey, and the creation of an inventory of the local /regional services, programs and initiatives that currently exist.

Project reports include:

- Clearwater Seniors' Needs Survey Report
- Clearwater Socio-Economic Profile
- Clearwater Inventory Guide
- Clearwater Interview Report

Research grants

Granting Agency	Subject	\$ Per Year	Year	Principal Investigator	Co-Investigator(s)
Vancouver Foundation	Healthy Aging in rural and small town places	\$76,000 per year in 3 year grant	2012-2015	Greg Halseth	
SSHRC - Insight Development Grant	The transformative role of voluntarism in aging resource communities: integrating people, place and community	\$35,000 UNBC team works with \$15,000 per year	2012 - 2014	Mark Skinner, Trent University	Greg Halseth (UNBC), Neil Hanlon (UNBC), Alun Joseph (U of Guelph)
SSHRC – Partnership Grant	On the Move: Employment-Related Geographical Mobility in the Canadian Context	\$357,000 UNBC team works with \$43,000 per year over 7 years	2012-2019	Barb Neis, Memorial University of Newfoundland	Greg Halseth Sean Markey Catherine Nolin Angèle Smith
SSHRC – Insight Development Grant	Working ‘away’: Community and family impacts of skilled trades workers from Mackenzie BC who work outside of the town for extended periods.	\$27,100	2011-2013	Greg Halseth	Sean Markey
SSHRC – Knowledge Impact in Society Program	National Network for Urban Indigenous Economic Development	\$100,000	2008-2012	Greg Halseth	

Research contracts

Granting Agency	Subject	\$ Per Year	Year	Principal Investigator	Co-Investigator(s)
City of Prince George	Prince George Housing Strategy	\$30,000	2013	Greg Halseth	Marleen Morris
District of Tumbler Ridge	Sustainable Community Development Plan	\$81,000	2013	Greg Halseth	Marleen Morris
KT Industrial Development Society	Community and Regional Impacts of Major Industrial Development	\$4,000	2012	Greg Halseth	
Municipality of Clearwater	UBCM 2012 Age-friendly Community Planning and Project	\$18,093	2012	Greg Halseth	
City of Port Moody	Port Moody Public Library Strategic Plan Update	\$40,200	2011-2012	Marleen Morris & Associates	Greg Halseth
Society of Hope – Kelowna, BC	Review and Update of Strategic Plan and Board Governance Model	\$14,700	2011-2012	Marleen Morris & Associates	Greg Halseth

Reports

Manson, D. and Halseth, G. 2012. *Meeting the Future on Our Own Terms: Final Report of the Northern BC Economic Vision and Strategy Project II (NEV2)*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia.

Ryser, L., Schwamborn, J., and Halseth, G. 2012. *Lessons from Economic Upswings: A Case Study of the Peace River Region*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia. For K-T Industrial Development Society.

Ryser, L., Schwamborn, J., and Halseth, G. 2012. *Lessons from Economic Upswings: Summary Theme Tables*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia. For K-T Industrial Development Society.

Rajput, A., Ryser, L., and Halseth, G. 2012. *A Historical Guide of Recent Events across the Peace River Regional District: 2000-2012*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia. For K-T Industrial Development Society.

Ryser, L., Schwamborn, J., and Halseth, G. 2012. *An Inventory of Community and Economic Development Strategies and Plans across the Peace River and Northern Rockies*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia. For K-T Industrial Development Society.

Ryser, L., Rajput, A., Halseth, G., and Markey, S. 2012. *Assessing the Scale of Long Distance Labour Commuting in Mackenzie, BC*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia.

Ryser, L., Rajput, A., Halseth, G., and Markey, S. 2012. *Contrasting Pathways with Long Distance Labour Commuting in Mackenzie, BC*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia.

Ryser, L., Rajput, A., Halseth, G., and Markey, S. 2012. *Hollowing Out the Community: Community Impacts of Extended Long Distance Labour Commuting*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia.

Ryser, L., Rajput, A., Halseth, G., and Markey, S. 2012. *Long Distance Labour Commuting Contributions to Community Capacity in Mackenzie, BC*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia.

Ryser, L., Schwamborn, J., and Halseth, G. 2012. *Exploring Rural Poverty: Pilot Project Summary Report*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia.

Ryser, L., Schwamborn, J., and Halseth, G. 2012. *A Review of Socio-Economic Characteristics in the Robson and Canoe Valleys*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia.

Ryser, L., Schwamborn, J., and Halseth, G. 2012. *Exploring Rural Poverty: Pilot Project Methodology Report*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia.

Horn, C., R. Gerow, G. Halseth, S. Markey, C. Scott, J. Beaton, F. Sparvier. 2012. *Gap Analysis Research Project*. Kamloops, BC: Eagle Spirit Community Solutions in cooperation with the Aboriginal Business Services Network Society.

Horn, C., R. Gerow, G. Halseth, S. Markey, C. Scott, J. Beaton, F. Sparvier. 2012. *Listing of Organizations Providing Services to Aboriginal Entrepreneurs in British Columbia*. Kamloops, BC: Eagle Spirit Community Solutions in cooperation with the Aboriginal Business Services Network Society.

Horn, C., R. Gerow, G. Halseth, S. Markey, C. Scott, J. Beaton, F. Sparvier. 2012. *Literature Review for the Gap Analysis Study of Services to Aboriginal Entrepreneurs in British Columbia*. Kamloops, BC: Eagle Spirit Community Solutions in cooperation with the Aboriginal Business Services Network Society.

Horn, C., R. Gerow, G. Halseth, S. Markey, C. Scott, J. Beaton, F. Sparvier .2012. *Inventory of Programs and Services for Aboriginal Entrepreneurs in British Columbia*. Kamloops, BC: Eagle Spirit Community Solutions in cooperation with the Aboriginal Business Services Network Society.

Horn, C., R. Gerow, G. Halseth, S. Markey, C. Scott, J. Beaton, F. Sparvier. 2012. *Appendix 4: Survey Instruments and Related Documents*. Kamloops, BC: Eagle Spirit Community Solutions in cooperation with the Aboriginal Business Services Network Society.

Morris, M., G. Halseth, L. Ryser. 2012. *Port Moody Public Library Community Needs Assessment*. Vancouver, BC: In collaboration with Marleen Morris & Associates.

Morris, M., G. Halseth, L. Ryser. 2012. *Society of Hope Governance Plan*. Vancouver, BC: In collaboration with Marleen Morris & Associates.

Schwamborn, J., L. Ryser, K. Kusch, G. Halseth. 2012. *Economic Growth and Housing Pressures in Select Northern BC Towns: Summary Report*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia. Prepared for BC Housing.

Manson, D., Ryser, L., and Halseth, G. 2012. *The Clearwater Age-Friendly Community Plan*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia. For District of Clearwater.

Ryser, L, Manson, D., and Halseth, G. 2012. *Socio-Economic Report*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia. For District of Clearwater.

Chingee, K., Schwamborn, J., Ryser, L, Manson, D., and Halseth, G. 2012. *Inventory Guide*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia. For District of Clearwater.

Ryser, L., Manson, D., and Halseth, G. 2012. *Interview Report*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia. For District of Clearwater.

Manson, D., Ryser, L., and Halseth, G. 2012. *Community Survey Report*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia. For District of Clearwater.

Education:

Through the CDI renewal dialogues, we have identified a need for enhanced capacity in our educational offerings. The areas of need and demand that have emerged include:

- Professional development programs and courses in community, economic, social, and cultural development;
- Post-baccalaureate diploma and certificate programs;
- Student internship opportunities; and
- Professional development exchange programs.

We have also identified opportunities for partnerships with other post-secondary institutions and professional development organizations. Over the coming year, we will be exploring these opportunities further.

Housing Issues in Prince George: An experiential learning course

In 2012, the CDI was asked by the Dean of the College of Arts, Social, and Health Sciences to create an experiential learning course. The focus would be on housing issues in the City of Prince George and it would be delivered in partnership with the City's appointed Housing Strategy Steering Committee. The course took a broad look at housing needs, inclusive of market and non-market issues as well as all demographic segments. UNBC students worked closely with community groups and information towards completing projects on various aspects of housing in Prince George.

The course was delivered in the Fall semester of 2012. Its constituent elements included:

A rigorous application process was put in place for interested students. Recommendations were received from Program, Department, or School Chairs. Prospective students had to send a letter of interest, a copy of their transcripts, as well as a list of references. All references were checked. Ten students were admitted from the applications received.

To assist students in working on a number of specific aspects of the housing question in Prince George, we recruited a number of faculty mentors who provided advice and discipline specific expertise. These course mentors were Kathy Banks (Nursing), Kerry

Pateman (Planning), Cindy Hardy (Psychology), Marleen Morris (Community Development Institute), and Anne Hogan (PG Council of Seniors).

To assist with a broad understanding of community-based research and housing issues, various educational elements were built into the course, including:

- basics of community-based research (focus on actions and responsibilities)
- basics of research ethics requirements
- housing and population issues
- special housing needs and markets
- land use and development issues
- economics and financing issues
- policy and governance issues

The class met four times in active liaison with the Prince George Housing Strategy Steering Committee. The meetings focused on:

- early project scoping discussions
- mid-project updates
- oral presentations on the project results
- submission of final project reports

The in-class structure each week involved 3 hours of lecture/work. To make the most of that time, the 3 hours included three components:

- Theory / issues
- Mechanical / technical skills
- Assignment / project / presentations / meetings with PG Housing Committee
 - Questions students identify in the readings

The course was divided into 5 sections:

- A – What – introduction to housing
- B – Who – complex populations, demographics
- C – Impact and roles – housing in health, wellness, and community development
- D – How – options to meet needs
- E – Action – recommendations

We introduced the students to 28 guest speakers from a host of local, provincial, and national organizations. Speakers came from the private, public, and non-profit sectors. Everyone we asked to speak with the students agreed without hesitation, and all were very pleased to connect with a course at UNBC. Among the groups and people included were:

- BC Housing
- Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
- Canadian Mental Health Association
- City of Prince George
- Elizabeth Fry Housing Society
- Non-Profit Housing Finance

- Northern Health Authority
- Planning Institute of BC
- Prince George Chamber of Commerce
- Prince George Council of Seniors
- Prince George Métis Housing Society
- Prince George Native Friendship Centre
- Prince George Real Estate Board
- RCMP

- UNBC Community Development Institute
- UNBC Data Librarian
- UNBC Department of Psychology
- UNBC Department of Political Science
- UNBC Geography Program
- UNBC Office of Research - Research Ethics Board
- UNBC School of Environmental Planning
- UNBC School of Nursing
- UNBC School of Social Work

When contacted for guest speaking spots, many people began to offer to host the class for the evening in their community facilities. This soon resulted in a series of off-campus classes and associated tours. As one community group representative said:

The program was a fantastic example of community working together through; learning, sharing, research, commitment, enthusiasm, innovation, knowledge, caring, and just demonstrated action to make change for our community. It was and will continue to be an honor to work with all of you as we continue to develop affordable housing solutions.

Community venues that hosted the class included:

- Prince George Native Friendship Centre (twice)
- Canadian Mental Health Association, Club House (with catering by their social enterprise Two Rivers Catering)
- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
- BC Housing's downtown units
- Rainbow Village Recreation Centre (Elizabeth Fry Housing Society)

Tours (that started 1 hour before the regular class meeting times) included each of the community venues listed above. They also included:

- Downtown Prince George walking tour
- A walking tour of a typical 1970s suburban Prince George neighbourhood

The students presented their final project reports to a special community meeting where we invited all the people and groups who had participated in the housing course to share in its successful conclusion.

Following the class, the students were invited to the luncheon held at the Prince George Civic Centre on National Housing Day. This was an event coordinated by the City of Prince George and CMHC. Prince George City Councilor Murry Krause recognized the students at the luncheon and thanked them for their contribution to the city's housing strategy.

It was clear that the course made a big impression on community groups who very much were eager for a connection to the university. Many were also pleased that the university was interested in exposing students to "their world".

The reaction of the students to the course has been amazing. While they all acknowledge the stress they felt participating in a course that was outside the routine university style, and the huge amount of work they did to meet community expectations, it was an entirely uplifting experience. They felt great about how their "school" work was going to make a contribution, and were truly pleased at the interest and effort people across the community also put into the course. They were honoured to be invited into so many offices and homes for our off-campus lecture evenings. The students saw this as a truly collaborative community-university experience. For several, it has already changed their next career steps!

In the words of 2 students:

As I'm finishing up my final report I'm feeling really grateful for my experience with the class. We were really lucky to meet with so many amazing NGO's in Prince George, which made me realize that this community has so many amazing people that go beyond to make this community a better place. The stories shared with each individual trying to implement their projects for affordable, safe housing was a humbling experience. Not being from Prince George, this experience gave me so much insight to the community that no normal class could have done. Also being mixed with students from different majors was first a little intimidating as I was caught off guard by their topic choices, but I think having different perspectives in the room helped me choose a topic that took me out of my comfort zone.

Listening to Chris speak on behalf of the course at CMHC's National Housing Day Luncheon last week also was a really humbling experience. The Steering Committee seemed to really enjoy the presentations and said that we simplified the problems for them, which I think is an amazing compliment when you are talking about a topic as complex as housing issues. It's also interesting how different our presentations were although all similar touching on making community better rather than just housing.

Thank you for the opportunity to take part in the Housing Issues in Prince George course. This was one of the best classes I have taken and I have gained many valuable skills this semester. Through this course, I made connections with leaders in the community who care about social issues and about affordable housing in particular. I learned that providing housing is the first step of helping people lead stable and healthy lives. I enjoyed coming to class each week to listen to the different guest speakers. They taught us much about Prince George, but also offered insight into the actual process of developing affordable housing. I learned that it is a long process, but nonetheless, it is well worth it.

The Housing Issues course also helped me improve my writing skills. This was the first time that I have written a formal report that will be used by members of the community. This was also the first time that I have delivered a presentation to a large group of experts in the field. I know this experience will help me in my future career. In addition, it was amazing to feel more invested in the outcome of my work than the grade that I will receive for completing it.

The guest speakers, course mentors, and Prince George Housing Strategy Steering Committee were supportive, encouraging, and made me feel that my work was valued. They also made it clear that they are looking forward to having 'fresh faces' contribute to the work they are doing.

As a new resident of Prince George, I learned about the different affordable housing projects in town, the history of the city and its future goals, the many non-profit organizations that work to help those in need, and the methods they have used to overcome barriers to affordable housing. Lastly, the Housing Issues course opened my eyes to the strong sense of community in Prince George. It is evident how much people care for one another and the lengths to which they will go to help their neighbours in need.

Thank you again for the opportunity and for everything I have learned.

Student trainees at UNBC

2012

Kourtney Chingee - research assistant, current undergraduate student at UNBC

Vienna-Lee Bouillon - research assistant, current undergraduate student at UNBC

Alex Martin - research assistant, completed graduate student at UNBC

Alika Rajput – research assistant

Training 'new researchers'

2012

Julia Schwamborn – research project manager

Rosemary Raygada Watanabe – research project manager

Alex Martin – Post-Doctoral Fellow at UNBC

Research Practicum Student Supervision

Presentations

Greg Halseth and Mark Austin (2012) Interdisciplinary partnered research. Presentation to the “On the Move” project. December 4 meetings in St. John’s Newfoundland.

Greg Halseth, Laura Ryser, Mark Austin (2012) Interdisciplinary partnered research: Making it work. Workshop for the “On the Move” project. December 4 meetings in St. John’s Newfoundland.

Marleen Morris (2012) Biomass and Food Security: Issues and Opportunities in Rural and Remote Communities. Canadian Bioenergy Association Annual National Conference. Vancouver, BC. November 27.

Greg Halseth and Marleen Morris (2012) Community Development and Collaboration in Rural and Northern Communities. Presentation at the Annual General Meeting of Board Voice. Richmond, BC. November 23.

Marleen Morris (2012) How Can Age-Friendly Initiatives Support Community Economic Development? Perspectives from rural and remote places in Manitoba and across Canada. Canadian Association of Gerontologists Annual Conference. Vancouver, BC. October 19

Laura Ryser, Julia Schwamborn, and Greg Halseth (2012) Poverty and Rural Regions. Annual Meetings of the Canadian Rural revitalization Foundation, Olds College, Olds Alberta. October 11-13.

Marleen Morris and Greg Halseth (2012) Community Development: Seeing the Opportunities in Burns Lake. Burns Lake Community Forum, Burns Lake, BC. May 10.

Greg Halseth and Marleen Morris (2012) Rural Places in a Global World: Lessons from successful rural regions. Presentation for the Regional District of Bulkley Nechako, Burns Lake, BC, June 28.

Mark Skinner, Greg Halseth, Neil Hanlon and Alun Joseph (2012) The transformative role of voluntarism in aging resource communities: integrating people, place and community. Annual Meetings of the Canadian Association of Geographers, Waterloo ON, May 28 – June 2.

Laura Ryser and Greg Halseth (2012) Housing Costs in an Oil and Gas Boom Town: Issues for Low-Income Senior Women Living Alone. Annual Meetings, Western Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers, University of British Columbia - Okanagan Campus in Kelowna, British Columbia, March 2012.

Marleen Morris (2012) Regional Economic Development: The Experience of England's Regional Development Agencies and the Relevance for BC. Municipal Administration Training Institute (MATI). North Vancouver, BC. March 15.

Ryser, L. (2012) Building Community Capacity Through the Voluntary Sector. Presented to the Crisis Prevention, Intervention, and Information Centre for Northern BC. Esther's Inn, Prince George, BC. May 27.

Keynote addresses:

Greg Halseth, Laura Ryser, Alika Rajput, and Sean Markey (2012) Long Distance Labour Commuting from a Northern Canadian small town: The Workers' Perspective. Memorial Presents at the Bruneau Centre, December 4, Memorial University – Newfoundland & Labrador

Greg Halseth (2012) Northern BC in a Global World: The UNBC Community Development Institute. Presentation to the UNBC Board of Governors. Prince George, December 1.

Greg Halseth and Marleen Morris (2012) Community Transition: "Placing" Housing in Non-Metropolitan BC. Presentation to BC Housing. Vancouver, November 26.

Greg Halseth and Marleen Morris (2012) Community Development and Collaborative Practice: Rural and Remote Communities. Board Voice Annual General Meeting, November 23.

Greg Halseth, Don Manson, Laura Ryser, and Marleen Morris (2012) Working with Communities. Northern Health Authority, Brown Bag Lunch Series. Prince George, November 22.

Greg Halseth and Marleen Morris (2012) Healthy Food – Healthy Communities: Bio-Economy Opportunities in Northern and Rural BC. BC Healthy Living Alliance Webinar, September 26.

Greg Halseth (2012) Rural Change and Services Transition. Union of BC Municipalities Annual General Meeting, Victoria, September 25.

Greg Halseth (2012) Community and Regional Impacts of Major Industrial Developments: Lessons from the Peace River Region. KT Industrial Development Society. Terrace, BC. September 18.

Greg Halseth (2012) Research Institutes at UNBC, featured speaker with Mike Gillingham at UNBC's Research at UNBC: From Start to Finish, September 6, 2012.

Greg Halseth (2012) Rural Places in a Global World: Lessons from successful regions. Regional District of Bulkley Nechako, Burns Lake, June 28.

Greg Halseth (2012) Moving Purposively as a Governance Coalition. Omineca Beetle Action Coalition, Prince George, April 20.

Greg Halseth (2012) How we got here and how to see the pathway ahead. Omineca Beetle Action Coalition, Prince George, April 20.

Greg Halseth (2012) The Next Rural Economies: Constructing Rural Place in Global Economies. Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, Ottawa, Ontario. March 21. A 1 hour training seminar.

Greg Halseth and Marleen Morris (2012) Working Together on Common Ground for Community Good. Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC. March 6.

Conference Organization:

Host and facilitator, Energy Sector Dialogue: Opportunities and Pressure Points Related to Rapid Growth in Northeast BC Communities, Dawson Creek, BC, September 20, 2012.

With Kathy Lewis, UNBC Ecosystem Science and Management Program, The Healthy Forests – Healthy Communities Prince George Experts Dialogue Session. UNBC campus, Prince George, October 3, 2012.

Facilitator, ‘Tier One – Kitimat Economic Impact Dialogue Plan Update’, Kitimat, BC, March 26, 2012.

Facilitator, ‘Small Business Roundtable’, Kitimat, BC, March 26, 2012.

Facilitator, ‘Tier One – Kitimat Economic Impact Dialogue Plan Update’, Kitimat, BC, September 18, 2012.

Facilitator, ‘Tier Two – Kitimat Social Impact Dialogue Plan Update’, Kitimat, BC, September 17, 2012.

Facilitator and member of organizing committee, “BC Workforce Table Dialogue: Terrace, BC”, January 30, 2012. For BC Ministry of Advanced Education and BC Ministry of Jobs, Tourism, and Innovation.

Facilitator and member of organizing committee, “BC Workforce Table Dialogue: Dawson Creek, BC”, February 10, 2012. For BC Ministry of Advanced Education and BC Ministry of Jobs, Tourism, and Innovation.

CDI Community Speaker's Series

The CDI's Community Speaker's Series invites experts to talk on important and relevant topics for northern BC. The Community Speaker's Series consists of classroom lectures at UNBC, a public lecture in Prince George, and a public talk in another northern BC community. These lectures are free and open to the public.

Spring 2012

The Spring Speakers Series 2012 involved a series of panel discussions that explored how resource-dependent communities and regions can build the foundations of sustainable prosperity.

The goal was to illustrate how communities can create a stronger future by taking a comprehensive and integrated approach to community and economic development. The panel explored some of the opportunities, decisions, strategies, and policies that can foster positive long-term outcomes.

The format for the evenings involved a panel presentation followed by a response session involving local representatives. Time has been allocated after each session for discussion, questions, and answers.

The public talks were held as follows:

- Fort St. John: Monday, April 23, at the Pomeroy Sports Centre
Craig Crawford, Vice-President of Operations, BC Housing.
Jack Wong, Chief Executive Officer, Real Estate Foundation of BC.
Mitchel Chilcott, Chief Executive Officer, North Peace Savings & Credit Union
Greg Halseth, Director of the Community Development Institute, UNBC
- Prince George: Wednesday, April 25, Room 7-152, UNBC campus
Craig Crawford, Vice-President of Operations, BC Housing.
Jack Wong, Chief Executive Officer, Real Estate Foundation of BC.
Lorne Calder, Chief Financial Officer, Integris Credit Union
Greg Halseth, Director of the Community Development Institute, UNBC
- Terrace: Thursday, April 26, Room 103, UNBC Terrace Campus.
Craig Crawford, Vice-President of Operations, BC Housing.
Jack Wong, Chief Executive Officer, Real Estate Foundation of BC.
Bill Nicholls, Interim CEO, Northern Savings Credit Union
Don Manson, Coordinator, Community Development Institute, UNBC

The Panel presentations started at 7:00 pm.

This Community Speakers Series event was co-sponsored by:

The City of Fort St. John
UNBC Peace-Liard Regional Campus
The City of Prince George
The City of Terrace
UNBC Northwest Regional Office
The Community Development Institute at UNBC

Fall 2012

Dr. Terri MacDonald, Regional Innovation Chair, Rural Economic Development, Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute, Selkirk College, Castlegar, gave a presentation on “**The Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute: Building Regional Capacity through Research & Innovation**” in Prince George and Vanderhoof.

These public talks were held:

- Monday, October 15, Prince George: 7:00 pm, Room 7-150, UNBC Campus, Prince George
- Tuesday, October 16, Vanderhoof: 7:00 pm, Council Chambers, Municipal Office, Vanderhoof

This Community Speakers Series event was co-sponsored by:

The District of Vanderhoof
The Community Development Institute at UNBC

CDI Publication Series

The CDI Publication Series is a peer reviewed outlet that focuses upon invited reports on topics of relevance to the mandate of the CDI and important to northern British Columbia's communities. The peer review aspect of the Series ensures that only high quality research is published.

The CDI is proud to announce the publication of the 4th and 5th papers in its publication series:

Multi-Sectoral Collaboration and Economic Development: Lessons from England's Regional Development Agencies

By: Marleen Morris
2010

A Primer For Understanding Issues Around Rural Poverty

By: Laura Ryser and Greg Halseth
2010

All of the CDI publications are made available on-line at:

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

CDI Student Paper Award and Publication Series

The CDI is proud to announce the creation of the CDI Graduate and Undergraduate Student Paper Award and Publication Series.

The CDI will hold an annual Graduate Student Paper Competition and an Undergraduate Student Paper Competition. In partnership with UNBC's Vice-President Research, the CDI will offer an annual \$500 award to the best student paper submitted in each competition. The successful submissions will be published through the CDI Student Paper Award and Publication Series.

CDI Community Connections Series

For a number of years the CDI has developed a presentation on key community development issues that can act as a 'primer' and update for local groups. This has been widely subscribed and is a popular learning tool for local councils and agencies.

Don Manson: "*Nev2: The Recession Response Project*".

In 2012, this presentation was delivered in 14 communities within UNBC's service region.

UNBC Curriculum Contributions

Geography Program (BA) major: Public Administration and Community Development

A number of years ago, the CDI initiated a process to better connect UNBC with the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology (NVIT). NVIT is based in Merritt, but it offers a wide number of programs, certificates, and diplomas targeted to Aboriginal communities around BC. Since that time, processes have been set in place to coordinate the paperwork and processes for NVIT students transferring to UNBC. In addition, one of the decisions at that early set of meetings was that UNBC would try to identify a ‘destination’ for graduates from NVIT’s Public Administration and Community Economic Development diplomas. Discussions at UNBC identified additional opportunities around these same topic areas.

Between 2006 and 2009, working in conjunction with a wide range of groups within UNBC and with a number of external partners, the CDI was able to develop a new major within the Geography Program (BA) called “Public Administration and Community Development”. This major is targeted at people who seek to combine public administration with a keen interest in community development. The goal is to give students the skills to function within a range of groups, organizations, and offices. Graduates will be able to interact with appropriate professionals, receive their input and reports, and collate a wide range of information and material in service of their group/organization/office. Skills in analysis and synthesis are to be complemented by an ability to work cooperatively and effectively, and to be able to communicate clearly through written, oral, and graphic mediums. Together, this direction will assist the student in becoming equipped for community leadership, with the knowledge and skills to bring together diverse expertise and information on an array of subjects and mobilize it within Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities.

In 2012, the Public Administration and Community Development major was updated as a result of changes to the Political Science Program’s course offerings.

Outreach

The CDI is a resource centre to which communities and decision-makers can turn in their search for timely and relevant information. It is also a conduit through which information from outside the region is shared with communities. Building upon a strong "extension" tradition to connect research and training opportunities with community needs, and to translate best practices into applied tools, links are provided so rural and small town places can access additional information and resources. Important aspects of outreach for the CDI include support for local initiatives, our community visits, assistance with local and regional community and economic development forums, our Community Contact Newsletters, and the CDI website.

As part of the CDI renewal process, we have increased our outreach, building or expanding relationships with government, industry and business, the non-profit sector, and communities. The goal is to increase knowledge and dialogue on issues that have an impact on community, regional, and economic development.

Included below are sections on:

- Policy Dialogues
- Non-Profit Dialogues
- Industry Dialogues
- Community Dialogues

- National Network for Urban Aboriginal Economic Development
- Bio-Economy Dialogue Group
- Clearwater - Wells Gray Country

- Community Contact Newsletters
- CDI Website
- Community Education Videos
- Community Visits Schedule

Policy Dialogues

The CDI held a series of policy dialogues with provincial elected officials and ministry staff. These conversations focused on the need to prepare communities and regions for ongoing change and transformation; to take advantage of opportunities to increase investment, diversify and strengthen the economy, multiply employment, and build community infrastructure. Discussions emphasized that building community and regional capacity for transformation and change will create resilient economies and sustainable communities, better able to realize lasting benefit and prosperity.

Provincial Government: Elected Representatives

1. MLA Robin Austin
2. Honourable Pat Bell
3. Honourable Shirley Bond
4. Honourable Stephanie Cadieux
5. Honourable Ida Chong
6. MLA Katrine Conroy
7. MLA Gary Coons
8. MLA Doug Donaldson
9. MLA Eric Foster
10. MLA Mike Farnworth
11. MLA Carole James
12. Honourable Blair Lekstrom
13. Honourable Norm Letnick
14. Honourable Don McRae
15. MLA Pat Pimm
16. MLA John Rustad
17. Honourable Ben Stewart
18. Honourable Steve Thomson
19. Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
20. Honourable John Yap

Provincial Government: Ministries

1. Ministry of Advanced Education,
2. Ministry of Agriculture
3. Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development
4. Ministry of Energy and Mines
5. Ministry of Health
6. Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skill Development
7. Ministry of Social Development

Crown Corporations and Agencies

1. BC Housing
2. Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
3. Northern Health Authority

Non-Profit Dialogues

The CDI non-profit dialogues have focused on building relationships with organizations whose mandate could further community development initiatives. These discussions explored ways the CDI could assist in building awareness of the programs and resources these organizations provide and make them more accessible to northern communities.

The CDI website features profiles of our partners in community development.

1. Board Voice
2. BC Healthy Living Alliance
3. Government Non-Profit Initiative
4. Vancouver Foundation
5. Elizabeth Fry Society
6. Prince George Metis Housing Society

Industry Dialogues

Industry is a key partner in discussions and planning for community and regional development. The CDI has initiated dialogue with a number of industry sectors to explore their perceptions of the opportunities and pressure points associated with the growth of the northern BC economy and its communities.

1. Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers
2. Canadian Energy Pipelines Association
3. Conifex Timber Incorporated
4. Integris Credit Union
5. Mt. Milligan Mine (Thompson Creek Metals)
6. North Peace Savings and Credit Union
7. Northern Development Initiative Trust
8. Northern Savings Credit Union
9. Quality Power
10. Shell Canada
11. Spectra Energy
12. Kitimat industry: Rio Tinto Alcan/Bechtel, Apache Canada

Community Dialogues

The CDI's community dialogues have focused on discussion of the opportunities and pressure points that communities are facing related to rapid economic growth, major project development, and community expansion in northern BC. These conversations helped inform the renewed CDI vision and areas of focus. They also serve to share many of the CDI's research learnings with community leaders so as to help transfer, and build, knowledge and capacity.

Local Governments

- Burns Lake
- Chetwynd
- Clearwater
- Dawson Creek
- Ft. St. James
- Fraser Lake
- Granisle
- Hazelton
- Houston
- Hudson's Hope
- Kitimat
- Mackenzie
- McBride
- Prince George
- Terrace
- Tumbler Ridge
- Valemount

Regional Districts

- Bulkley Nechako
- Fraser-Fort George
- Peace River
- Kitimat-Stikine

Provincial Agencies

- UBCM

National Network for Urban Aboriginal Economic Development

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), through their Knowledge Impact in Society program, granted funding to support the creation of a “National Network for Urban Aboriginal Economic Development”.

The objective is to develop an open and inclusive multi-stakeholder national network of researchers, practitioners, and policy makers working in urban Aboriginal and Métis communities. This includes organizations, universities, federal/provincial/municipal governments, private industry, community groups, and NGO’s. The network focuses on mobilizing economic development knowledge and strengthening organizational capacity.

The tasks include building the network, fostering better understanding of the key issues, hosting national conferences, and establishing local Learning Circles to facilitate knowledge exchange and capacity building. The network already includes more than 25 organizations across Canada.

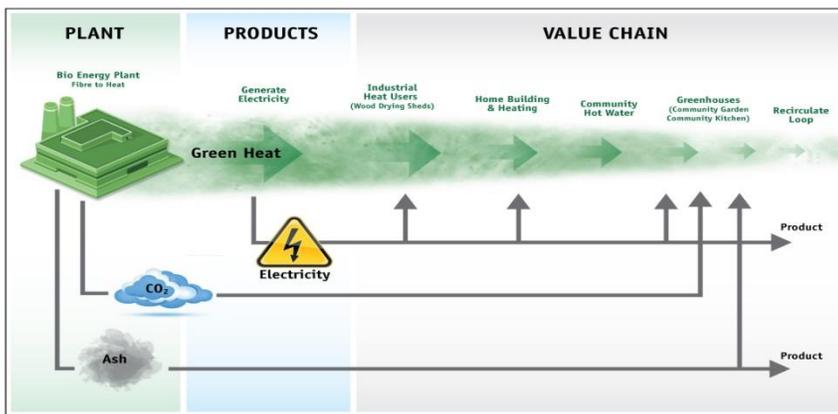
The network is coordinated by Greg Halseth from UNBC’s Community Development Institute and Ray Gerow from the Prince George Aboriginal Business Development Centre. Funding support for the network includes \$100,000 per year for three years from SSHRC, as well as a matching cash contribution of \$102,000 per year for three years from the Federal Office of the Interlocutor within Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. An additional \$102,000 one time grant was made available by the Economic Development Branch of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

To date, Network activities have been highly successful with two National Gatherings, a large number of Learning Circles, policy meetings with the Federal Government, a conference of aboriginal scholars, and a range of information development and dissemination tasks.

For the 2011-2012 period, the CDI is working to wrap up the Network’s activities and link it to a new initiative managed by the National Association of Native Friendship Centres.

Bio-Economy Dialogue Group

Over the summer of 2012, the CDI continued to coordinate the conversations of the “Bio-Economy Dialogue Group”. The group came together around an interest in exploring the tertiary opportunities associated with bio-energy and bio-manufacturing processes, specifically the potential for utilizing ‘waste’ heat, heat that is currently being expelled into the atmosphere. Our initial focus was on exploring the potential of utilizing ‘waste’ heat for greenhouse vegetable operations. As discussions and research expanded, the group began looking more broadly up and down the “heat value chain” to fully identify the potential and issues around tertiary opportunities.



The current objective of this group is to explore the potential of developing a small, scalable bio-energy unit for smaller off-grid communities that would generate electricity, heat, and a range of tertiary opportunities for using both the energy and the ‘waste’ heat. The vision is to design the bio-energy unit for use with greenhouse operations.

Bio-Economy Dialogue Group members and affiliations:

Don Bassermann	Omineca Beetle Action Committee
Nate Bello	NB Consulting
Scott Green	University of Northern British Columbia
Hardy Griesbauer	College of New Caledonia
Greg Halseth	Community Development Institute, UNBC
Melanie Karjala	Resources North Association
Kathi Zimmerman	Resources North Association
Stephanie Killam	District of Mackenzie, Resources North
Leslie Lax	Strategic Management Consulting
Elissa Meiklem	Northern Bioenergy Partnership
Marleen Morris	Community Development Institute, UNBC
Vince Prince	Aboriginal Business & Community Development Centre
Sharon Tower	Omineca Beetle Action Committee
Cathe Wishart	College of New Caledonia

Clearwater - Wells Gray Country

The CDI continues its mentoring role in the Clearwater - Wells Gray Country valley. This is now the 10th year that the CDI has been working with local groups. Mentoring has been done at the level of community organizations working for community and economic development. It has also been more recently directed to the staff and elected officials of the newly formed municipal District of Clearwater. The CDI continues to be assisted by the Community Resources Center of the North Thompson.

Support for Local Initiatives

2006 - present Board membership for Greg Halseth on Prince George Aboriginal Business Development Association

2007 - present Board membership for Greg Halseth on Community Futures of Fraser Fort George

2012 The CDI, together with Gary Wilson of UNBC's Political Science Program, are coordinating with Northern Development (Northern Development Initiative Trust) to extend their current internship program, create a new internship program for local government placements, and better link the internship programs with UNBC.

2012 Laura Ryser serves as an alternate "Education and Research" representative on the CSA Sustainable Forest Management Certificate – Public Advisory Group process for CANFOR in Prince George.

Community Contact Newsletters

The CDI Community Contacts Newsletter is published quarterly with the goal to share information and news about community development activities.

Volume 7	No 2	2012	March
Volume 7	No 3	2012	June
Volume 7	No 4	2012	September
Volume 8	No 1	2012	December

CDI Website: <http://www.unbc.ca/cdi/index.html>

The CDI website is one of the key tools for collecting and communicating information about community development issues as they affect northern BC. Information on the website is organized under the following topics:

- Introduction
- Institute Description
- Annual Reports
- Community Speaker Series
- CDI Books
- CDI Publications Series
- CDI Conferences
- CDI Presentations
- Northern Economic Forum
- Newsletters
- Mountain Pine Beetle Links
- Community Visits
- Institute Director
- Associate Director
- Staff
- Research
- Information Sharing
- Community Education Videos
- Links
- Contact Information

Under links, the website collects sites that may be of interest to our northern communities under the following categories:

- Statistics & Data
- Governments
- First Nations
- Rural Studies Centres
- Non Governmental & Other Organizations
- Other Links
- Community Forests
- Northern BC Sites

It should be noted that UNBC is currently redesigning its website “format”, and that this will be unveiled in January 2013. At that point, please watch as well for changes to the CDI website and its contents.

Community Education Videos

An exciting new addition to the CDI website was made in 2011 when we extended our information sharing and knowledge mobilization tools. Since sharing of information and supporting educational outreach are two of the cornerstones of our work, we have created a suite of educational videos and companion tools that help bring these tasks together.

Listed below are topics of general relevance to communities across northern BC. The presentations on each of these topics are designed to give a quick introduction together with background information and relevant detail to assist viewers and readers in developing a working understanding of the topics.

Each topic listed below can be accessed in four ways.

- A PowerPoint file contains a copy of the presentation as slides.
- A PDF file contains a copy of the presentation slides together with the associated notes listed as text under each slide.
- A WORD file contains a copy of the presentation as text only, with the bullet points from slides included along with the text notes explaining each slide.
- An audio-visual presentation which plays out like a movie, with the visual shifting between slides and the audio reading the explanatory text.

The materials included in the UNBC CDI's Community Education Videos/Tools were produced from CDI work by Rosemary Raygada Watanabe and were narrated by Allan Cornes.

List of Economic Development Topics:

- [Community development foundations that support local and regional economic renewal](#)
- [Strengthening community engagement in the New Rural Economy](#)
- [Barriers that impede community development partnerships](#)
- [Economic restructuring and rural and small town housing markets](#)

List of Community Development Topics:

- [Aging in northern BC's resource towns](#)
- [Communication strategies for seniors' services](#)
- [Youth in an aging rural society](#)
- [Understanding rural poverty in northern BC](#)
- [The role of the voluntary sector in health care reform](#)
- [The Northern Medical Program is a tool to mobilize knowledge and produce change](#)
- [The development of smart, innovative service delivery models](#)

Community Visits Schedule

Community visits form an integral part of the CDI mission. They are part of our ongoing efforts to build and grow relationships, collect and share community development information, identify new topics and issues of relevance to our community partners, and evaluate ways by which we can get needed information into the hands of our communities. Community visits not only include meetings with individuals and organizations, but often also includes public speaking invitations from community groups, local government / band councils, and chambers of commerce.

Community Visits Schedule 2012:

January 2012	Valemount, Terrace, Kelowna
February 2012	Dawson Creek, Victoria
March 2012	Vancouver, Kelowna, Port Moody, Burns Lake, Kitimat, Clearwater, Vancouver
April 2012	Clearwater, Hazelton, Fort St. John, Terrace, Port Moody,
May 2012	Merritt, Princeton, Castlegar, Osoyoos, Cranbrook, Fernie, Creston, Salmo, Sparwood, Greenwood, Grand Forks, Fort St. John, Hudson's Hope, Mackenzie, Clearwater, McBride, Valemount, Terrace, Kitimat, Lax'galtzap, 100 Mile House, Burns Lake, Victoria
June 2012	Hazelton, Smithers, Telkwa, Houston, Vanderhoof, Fraser Lake, Clinton, Mackenzie, Tumbler Ridge, Dawson Creek, Kelowna, Vancouver, Burns Lake
July 2012	Clearwater
August 2012	Tumbler Ridge, Dawson Creek, Vancouver, Kelowna
September 2012	Quesnel, Williams Lake, 100 Mile House, Terrace, Tumbler Ridge, Dawson Creek, Vancouver, Kitimat, Victoria
October 2012	Olds ALTA, Winnipeg MAN, Vancouver, Victoria, Vanderhoof, Victoria
November 2012	Vancouver, Victoria
December 2012	St John's NFLD, Vancouver, Victoria