

# UNBC Community Development Institute

## Annual Report 2010

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The Community Development Institute (CDI) at UNBC is pleased to present its 2010 Annual Report. This report covers the period from January to December 2010.

### **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 is becoming 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.*

To enhance this capacity requires 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.

## 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 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](http://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*

2009-2011    On-going

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 will explore:

- the choices and decisions being made in response to the 2008/2010 economic downturn,
- the impacts of those choices / decisions as the economy begins 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 will complete this project with a series of roundtables held across northern BC at which the preliminary findings will be shared and refined.

A group of researchers at both UNBC and UBC, led by Dr. Neil Hanlon in UNBC's Geography Program, received a research grant from the BC Medical Services Foundation to evaluate the impact of the Northern Medical Program on physician recruitment and retention in its host community. A specific focus was to be on the role of social capital and social cohesion. The CDI used a questionnaire to interview local physicians and NMP organizers. The CDI also provided analysis of the social capital building aspects of the NMP.

*'Warmth of Welcome' Project*

2007-2010 Completed

Through collaborative and action research plans, Catherine Nolin, Greg Halseth, and members of the Immigrant and Multicultural Services Society (IMSS) worked together to highlight the barriers to, and needs for, the strengthened participation of new immigrants in northern community life as well as develop recommendations and initiatives to foster more inclusive and welcoming communities for new immigrants in northern BC. A dearth of research on non-metropolitan immigrant settlement in Canada means that the experience of whole regions of the country is little understood. Activities were carried out in Ft. St. John, Prince George, and Terrace.

*Northern Rockies Partnership: Building the Region Together!*

2009 On-going

Together with the Fraser Basin Council, we are working to assist the Northern Rockies Regional Municipality (NRRM) with the development, establishment, and initial implementation of a proposed "Northern Rockies Partnership: Building the Region Together!" Over the last four decades, the Northern Rockies region of northeastern British Columbia has experienced economic 'boom' and 'bust' situations due to the growth and decline of numerous resource development activities. The CDI is assisting with the creation of a more integrative and collaborative dialogue approach to community and resource development that will bring together regional First Nations communities, natural resource industries, the provincial government, and the NRRM.

The Northern Rockies Partnership – Building the Region Together! presents a significant opportunity for the First Nation communities, the oil and gas sector, the provincial government, and the NRRM to work together to ensure a sustainable and prosperous future for the region. The partnership signifies a special kind of collaborative process that could result in substantive benefits to each of the parties. Initial work began in April 2009, and already there are several initiatives underway to start this partnership dialogue process.

Links: <http://www.northernrockies.org/>

*National Network for Urban Aboriginal Economic Development*

2008 - 2012 On-going

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 network is coordinated by Greg Halseth from UNBC’s CDI and Ray Gerow from the Prince George Aboriginal Business Development Centre.

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 a 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 second National Gathering was held in Ottawa during the Fall 2010, and a gathering of academics was held in April 2010 in Regina.

Link: <http://abdc.bc.ca/uaed/>

*Agriculture Potential Across Northern BC*

2008 On-going

The CDI coordinated the start of a dialogue between a number of Community Futures offices in northern BC and interested UNBC researchers. The dialogue concerns the future potential of agriculture industry expansion across the region. More than 11 UNBC researchers expressed an interest in participating, covering research topics in agriculture, agricultural industry development, future climate and environmental scenarios for the region, changing energy costs and their impacts on agricultural production, food security, and various forms of mainstream and alternative produce marketing and distribution mechanisms. The initiative has now been taken up by some UNBC researchers, the Omineca and Cariboo- Chilcotin Beetle Action Coalitions, and the region’s Community Futures offices.

*Laxgalts'ap Village Government* 2010-2011 On-going  
*Community Development Plan update*

This research partnership between the Laxgalts'ap Village Government and the Community Development Institute at UNBC focuses on Laxgalts'ap's Community Development Plan. The Laxgalts'ap Village Government is part of the Nisga'a First Nation and is formally constituted under terms of the Nisga'a Treaty. The purpose is to review the previous Community Development Plan and talk with local residents to create an "update" on achievements as well as a framework for actions towards their next Community Development Plan. This project is expected to be completed in January 2011.

*District of Clearwater* 2010-2011 On-going  
*Community Economic Development Plan*

This research partnership between the District of Clearwater and UNBC's Community Development Institute is to review past community and economic development plans and talk with local residents to create a new Community Economic Development plan for the District and the surrounding Electoral Area 'A' of the Thompson-Nicola Regional District. The Community Development Institute has a longstanding relationship with the people and communities of the North Thompson Valley. This project is expected to be completed in April 2011.

*Norman Lake - Foundations of Cottage Culture* 2010 Completed

Recreational cottage properties are a common part of the rural Canadian landscape. This study explored the changing nature of cottage property development and use. The goal was to gain a better understanding of the human and natural landscape connections that attract cottagers to their recreational properties, and also the changing nature of cottaging communities. In addition to this study at Norman Lake, a companion study was carried out in the 'cottage country' lakes area of central Finland by research partners at the University of Eastern Finland.

Links to reports are available on the CDI website.

*(Re)Defining Poverty – A literature review* 2010 Completed

This project examined the theoretical and methodological issues associated with poverty in the northern BC context of resource dependent rural and small town place as a foundation for understanding both population and economic restructuring.

Links to reports are available on the CDI website.

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.

Links to reports are available on the CDI website.

***Research grants***

Granting Agency	Subject	\$ Per Year	Year	Principal Investigator	Co-Investigator(s)
UNBC – Office of Research	(Re)Defining Poverty: Population and economic restructuring in resource dependent rural & small town places	\$8,000	2010	Greg Halseth	
SSHRC – Knowledge Impact in Society Program	National Network for Urban Indigenous Economic Development	\$100,000	2008-2012	Greg Halseth	
Indian and North Affairs Canada – Office of the Federal Interlocutor	National Network for Urban Indigenous Economic Development	\$102,000	2008-2011	Greg Halseth	
Community-University Research Alliance	Mapping quality of life and the culture of small cities	\$250,000	2006-2011	William Garrett-Petts, Thompson Rivers University	37 co-investigators from UNBC, TRU, SFU, Univ. of Waterloo, and other agencies incl. Greg Halseth

***Research contracts***

Granting Agency	Subject	\$ Per Year	Year	Principal Investigator	Co-Investigator(s)
Municipality of Clearwater	Community Economic Development Plan	\$32,186	2010 - 2011	Greg Halseth	
Laxgalts'ap Village Government	Community Plan update	\$19,624	2010 - 2011	Greg Halseth	

***Reports***

Halseth, G. and J. Schwamborn. 2010. *Foundations of Cottage Culture: Master Report from a Survey of Cottage Owners at Norman Lake, British Columbia*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia.

Halseth, G. and J. Schwamborn. 2010. *Foundations of Cottage Culture: Summary Report from a Survey of Cottage Owners at Norman Lake, British Columbia*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia.

Schwamborn, J. and G. Halseth. 2010. *Foundations of Cottage Culture: Methodology Report from a Survey of Cottage Owners at Norman Lake, British Columbia*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia.

Giesbrecht, K., Skinner, M., Halseth, G., Hanlon, N. and Joseph, A. 2010. *Voluntarism, Ageing and Place: A Critical Review*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia.

Ryser, L. and Halseth, G. (2010). *A Primer For Understanding Issues Around Rural Poverty*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia.

## **Education**

The Community Development Institute hopes to enhance capacity building through educational opportunities. This includes student training, work within the university curriculum, continuing education and regional offerings, connections with the northern colleges and with specialized education and training centres, and public talks/conferences to share information.

### ***Student trainees at UNBC***

2010

Chelan Hoffman - research assistant, completed graduate student at UNBC

Jen Herkes - research assistant, completed graduate student at UNBC

Kyle Kusch - research assistant, completed graduate student at UNBC

Alex Martin - research assistant, current graduate student at UNBC

Courtney LaBourdais - research assistant, current graduate student at UNBC

### ***Training 'new researchers'***

2010

Julia Schwamborn – research project manager

### ***Research Practicum Student Supervision***

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## *Presentations*

Greg Halseth (2010) Urban Aboriginal Economic Development. Workshop on “Understanding indigenous economic development in northern, rural and remote settings: Frameworks for change”, November 24-25, Prince George.

Laura Ryser and Greg Halseth (2010) Innovation Towards Smart Service Provision. Annual meetings of the National Rural Research Network – Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation Conference, Brandon University, Brandon, Manitoba, October 14-16.

Marc von der Gonna, Laura Ryser, and Greg Halseth (2010) Knowledge AND action in support of small town economic transition. Taking the Next Steps: Sustainability Planning, Policy and Participation for Rural Canadian Communities conference, Augustana Campus of the University of Alberta, Camrose, Alberta, October 21-23.

Catherine Nolin, Anisa Zehtab-Martin, and Greg Halseth (2010) Hidden Avenue(s) of (Im)migration: Transnational Experiences of Mail-Order Brides in Northern BC, in the Experiencing Smaller Cities/Towns in Canada: Immigrants finding their place II special session, Annual Meetings, Association of American Geographers, Washington, DC, April.

Kwabena Owusu-Nyamekye, Greg Halseth, and Balbinder Deo (2010) Operation Privatization in Canada - Insiders' perspective. Administrative Sciences Association of Canada, Regina, SK, May 22-25.

Greg Halseth and Andra Aldea-Partanen (2010) The challenge of ‘re’-imagining the future. Presentation at the 9th European Academy on Social Innovation and Sustainable Rural Development, Karhulanvaara, Suomussalmi, Finland, 27 June – 4 July.

Laura Ryser, Greg Halseth, and Don Manson (2010) Cents and Sensibility: Creating Effective Policies to Support Voluntary Initiatives in Rural Canada. Annual Meetings, Canadian Association of Geographers, Regina, SK, June.

Laura Ryser and Greg Halseth (2010) Communication Mechanisms for Delivering Information to Seniors in a Changing Small Town Context, Annual Meetings, Western Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers, Edmonton, AB, March.

Greg Halseth (2010) Academic panel for Ministry of Community and Rural Development, on BC’s Rural Strategy, Victoria BC, May 11-12, 2010.

Don Manson (2010) Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako, Business forum, Burns Lake, October 28 & 29, 2010, Facilitator.

Don Manson (2010) Panel member for Research Panel and Networking Event of the BC Rural and Remote Health Research Network – “Community Based Research in Rural and Remote Communities”. January 25, UNBC.

Don Manson (2010) Panel Discussion and Meeting – Tsihqot'in National Government, Williams Lake, September.

***Keynote addresses:***

From plans to action: Implementing resilience strategies in the Omineca region. Omineca Beetle Action Coalition Conference, Prince George, April 20.

Community based research at UNBC. Presentation to North America Mobility Program delegates from Canada, US, and Mexico, UNBC Campus, Prince George, May 10.

Strategies of local community development in periods of global economic transformation. International Summer School 2010 – Local and regional development, Sakha State University, Yakutsk, Russia, June 2.

Service sector development in remote rural territories of the north. International Summer School 2010 – Local and regional development, Sakha State University, Yakutsk, Russia, June 2.

The role of voluntary sector organizations in rural development. International Summer School 2010 – Local and regional development, Sakha State University, Yakutsk, Russia, June 3.

The role of municipalities in regional, rural, and community development. International Summer School 2010 – Innovative Development of Northern Territories of Russia, sponsored by Sakha State University, Yakutsk, Russia and held in Oktejmty, Russia, June 5.

Strategies of local community development in periods of global economic transformation. International Summer School 2010 – Innovative Development of Northern Territories of Russia, sponsored by Sakha State University, Yakutsk, Russia and held in Tyngyly, Russia, June 7.

Strategies of local community development in periods of global economic transformation. International Summer School 2010 – Innovative Development of Northern Territories of Russia, sponsored by Sakha State University, Yakutsk, Russia and held in Hatystyr, Russia, June 11.

Engaging communities and organizations. BC Public Health Association Summer School 2010, Prince George (with telecom links to UVIC, UBC, and Terrace), July 27.

Our Province - Our Future, Northern Dialogue, NDP Leader's Summit, Prince George, October 22.

Economic change and industrial futures – Annual General Meeting of the North Central Labour Council, Prince George, BC, November 20.

Cottage Survey Results, Norman Lake Association Annual General Meeting, Prince George, BC, November 25.

Don Manson (2010) Keynote Address “Getting Ahead of the Curve”, Williams Lake Chamber of Commerce, Williams Lake, September 30.

***Conference Organization:***

Moderator for Research Panel and Networking Event of the BC Rural and remote Health Research Network – “Community-Based Research in Rural and Remote Communities”. January 25, UNBC.

With Ray Gerow, Prince George Aboriginal Business Development Corporation, organized the workshop: “Understanding indigenous economic development in northern, rural and remote settings: Frameworks for change”, in conjunction with the University of the Arctic's thematic networks on Local and regional development, northern governance, and northern tourism, November 24-25, Prince George.

As a follow up to the 2008 CDI organized international workshop “Space to Place: The Next Rural Economies”, we are pleased to announce a major book publication from that event:

Halseth, Greg, Markey, Sean and Bruce, David (eds) 2010 The Next Rural Economies: Constructing Rural Place in a Global Economy, CABI International: Oxfordshire, UK

### *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 2010

Dr. Dawn Hemingway, Associate Professor and Chair of the School of Social Work at UNBC, gave a talk entitled: **“Boom or Bust: Northern Communities Must Have Social Infrastructure”** in Prince George and Fort St. John.

These public talks were held:

- Wednesday, May 12, Prince George: 7:00 pm, Room 7-150, UNBC Campus, Prince George
- Thursday, May 13: 7:00 pm, Room 202, Northern Lights Campus, Fort St. John

This Community Speakers Series event was co-sponsored by:  
UNBC's Peace River-Liard Regional Office,  
The Community Development Institute at UNBC

#### Fall 2010

Ms. Ramona Rose, Head of Archives & Special Collections in the Geoffrey R. Weller Library at UNBC gave a presentation on collaborative efforts to preserve First Nations community-based archival materials at UNBC, the 'in-trust' holding agreements created, and collaborative working relationships forged. The presentation also considered future needs for the continuing development of First Nations archives. The talks took place in Prince George and Williams Lake.

These public talks were held:

- in Prince George, 7:00 pm, Tuesday, October 05 2010, Room 7-150, UNBC campus
- The Prince George version was broadcast simultaneously to the UNBC campus in Terrace via the Elluminate system.
- in Williams Lake, 1:00 pm, Wednesday, October 06 2010, at the Longhouse, 850 Mackenzie Avenue South

This Community Speakers Series event was co-sponsored by:  
Tsilhqot'in National Government  
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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 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 (2010) "*Reorienting for Renewal: Community Development in rural and small town BC*".

Locations for CDI Community Connections Series 2010

- Victoria, May 05
- Ft. St. John, May 18
- Ft. Nelson, May 19
- Williams Lake, May 27
- Clearwater, May 28
- Port Clement, June 09
- Prince Rupert, June 15
- Terrace, June 17
- Burns Lake, June 18

## *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.

## **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.

### ***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 3 years from SSHRC, as well as a matching cash contribution of \$102,000 per year for 3 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 2 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.

### ***Enhanced Public Administration Education in Northern BC***

Effective local capacity is the key to building responsive and resilient communities and organizations. For local and First Nations governments, the public administration training and capacity of the staff is critical in determining the effectiveness and resilience of the governing body. Recruitment and retention of local and First Nations government employees is an immediate and ongoing concern for communities in northern British Columbia. As a result, the CDI (together with Dr. Gary Wilson of UNBC's Political Science Program) is partnering with the Ministry of Community Development and the Fraser Fort George Regional District to initiate the creation of enhanced public administration education training opportunities in northern BC.

Some key issues include:

- That local governments in northern BC are training grounds or incubators of professional staff and it is not uncommon for professionals to move to larger and more sophisticated organizations.
- Stimulating interest in local and First Nations government as a rewarding and desirable career choice.
- Succession training of existing staff is hampered by capacity / availability issues.
- Need to coordinate a range of options that meet the needs of a range of students and learning situations.

Some early actions will include:

- Development of a skills / responsibility list for local / First Nations administration staff.
- Undertake a scoping study.
- Needs assessment and review of what others might be doing elsewhere to address the issue.
- Follow up with a wide range of stakeholders.

### ***Community Transition Toolkit - Dialogue Process***

The CDI worked with the Omineca Beetle Action Coalition (OBAC) and the BC Provincial Government (Ministry of Community Services ) to revise and share the CDI's Economic Emergency Toolkit as a more general Community Transition Toolkit. The Toolkit was created first in a partnership between the CDI and the District of Mackenzie. The expanded Toolkit now combines transition best practices with a gap analysis of the social and community services available within the communities that can support transition.

Considerable energy has been put into supporting communities using the Toolkit, including Chetwynd, Mackenzie, Fort Nelson/Northern Rockies, Prince Rupert, and the most recent case of Kitimat.



### ***Connections***

The CDI assisted Prince Rupert with putting together a response to a proposal to reduce the number of BC Ferry sailings to/from the community. In addition to information and reference material, the CDI connected community leaders to the UNBC ORTM Program for additional tourism related information/research.

### ***Clearwater - Wells Gray Country***

The CDI continues its mentoring role in the Clearwater - Wells Gray Country valley. This is now the 8<sup>th</sup> 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.

The CDI was a featured participant at the valley forum this past spring in discussions about sustainability planning for the District and surrounding rural areas.

### ***Support for Local Initiatives***

- 2006 - present Board membership on Prince George Aboriginal Business Development Association
- 2007 - present Board membership on Community Futures of Fraser Fort George
- 2006 - present Advisor to the Human Resources Project, Cariboo Tribal Council
- 2005 - present Advisory role to Executive Director of the Cariboo-Chilcotin Beetle Action Coalition.
- 2007 - present Advisory role to the Tsilhqot'in Community Impact Assessment processes related to mining activity proposals within the traditional territory of the Tsilhqot'in National Government.
- 2008 - present The CDI, together with Gary Wilson and Tracy Summerville of UNBC's Political Science Program, are coordinating with the City of Prince George with respect to the City's Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (MyPG). The liaison is being headed by Tracy Summerville.
  
- 2010 The CDI facilitated a working group of local service providers interested in youth employment issues (Youth Employment Services – YES) as they worked to create a local research project on how they can better serve youth to be successful within the local labour market.
  
- 2010 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 6	No 1	2009	December
Volume 6	No 2	2010	March
Volume 6	No 3	2010	June
Volume 6	No 4	2010	September
Volume 7	No 1	2010	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 Publications Series
- Northern Economic Forum
- Newsletters
- Mountain Pine Beetle Links
- Community Visits
- Institute Director
- Staff
- Research
- Information Sharing
- 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

### ***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 2010:**

April 2010	Barrier, Clearwater
May 2010	100 Mile House, Chetwynd, Dawson Creek, Fort Nelson, Fort St. John, Hudson's Hope, Quesnel, Williams Lake
June 2010	Burns Lake, Hazelton, Houston, Kitimat, Laxgalts'ap, Masset, Old Massett, Port Clements, Prince Rupert, Sandspit, Smithers, Terrace
July 2010	Alexis Creek, Anahim Lake, Bella Coola, Fraser Lake, Fort St. James, Granise, McBride, Redstone, Tatlayoko Lake, Valemount, Vanderhoof, Williams Lake
September 2010	Atlin, Burns Lake, Chetwynd, Dawson Creek, Dease Lake, Fort , Nelson, Fort St. John, Stewart, Terrace, Tumbler Ridge, Vanderhoof, Watson Lake, Whitehorse, Williams Lake, Laxgalts'ap
October 2010	Williams Lake, Laxgalts'ap
November 2010	Clearwater
December 2010	Laxgalts'ap, Clearwater, McBride, Valemount