



# Community Contacts Newsletter

University of Northern British Columbia

September 8, 2009

Volume 5, Number 4

*"Northern  
Strength to  
Northern  
Strength."*

## Welcome

We are pleased to present the September 2009 newsletter of the Community Development Institute (CDI) at UNBC. We hope that this quarterly newsletter will help to keep you informed about developments at the CDI. If you have any comments on how we can improve the newsletter, or if you have news that you would like us to include in our next edition, feel free to contact our coordinator at [manson@unbc.ca](mailto:manson@unbc.ca)

### In this Edition:

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### The CDI at UNBC

The Community Development Institute at UNBC is interested in two fundamental issues for communities in northern BC: community capacity and community development. By undertaking research, sharing information, and supporting education outreach, the Institute is becoming an important partner to communities interested in making informed decisions about their own futures.

The Institute emphasizes the importance of capacity-building, collaboration, learning, and complementarity. Research that is undertaken balances academic credibility with practical relevance. Beyond research, the Institute is involved in outreach activities and serves as a conduit to expand local educational opportunities related to community development. For more information please visit: <http://www.unbc.ca/cdi/>

### Northern BC Economic Development Vision and Strategy Project (NEV) UPDATE

The "Northern BC Economic Development Vision and Strategy Project" 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 to be flexible and responsive in the global economy: <http://web.unbc.ca/geography/faculty/qreg/research/edvs/index.html>

In September 2009, the CDI will launch 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 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 2008/2009 economic downturn
- the impacts of those choices / decisions as the economy begins to recover
- recommendations on how small local governments can and should respond to dramatic economic change

### Notices

#### COMMUNITY INFORMATION DATABASE TUTORIALS AVAILABLE ONLINE

The Community Information Database (CID) Team provides tutorials on how to use the CID are now available at: <http://www.cid-bdc.ca/english/resources/tutorials.html>

### Northern Lights event

Lakes Economic Development Association (LEDA) has been granted the opportunity to host an evening event that will spotlight BC's northern communities at the 2009 Economic Development Conference at the Westin Bayshore in Vancouver. The event has been named "Northern Lights" and is being held on Sunday, September 20, 2009, from 6:30 - 9:00

Contact us at:

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

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

***"Research  
Having an  
Impact,  
People making a  
Difference"***

p.m., at the Vancouver Convention Centre, West Level 3 - The Summit Room.

### **The Exploring our Roots: Forest History in our Communities Conference**

The UNBC Northern BC Archives & Special Collections and the Aleza Lake Research Forest are hosting the BC Forest History Association 'mini-conference' one day event this Sept 19 at UNBC. For more information on the Forest History Association of BC please visit: <http://www.fhabc.org/>

For more information on this upcoming conference, please contact:

Ramona M. Rose, MA, MMst  
Head, Archives & Special Collections  
Northern BC Archives & Special Collections  
[archives@unbc.ca](mailto:archives@unbc.ca)

### **Institute News**

#### **Northern Rockies Partnership: Building the Region Together!**

Two research institutes at UNBC, together with the Fraser Basin Council, 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 north-eastern British Columbia has experienced economic 'boom' and 'bust' situations due to the growth and decline of numerous resource development activities. The Community Development Institute (CDI) and the Natural Resources and Environmental Studies Institute (NRESi) at UNBC are 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.

<http://www.northernrockies.org/>  
[http://www.unbc.ca/nres/institute\\_overview.html](http://www.unbc.ca/nres/institute_overview.html)

#### **United Way of Northern British Columbia: Northern Scoping Exercise**

The United Way has recently reorganized the way it delivers programming across northern BC. The United Way of Northern British Columbia now serves a region that extends from Quesnel to the Yukon border and from the Alberta border to the Queen Charlotte Islands. The CDI at UNBC is working with the United Way of Northern British Columbia to collect and organize information that will support United Way activities in these northern communities.

<http://pguw.bc.ca/index.php>

#### **Community Speakers Series**

The Community Development Institute at UNBC is pleased to announce that Tim McEwan, President & Chief Executive Officer, Initiatives Prince George Development Corporation, will be our Community Speaker this fall.

The title of Mr. McEwan's talk is "**Towards a Northern Decade: Building BC's 'New North' as a Knowledge-based Resource Economy Connected to the World**". Mr. McEwan will talk about his corporation's vision for Northern British Columbia over the next decade and the critical roles of government, business and communities in building a strong, diversified, knowledge-based resource economy for the economic benefit of all British Columbians.

**Wednesday, September 23, Prince George: 7:00 pm, Room 7-150, UNBC Campus, Prince George**

**Thursday, September 24, Vancouver: 7:00 pm, The Earl & Jennie Lohn Policy Room (Room 7000), SFU Harbour Centre, 515 West Hastings Street, Vancouver**

**Friday, September 25, Prince Rupert: 7:00 pm, Room 7-150, Northwest Community College Campus, Prince Rupert**

For information on past Community Speakers Series presentations or if your community would like to co-host our next Community Speaker's Series event, please contact: Don Manson at [manson@unbc.ca](mailto:manson@unbc.ca) or phone (250) 960-5018.