



Community Contacts Newsletter

September 2010

Volume 6, Number 4

*“Northern Strength
to Northern
Strength.”*

Past editions of the CDI
Community Contact Newsletter
are available at:

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

Welcome

We are pleased to present the September 2010 newsletter of the Community Development Institute (CDI) at UNBC. We hope that this quarterly newsletter will help to keep you informed about developments at the CDI. If you have any comments on how we can improve the newsletter, or if you have news that you would like us to include in our next edition, feel free to contact our coordinator at manson@unbc.ca

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The CDI at UNBC

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

The Institute emphasizes the importance of capacity-building, collaboration, learning, and complementarity. Research that is undertaken balances academic credibility with practical relevance. Beyond research, the Institute is involved in outreach activities and serves as a conduit to expand local educational opportunities related to community development.

For more information please visit: <http://www.unbc.ca/cdi/>

No Northern Community Visits this fall

For the past seven years, Don Manson, Institute Coordinator of the CDI, has had the opportunity to visit communities in the Southern Yukon and Northern BC every fall. We regret that due to funding constraints we will not be making the ‘northern loop’ this fall. The people of these communities have provided valuable insight into the challenges and opportunities faced by small town, rural, and remote communities. The warmth of the welcome, the generosity of the people, and the magnificent geography, has contributed significantly to our knowledge of community development. Don calculates that he has driven close to 10,000 km on these visits. We would like to thank all of our friends who have made these visits so valuable. We plan to reinstate the ‘northern loop’ in 2011.

Notices

The Aboriginal Policy Research Initiative website

The Aboriginal Policy Research Network of the Office of the Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-status Indians, in collaboration with The Institute On Governance (IOG), has released several papers for its policy research series on issues affecting Métis, non-status Indians and other Aboriginal peoples residing off-reserve. For more information:

<http://iog.ca/en/knowledge-areas/aboriginal-governance/aboriginal-policy-research-initiative>

November 2-4, 2010 — Whitehorse, Yukon

The Northern Summit on the Social Economy will take place in Whitehorse November 2-4, 2010 and will bring researchers, policy-makers and practitioners together to discuss the social economy sector in the North. For more information: <http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/sernoca>

On the Bright Side: Rural Canada Works

The 2010 [Rural Development Institute](#) (RDI) and [Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation](#) (CRRF) annual policy conference will be held in Brandon, Manitoba October 14-16, 2010. For this conference, looking on the bright side means emphasizing what’s working and describing a fuller range of activities that form pathways to many different futures.

For more information: <http://www2.brandonu.ca/organizations/rdi/crrf2010english.asp>

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

Institute News

Congratulations to Chelan Zirul

Chelan successfully defended her thesis in July. Entitled “*The Changing Governance of Rural Regional Development*,” her thesis assesses factors which contributed to the formation of one rural regional development organization, the Cariboo-Chilcotin Beetle Action Coalition. She thanks the residents of the Cariboo-Chilcotin who welcomed her and shared their experiences with regional development. Chelan is excited to continue in the field of development in northern BC. She has recently moved to Quesnel and has accepted the position as Assistant Economic Development Officer with the Quesnel Community and Economic Development Corporation.

The Laxgalts’ap Village Government and the Community Development Institute

This partnership between the Laxgalts’ap Village Government and the Community Development Institute at UNBC. 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 Laxgalts’ap Village’s previous Community Development plan and then talk with local residents to create an updated document. This project is expected to be completed in December 2010.

A partnership between the District of Clearwater and the Community Development Institute

This partnership between the District of Clearwater and the Community Development Institute at UNBC is to review past development plans and talk with local residents to create a new Community Economic Development plan. 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.

Northern BC Economic Development Vision and Strategy Project 2 (NEV2): The Recession Response Project

In September 2009, the CDI launched NEV2. The response from the communities who participated was very positive. Our goal was to produce materials that are directly relevant to communities and policy-makers. This project provided a first-phase look and report on how government strategies have been received and integrated into the development activities of rural and small town communities in northern BC. We are very grateful to the many communities that participated.

While this important project did not receive funding from the federal or provincial governments, the CDI is working with potential partners in order to hold community roundtables to discuss the draft report this fall.

For further information: <http://www.unbc.ca/cdi/nev2.html> or contact Don Manson at manson@unbc.ca

The Urban Aboriginal Economic Development National Network

The Urban Aboriginal Economic Development National Network is an open and inclusive multi-stakeholder network of researchers and practitioners working in urban Aboriginal and Métis communities. This includes organizations, universities, federal/ provincial/ municipal and Aboriginal governments, private industry, community groups, and NGO’s. The network’s focus is on mobilizing economic development knowledge and strengthening organizational capacity. Ray Gerow, President and CEO of the Aboriginal Business and Community Development Centre in Prince George, BC and the CDI’s Greg Halseth are the Networks Co-Directors. The Urban Aboriginal Economic Development National Network will be hosting a Network gathering the first week of November in Ottawa.

For more information on the network: <http://abdc.bc.ca/uaed/>

Understanding Indigenous Economic Development

This fall, the Community Development Institute will host a small workshop featuring participants from northern BC as well as international researchers to talk about “Understanding indigenous economic development in northern, rural, and remote settings”. The workshop is part of the University of the Arctic’s Thematic Network on Local and Regional Development. Speakers will explore the framework of current indigenous economic development actions, key barriers/opportunities related to successful development, and the actions needed to achieve desired changes. This workshop held at UNBC is tentatively proposed for November 21st – 27th, 2010.

For further information: contact Don Manson at manson@unbc.ca

Community Speakers Series

The Community Development Institute at UNBC is pleased to announce that Ramona Rose, Head, Archives & Special Collections, the Northern B.C. Archives and Special Collections, University of Northern British Columbia, will be our speaker this fall. Ms. Rose’s talk will be; “Collaboration in Preserving First Nations Archives in Northern BC”. The talk would take place at 7:00 pm on the evening of Tuesday, October 05 at the UNBC campus in Prince George and on Wednesday, October 06, 2010 in Williams Lake. The Williams Lake event is co-sponsored by the office of the Tsilhqot’in National Government.

Past Community Speakers Series presentations are available at:

http://www.unbc.ca/cdi/speakers_series.html If your community would like to co-host our next Community Speaker’s Series event, please contact: Don Manson at manson@unbc.ca