

What is CIRC?

The Cumulative Impacts Research Consortium (CIRC) is a research and outreach initiative at the University of Northern British Columbia's (UNBC). CIRC is collaboratively led by the Health Research Institute (HRI), the Community Development Institute (CDI), and the Natural Resources and Environmental Studies Institute (NRESi), with funding support from the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions and the BC Oil and Gas Commission (administered through UNBC's Office of Research).

What are Cumulative Impacts?

Natural resource development often has implications that reach long into the future. CIRC's activities seek to discern the differences between the 'effects' of resource development—that is, the direct and typically observable changes resulting from a decision or project—and 'impacts' which may flow from a single effect or combination of effects. 'Cumulative impacts' may occur when resource development is imposed on past land use and development activities in ways that leave lasting consequences for people, their communities, and the broader environments in which those communities are located.

CIRC's Mission

CIRC's mission is to provide a platform for dialogue and research on the cumulative impacts of resource development across northern BC from environmental, community and health perspectives. CIRC will aim to achieve its mission through a range of research and community outreach activities. These include, but are not limited to:

- Developing a 'living bibliography' of resources that profile or address the cumulative impacts of natural resource development across northern BC;
- Engaging with and giving voice to diverse perspectives through solutions-oriented research and a variety of outreach activities including town halls, policy forums, and workshops;
- Translating knowledge on cumulative impacts into a framework for future research and policy development.

For more information, please contact:

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