

## The Health Impacts of Resource Extraction and Development (HIRED)

**Funder(s):** Northern Health

**Project Duration:** 2015-2018

**Project status:** In-process

**Project Description:** The Health Impacts of Resource Extraction and Development (HIRED) project was developed as a joint initiative between Northern Health and the UNBC Health Research Institute to conduct careful, focused research on the health impacts of resource extraction and development. The overarching aim of the HIRED project is to examine the public health impacts of resource extraction and development, and review the ways in which these impacts have been understood and addressed in various geographic contexts. This project will provide insight into the ways in which these approaches could be applied and adapted in specific geographic contexts across Northern British Columbia.

The project was divided into two distinct phases. Phase 1 included a Scoping Review focused on the following guiding question: *What is the scope of published literature that addresses the links between resource extraction from the earth's crust (e.g. mining/oil & gas) and health outcomes?* Phase 2 included a Meta-Narrative Analysis and a series of targeted Systematic Literature Reviews using the dataset generated in Phase 1.

**Role of the CIRC:** CIRC staff are collaborating with members of the UNBC Health Research Institute and Northern Health to provide strategic research oversight, and to help disseminate research outcomes.

**Key Deliverables:** The HIRED project will provide Northern Health with a scoping review report on the evidence of the health impacts of mining/oil and gas extraction; several systematic reviews on related sub-topics (e.g. the mental health impacts of resource development); and a meta-narrative analysis that provides an overview of the existing evidence base.

### **Publications:**

Reschny J, Brisbois B, Parkes MW, Harder H (Lead Authors) Allison S, Buse C, Daniels T, Dolan S, Fumerton R, Fyfe T, Kutzner D, McLean E, Oke B, Nowak N, Schmeisser A (Contributing Authors). (forthcoming). Towards a better understanding of health in relation to mining and oil & gas extraction: A scoping review. Prepared for Northern Health Authority, Prince George, BC.