

CIRC Update: CIRC Associate and expanded CIRC Leadership Team

(Update: 27 Nov 2020)

About CIRC: The Cumulative Impacts Research Consortium (CIRC) is a research and community outreach initiative based at the University of Northern British Columbia dedicated to enhancing our understanding of the positive and negative cumulative impacts of resource development in northern B.C. Our research aims to integrate environmental, community and health values and perspectives, and account for diverse forms of knowledge and information. Informed by our community outreach and engagement, CIRC seeks to enhance on the ground capacity to respond to issues related to cumulative impacts. <https://www.unbc.ca/cumulative-impacts>

CIRC Governance: CIRC is collaboratively led by the [Community Development Institute](#) (CDI), the [Health Research Institute](#) (HRI), and the [Natural Resources and Environmental Studies Institute](#) (NRESi). CIRC was established as a result of a [2014 event at UNBC](#) exploring the topic of cumulative impacts on northern communities, with initial funding support from the [Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions](#) and the BC Oil and Gas Commission (administered through UNBC's [Office of Research](#)). Currently CIRC is supported by the three UNBC Research Institutes (HRI, NRESi, and CDI) and governed by a Steering Committee with representation from all three Institutes.

- Greg Halseth and Marleen Morris (CDI)
- Margot Parkes and Rachael Wells (HRI)
- Art Fredeen and Al Wiensczyk (NRESi)

In keeping with the 'consortium' approach, the CIRC collaborates with a range of researchers and partners on specific projects, which in turn receive input and advice from the CIRC Steering Committee. This creates synergies and added-value across all three Institutes, across researchers and for partner-led projects addressing interrelated community, environment and health concerns.

A new CIRC Associate role and expanded CIRC Leadership Team

To further support and develop the collaborative, consortium approach at UNBC, and to foster integrative, partnered research opportunities, the CIRC Steering Committee is establishing the new role of **CIRC Associate**. In combination with the CIRC Steering Committee, CIRC Associates would contribute to an expanded **CIRC Leadership Team**. Our new CIRC Associates will:

- be a researcher and/or a community partner with a demonstrated interest in the CIRC's mandate
- contribute to the development and direction of the CIRC as a member of the Leadership Team
- access mentorship, guidance and input from leading researchers and research partners associated with the CIRC initiative
- be eligible for seed-funding or related research support that may become available through the CIRC
- benefit from exposure to leadership, innovation, mentorship and support for interdisciplinary research
- contribute to a pan-UNBC culture of interdisciplinary, integrative and partnered scholarship.

The **CIRC Leadership Team** would meet 2-3 time/ year and contribute to the design and development of CIRC initiatives (e.g CIRC presentations, projects, events; UNBC Research Week).

Call for Applications: Those interested to become a **CIRC Associate** should send a CV and one-page letter outlining their interest in being a CIRC Associate and part of the CIRC Leadership Team. Applications should be addressed to CIRC Steering Committee c/o Bree.Loeffler@unbc.ca.

To find out more about "The past, present and future of UNBC's Cumulative Impacts Research Consortium" [view our Nov 27, 2020 Presentation on the NRESi Colloquium webcast](#)