

UNBC Community Development Institute

Annual Report 2005

The Community Development Institute (CDI) at UNBC is pleased to present its 2005 Annual Report. This report covers the period from January to December 2005.

Background:

The mission of the Community Development Institute (CDI) at UNBC is to support the research, information, and development needs of Northern BC's rural and small town

Research

The Community Development Institute at UNBC maintains a clear focus upon research. Its goal is to balance both applied and basic work so as to maintain academic credibility

The purpose of this project is to examine housing and support service needs for seniors in the District of Mackenzie and surrounding area. The work is being carried out by a research team from UNBC with the goal to provide decision-makers and community groups in Mackenzie and area with information relevant to decision-making over community planning and infrastructure investments. The project involves four investigations. These include an analysis of local population, an assessment of the housing and services' needs of seniors in small town and rural locations, a collation of views and opinions from seniors and decision-makers in Mackenzie and area, and a survey of local seniors to collect information on needs and expectations.

The Heart of the Community: Tracing the Role of the Peace River Women's Institutes
2004-2006 Continuing

Social and voluntary organizations play a central role in the creation and maintenance of rural and small town communities. For more than 100 years, the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada have been active in Canada's agricultural communities. At present, limited historical records are available on the Peace River region's Women's Institutes. Through a research partnership involving faculty at Northern Lights College, the University of Northern British Columbia, local museums, archives, and libraries in the Peace River region, this collaborative and interdisciplinary project seeks to record and document the history of the area's Women's Institutes (WIs). The project will collect information through a set of oral histories with long-time WI members and will digitally scan and record photographs and other documents which trace the history of individual WIs. This digital information will then be returned to participating WIs, stored in regional museums and archives, made available via a website linked to local history websites, and copies stored at the Northern BC Archives at the University of Northern British Columbia.

New Rural Economy Project - Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation
2003-2007 Continuing

Under this initiative, 15 university researchers (across Canada) are joining with rural people and policy makers to help build capacity in rural Canada. Their research and education projects pursue four themes relevant to rural society: communications, environment, services, and governance.

Education

The Community Development Institute hopes to enhance capacity building through educational opportunities. This includes student training, work within the university curriculum, continuing education and regional offerings, connections with the northern colleges and with specialized education and training centres, and public talks/conferences to share information.

Student trainees at UNBC

2005

Shiloh Durkee - research assistant, undergraduate student, graduated May 2003

Onkar Buttar - research assistant, undergraduate student, graduated May 2004

Chelan Hoffman - research assistant, continuing undergraduate student at UNBC

Jessica Rayner – research assistant, continuing undergraduate student at UNBC

Research Practicum Student Supervision

2005 Jorge Kelly (UNBC Social Work Program)

Jack Kinnear (UNBC Social Work Program)

Presentations

2005 “Keynote Speaker”, “Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow: Rural BC creating its own destiny, 3

Conference Organization:

Member of organizing committee, Integrating Child, Youth, and Family Services in the North West Conference, Terrace, BC, November 3, 2005.

Member of organizing committee, Northern Economic Forum, Prince George, BC, October 26-28, 2005.

CDI Community Speaker's Series

The CDI's Community Speaker's Series invites experts to talk on important and relevant topics for northern BC. The Community Speaker's Series consists of classroom lectures at UNBC, a public lecture in Prince George, and a public talk in another northern BC community. These lectures are free and open to the public.

Spring 2005

SFU researcher Sean Markey spoke in Prince George, Terrace, and Kitimat on the ways that local communities are building an economy, forging and strengthening social ties, and developing local assets and capacity.

Prince George, Thursday, March 17, Room 7-158, UNBC Prince George Campus
7:30 to 9:00pm

Kitimat, Friday, March 18, Conference Room #1, Kitimat Valley Institute for Industrial Education, 7:30 to 9:00pm

Community partners included Kitimat Stikine Regional District, 16/37 Community Futures, District of Kitimat, UNBC Regional Offices in Terrace

Fall 2005

Tourism BC's Director of Research Richard Porges spoke in Prince George and Williams Lake about applying research to support community tourism development.

Prince George, Wednesday, October 05, Room 7-150, 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm, UNBC Prince George Campus

Williams Lake, Thursday, October 06, Council Chambers, 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm
Williams Lake City Hall

Community partners included Northern BC Tourism Association, Cariboo-Chilcotin-Coast Tourism Association, City of Williams Lake

CDI Publication Series

The CDI Publication Series is a peer reviewed outlet that focuses upon invited reports on topics of relevance to the mandate of CDI and important to northern British Columbia's communities. The peer review aspect of the Series ensures that only high quality research is published. A paper by Dr. Anne Hardy from UNBC's Resource Recreation and Tourism Program on 'Drive Tourism' is presently under review.

Community Contact Newsletters

The CDI Community Contacts Newsletter is published quarterly with the goal to share information and news about community development activities.

February 2005	Volume 1 No.2
20 May 2005	Volume 1 No.3
23 September 2005	Volume 1 No.4

CDI Website: *<http://www.unbc.ca/cdi/index.html>*

The CDI website is one of the key tools for collecting and communicating information about community development issues as they affect northern BC. Information on the website is organized under the following topics:

- Introduction
- Institute Description
- What's New
- Community Speaker Series
- **CDI Publications Series**

Community Visits Schedule

Community visits to form an integral part of the CDI mission. They are part of our ongoing efforts to build and grow relationships, collect and share community development information, identify new topics and issues of relevance to our community partners, and evaluate ways by which we can get needed information into the hands of our communities. Community visits not only include meetings with individuals and organizations, but often also includes public speaking invitations from community groups, local government / band councils, and chambers of commerce.

2005

Wells, Barkerville, Quesnel, Williams Lake, Sugarcane, Horsefly, Likely, Lac La Hache,
100 Mile House, Nemiah Valley, Clearwater, Merritt 31 May - 18 June
Houston, Telkwa, Smithers 26 June - 30 June
Klemtu, Bella Coola, Hagensborg, Firvale, Anahim Lake, Nimpo Lake, Tatla, Tatlayoko
Lake 10 July - 16 July
Moberly Lake, Hudson's Hope, Fort St. John, Dawson Creek, Chetwynd 18 July - 22
July
Fort St. James, Vanderhoof, Burns Lake, Southside 2 August - 5 August
Smithers, Smithers, the Hazeltons, Kitwanga, Kitimat, Terrace, Prince Rupert, Skidegate,
Tlell, Sandspit, Port Clements, Masset, Old Masset, Queen Charlotte City 15
August - 27 August
Meziadin Junction, Stewart, Iskut, Dease Lake, Atlin, Whitehorse, Watson Lake, Liard
River, Fort Nelson, Fort St. John 5 September - 22 September