
The Community Development Institute (CDI) at UNBC is pleased to present its 2009 Annual Report. This report covers the period from January to December 2009.

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 communities as they adjust to change in the new economy. The CDI is interested in two fundamental issues for northern BC's communities: community capacity and community development. By undertaking research, sharing information, and supporting community outreach, the CDI is becoming a vital partner to communities interested in making informed decisions about their own futures.

Under changing social and economic conditions, communities need the capacity to respond. Community capacity refers to:

the ability of residents to organize their assets and resources to achieve objectives they consider important. These objectives may be reactive, where people are faced with a challenge, or innovative, where new visions are established and pursued. Community capacity is built and maintained by the norms, traditions, regulations, and social relationships enabling otherwise disparate individuals to co-ordinate their actions for collective ends.

To enhance this capacity requires community development. In a general sense, community development concerns:

improvements to local social and cultural infrastructure. It is most often identified with increasing the skills, knowledge, and abilities of residents to access information and resources and to then use these tools to create strategies and partnerships which can take advantage of changing circumstances.

The three foundations of the Community Development Institute at UNBC are:

- Research
- Education
- Outreach

The Annual Report is organized under each of these foundations.

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 and to be of practical relevance to communities. Copies of all completed project reports have been sent to community partners, funding agencies, the Weller Library at UNBC, and most local government/band offices and public libraries in places where the research was carried out. Reports and other research information are also placed on the CDI website (www.unbc.ca/cdi) as an integral part of our mission to share research widely across northern BC. Additionally, summaries of projects are also noted in the CDI Newsletters, which are published quarterly and distributed across northern BC via e-mail.

Projects

*Northern BC Economic Development Vision
and Strategy Project UPDATE* 2009-2010 On-going

Completed in 2004, the community driven “Northern BC Economic Development Vision and Strategy Project” (NEV) changed the way we approach community

town places have with providing services, it is crucial that new information

campaigns, and program investments. The CDI research team visited more than 26 communities.

National Network for Urban Aboriginal Economic Development

2008 - 2011 On-going

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), through their Knowledge Impact in Society program, has granted funding to support the creation of a “National Network for Urban Aboriginal Economic Development”. The network will be coordinated by Greg Halseth from UNBC

Research grants

Granting Agency	Subject	\$ Per Year	Year	Principal Investigator	Co-Investigator(s)
Industry Canada, Western Economic Diversification Canada	Expert dialogue on future forest and fibre use opportunities	\$83,282	2008 - 2009	Greg Halseth	
SSHRC – Knowledge Impact in Society Program	National Network for Urban Indigenous Economic Development	\$100,000	2008-2011	Greg Halseth	
Indian and North Affairs Canada – Office of the Federal Interlocutor	National Network for Urban Indigenous Economic Development	\$102,000	2008-2011	Greg Halseth	
Indian and North Affairs Canada – Economic Development Branch	National Network for Urban Indigenous Economic Development	\$102,000	2008-2009	Greg Halseth	
Community-University Research Alliance	Mapping quality of life and the culture of small cities	\$250,000 **UNBC team allocated \$35,000	2006-2011	William Garrett-Petts, Thompson Rivers University	37 co-investigators from UNBC, TRU, SFU, Univ. of Waterloo, and other agencies incl. Greg Halseth

Research contracts

Granting Agency	Subject	\$ Per Year	Year	Principal Investigator	Co-Investigator(s)
Service Canada	Northern BC Service Industry Sector study	\$130,000	2007-2009	CDI at UNBC	
United Way of Northern British Columbia	Needs assessment across northern BC	\$60,000	2009	CDI at UNBC	

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

2009

Chelan Hoffman - research assistant, current graduate student at UNBC

Jen Herkes - research assistant, completed graduate student at UNBC

Kyle Kusch - research assistant, completed graduate student at UNBC

Ashley Kearns - research assistant, completed undergraduate at UNBC

Lila Bonnardel - research assistant, completed undergraduate at UNBC

Alex Martin - research assistant, current graduate student at UNBC

Joe LaBourdais - research assistant, current graduate student at UNBC

Courtney LaBourdais - research assistant, current graduate student at UNBC

Training 'new researchers'

2009

Anisa Zehtab-Martin – research project manager

Research Practicum Student Supervision

Presentations

Neil Hanlon, Greg Halseth, David Snadden and Laura Ryser (2009) Recreating a sense of community: Establishing a new medical campus in an underserved area. Association of American Medical Colleges – Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, Nov 7.

Greg Halseth (2009) “Understanding and transforming a staples economy”. Smart Planning Workshop – Fraser Basin Council, Prince George, BC. July 2.

Neil Hanlon and Greg Halseth (2009) Professional voluntarism: the role of social capital in delivering a distributed medical education program. Annual Meetings, Canadian Association of Geographers, Ottawa, ON, June 2009.

Laura Ryser and Greg Halseth (2009) The long road between small towns: barriers to building community development partnerships in rural BC. Annual Meetings, Canadian Association of Geographers, Ottawa, ON, June 2009.

Catherine Nolin, Anisa Zehtab-Martin, Greg Halseth and Neil Hanlon (2009) Frontiers and foreign brides: Experiences of marriage and migration in northern BC. Metropolis conference, Calgary, March 17-20, 2009.

Neil Hanlon , Greg Halseth, David Snadden, Joanna Bates, and Chris Lovato (2009) Evaluating the impact of distributed medical education on physicians in an underserved region. Association of American Medical Colleges - Workforce Conference, Washington, DC, 30 April to 1 May.

Neil Hanlon, Greg Halseth, David Snadden, Joanna Bates, Chris Lovato (2009) Evaluating the impact of distributed medical education on physicians in an underserved region. International Association for Medical Education, AMEE 2009, Malaga, Spain, 29 August to 2 September.

Don Manson (2009) Plenary presentation – How to collaborate and not compete with your neighbours. The Heart of the Matter: Clearwater Health Symposium, Clearwater, BC, March 26-28.

Don Manson (2009) Workshop sessions (2) - How to collaborate with your neighbours. The Heart of the Matter: Clearwater Health Symposium, Clearwater, BC, March 26-28.

Keynote addresses:

Don Manson (2009) Keynote: Why communities need to plan. Sustainability planning: Why is it vital for the future of the North Thompson Valley Conference. Chu Chua (Simpchw First Nation), March 10.

Don Manson (2009) Closing address. Sustainability planning: Why is it vital for the future of the North Thompson Valley Conference. Chu Chua (Simpw First Nation), March 10.

(Re)constructing rural places in a globalized world I: Insights from place-based development, new regionalism, and competitive advantage theories. Opening keynote address, GARGIA CONFERENCE – 2009, Alta, Norway. October 22, 2009.

(Re)constructing rural places in a globalized world II: A new rural development vision for northern British Columbia. Closing keynote address, GARGIA CONFERENCE – 2009, Alta, Norway. October 23, 2009.

“Understanding & doing rural / small town economic development” Small Talk Forum keynote, Annual Conference of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities, Vancouver, Sept 29.

“Understanding & doing rural / small town economic development” Electoral Area Directors Forum keynote, Annual Conference of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities, Vancouver, Sept 29.

“The Public Administration and Community Development degree at UNBC”. Annual Meetings of the Northern BC Municipal Officers Association, Prince George, 18-20 March.

“Towns in Transition”. Meeting of the Northern Health Authority’s Population Health Council, Prince George, BC, July 16.

Keynote Address “Second home tourism and regional development”, Annual meetings of the Finnish University Network for Tourism Studies and the Finnish Society for Tourism Research, Savonlinna, Finland, June 2.

Keynote Address “Mining development and northern BC’s resource towns”. Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (North Central BC Branch) Annual General Meeting, Prince George, BC, June 25.

Conference Organization:

With Rob Budde of UNBC’s English Program, organized “Bridges: An Arts & Culture Festival in Our City” at the University of Northern British Columbia, June 11–13, 2009.

- in Vancouver on September 24, in the Earl & Jennie Lohn Policy Room of SFU's Harbour Centre, 515 West Hastings Street, and
- in Prince Rupert on September 25, in the Prince Rupert campus of Northwest Community College.

This Community Speakers Series event was co-sponsored by:
 Northwest Community College: Prince Rupert Campus,
 UNBC's Northwest Regional Office,
 SFU's Centre for Sustainable Community Development, and
 The Community Development Institute at UNBC

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 the CDI and important to northern British Columbia's communities. The peer review aspect of the Series ensures that only high quality research is published.

The CDI is proud to announce the publication of td.

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Services. The expanded Toolkit now combines transition best practices with a gap analysis of the social and community services available within the communities that can support transition.

Over the past year, considerable energy was put into supporting communities using the Toolkit, including Chetwynd, Mackenzie, Fort Nelson/Northern Rockies, and the most recent case of Kitimat.

Clearwater - Wells Gray Country

The CDI continues its mentoring role in the Clearwater - Wells Gray Country valley. This is now the 7th year that the CDI has been working with local groups. Mentoring has been done at the level of community organizations working for community and economic development. It has also been more recently directed to the staff and elected officials of the newly formed municipal District of Clearwater. The CDI continues to be assisted by the Community resources Center of the North Thompson.

The CDI was a featured participant at the valley forum this past spring in discussions about sustainability planning for the District and surrounding rural areas.

Support for Local Initiatives

- 2006 - Board membership on Prince George Aboriginal Business Development Association
- 2007 - Board membership on Community Futures of Fraser Fort George
- 2006 - Advisor to the Human Resources Project, Cariboo Tribal Council
- 2006 -2009 Member of the Advisory Committee for Service Canada's 'New Horizons for Seniors' program.
- 2005 - Advisory role to Executive Director of the Cariboo-Chilcotin Beetle Action Coalition.
- 2007 - Advisory role to the Tsilhqot'in Community Impact Assessment processes related to mining activity proposals

Community Contact Newsletters

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

Volume 5	No 1	2008	December
Volume 5	No 2	2009	March
Volume 5	No 3	2009	June
Volume 5	No 4	2009	September

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
- Annual Reports
- Community Speaker Series
- CDI Publications Series
- Northern Economic Forum
- Newsletters
- Mountain Pine Beetle Links
- Community Visits
- Institute Director
- Staff
- Research
- Information Sharing
- Links
- Contact Information

Under links, the website collects sites that may be of interest to our northern communities under the following categories:

- Statistics & Data
- Governments
- First Nations
- Rural Studies Centres
- Non Governmental & Other Organizations
- Other Links
- Community Forests
- Northern BC Sites

Community Visits Schedule

Community visits form an integral part of the CDI mission. They are part of our ongoing

October 2009