



Community Contacts Newsletter

University of Northern British Columbia

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*"Northern
Strength
to
Northern
Strength."*

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Welcome

We are pleased to present the September 2008 newsletter of the Community Development Institute (CDI) at UNBC. We hope that this quarterly newsletter will help to keep you informed about developments at the CDI. If you have any comments on how we can improve the newsletter, or if you have news that you would like us to include in our next edition, feel free to contact our coordinator at manson@unbc.ca

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The CDI at UNBC

The Community Development Institute at UNBC is interested in two fundamental issues for communities in northern BC: community capacity and community development. By undertaking research, sharing information, and supporting education outreach, the Institute is becoming an important partner to communities interested in making informed decisions about their own futures.

The Institute emphasizes the importance of capacity-building, collaboration, learning, and complementarity. Research that is undertaken balances academic credibility with practical relevance. Beyond research, the Institute is involved in outreach activities and serves as a conduit to expand local educational opportunities related to community development.

For more information please visit: <http://www.unbc.ca/cdi/>

Graduate Student Research Update

Chelan Hoffman, Graduate student in NRES **Governing Regional Development in British Columbia: A case study of the Cariboo-Chilcotin Beetle Action Coalition**

I was met with warm hospitality as I travelled from Clinton to Strathnaver, and from Likely to Anahim Lake between April 27th and June 27th, 2008. People from many sectors provided me with their time and information for my research, for which I am grateful. Being in the field made me more aware of the opportunities and complex issues that governance is met with in addressing rural regional development. I am now working hard to complete the wrap up from the 47 interviews conducted. Analysis will begin in October and, upon completion of analysis, my findings will be shared with the organizations and individuals I met with.

If you would like more information, or to learn more about my research, please contact me at: hoffmanc@unbc.ca.

Notices

Reversing the Tide: Strategies for Successful Rural Revitalization

This conference, to be held in Prince George October 6-8, 2008, will share strategies for successful rural revitalization. For more information and to register for the conference please visit: www.civinfo.bc.ca/Conference/ruralrevitalization.asp.

Aging Well in Northern, Rural and Remote Communities

The BC Network for Aging Research, University of Northern BC, Northern Health, the BC Rural and Remote Health Research Network, Network Environments for Aboriginal Research BC, and the BC Home and Community Care Research Network co-sponsored a conference in Prince George, BC, on March 26-27, 2008, called *Aging Well in Northern, Rural and Remote Communities*. The report from this forum is now available at: <http://www.aginghealthresearch.ca/documents/REPORTonNorthernAgingWellMarch2008.pdf>

Cariboo-Chilcotin Beetle Action Coalition (CCBAC)

Cariboo-Chilcotin: Mountain Pine Beetle Mitigation Strategy:

Living on the Edge of Climate Change

The Executive Summary of the Final CCBAC report to government is available at: <http://c-cbac.com/Documents/aboutus/CCBAC%20Exec%20Summ%20July%2030%20Draft%20Final.pdf>

The Executive Summary Report provides a brief introduction to the CCBAC Coalition and the substantial research that underpins the strategy. It also provides a summary of the expected impacts; stabilization strategies; economic development strategies; the organizational capacity required to implement, monitor, and report on the strategies; and the funds required for of implementation. In addition to the Executive Summary Report, the companion comprehensive report provides extended descriptions and detail in 20 appendices. In addition there are 12 stand-alone research documents (see www.c-cbac.com/index.php then click on Working Groups) on which the strategy has been built.

Institute News

'North First' Community Dialogue Project

The purpose of this project was to conduct community-based interviews in UNBC's service region. Two basic questions drove the interviews; "what do our communities need to know?" and "what would they like the university to do?"

We would like to thank all of the community members who took time participate.

This report is available at:

http://www.unbc.ca/assets/cdi/north_first_initiative_project_report_sept_08.pdf

Northern British Columbia Service Industry Sector Study

The objective of the project is two fold:

- 1) to use information from a cross-section of northern communities to identify labour issues in the Service Industry sector in northern BC;
- 2) to draw upon the participation of Service Industry sector employers to identify and develop practical strategies for dealing with labour issues in northern BC's Service Industry sector over the short and long term.

The "Extracting the Values Report" and the "Population Report" have now been completed and are available at: <http://www.unbc.ca/cdi/research.html>

A draft of the "Quantifying the Problem" report will be available on our website soon.

The second round of community interviews will be conducted in October and November of 2008. Input from these interviews will be used for the "Solutions" report.

Communities and Service Industry sector representatives interested in participating in this project should contact Don Manson at manson@unbc.ca or phone (250) 960-5018.

Community Speakers Series

The CDI is pleased to announce that the fall 2008 Community Speakers Series event will be held in Prince George 7:00 pm, Thursday, October 02, room 7-150 at the UNBC campus and in McBride 7:00 pm, Friday, October 03 at the Robson Valley Community Center, 441 Columbia Street, McBride. Kathy Lewis, Chair of Ecosystem Science and Management at UNBC, will be our speaker. The title of the presentation is: "**Forestry – a dying profession or an opportunity for rebirth?**"

For information on past Community Speakers Series presentations please visit:

http://www.unbc.ca/cdi/speakers_series.html

If your community would like to co-host our next Community Speaker's Series event, please contact: Don Manson at manson@unbc.ca or phone (250) 960-5018.