



Community Contacts Newsletter

June 2012

Volume 8, Number 3

*“Northern Strength
to Northern
Strength.”*

Past editions of the CDI
Community Contact Newsletter
are available at:

<http://www.unbc.ca/cdi/newsletters.html>

Welcome

We are pleased to present the June 2012 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

In this Edition:

- The CDI at UNBC
- Notices
- Institute News

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 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/>

Notices

Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation June E-newsletter:

<http://www.crrf.ca/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/CRRFEzineSpring2012.pdf>

Institute News

CDI Renewal Process

Since its inception in 2004, the CDI has built a reputation for helping communities prosper, and as a result, the need and demand for the CDI's knowledge and expertise is growing. Through this renewal process, the CDI will explore how it can best continue to contribute to building strong communities and regions in BC.

For further information contact Marleen Morris, Associate Director, mmorris@unbc.ca

Forthcoming Publication - July 25, 2012

Investing in Place: Economic Renewal in Northern British Columbia

by Sean Markey, Greg Halseth, and Don Manson

Investing in Place is about creating the foundations for renewing northern British Columbia's rural and small-town economies. The path to renewal lies in place-based development, in people working together at all levels of the community and region to take advantage of local opportunities in a sustainable, responsible way.

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

NEV2: Northern BC Economic Development Vision and Strategy Project

In September 2009, the CDI launched NEV2. The economic downturn is forcing public and private sector interests to make difficult choices and adopt what they think are the best coping strategies so that they are poised, equipped, and ready to take advantage of the next economic upswing. The draft final report of the NEV2 project is available at:

http://www.unbc.ca/assets/cdi/research/nev2_final_report.pdf

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***“Research Having an
Impact,
People making a
Difference”***

Partners in Community Development

The Community Development Institute at UNBC is pleased to profile our Partners in Community Development. Board Voice is an organization reflecting the views of hundreds of volunteer community-based boards that govern non-profit social service agencies across British Columbia. For more information about Board Voice visit their website at: <http://www.boardvoice.ca>

Community-Based Research Centres in Canada

As communities prepare for, and respond to, economic, social, and political change, they need timely, relevant, and useful information to help them make decisions. This report contains an inventory of community-based research centres in Canada. For more information visit: http://www.unbc.ca/assets/cdi/research/community_based_research_centres_in_canada_april_11_2012.pdf

Housing Issues in Prince George – An engaged classroom project course, Fall 2012 semester

Housing is one of the most common and basic elements of our community fabric. It is also one of the most vital as it touches each of us in our daily life and intersects with a host of broader social, cultural, land use, economic, business, and economic issues. As a pilot, the city of Prince George has invited UNBC students to contribute to the development of a local housing strategy framework by undertaking background research together with its Housing Strategy Steering Committee.

This will be a project-based course studying various aspects of housing in Prince George. For Further information contact Greg Halseth, Halseth@unbc.ca

Working ‘away’: Community and family impacts of long distance labour commuting in Mackenzie BC

In the fall of 2011, the Community Development Institute at UNBC hosted meetings with residents, service providers, businesses, volunteer groups, industry, and government in Mackenzie to talk about the impact of long distance labour commuting on community and family life. Part Two of this project was completed in this past spring. The Part One report is available at: http://www.unbc.ca/assets/cdi/research/111114_ldlc_final_summary_report.pdf

The Transformative Role of Voluntarism in Aging Resource Communities

In the fall of 2011, the Community Development Institute at UNBC visited Tumbler Ridge and Quesnel to talk with residents about the role of seniors and volunteer groups in supporting older residents and influence community developing in aging resource communities. This SSHRC funded project is based out of the UNBC Community Development Institute in collaboration with Mark Skinner at Trent University and Alun Joseph at the University of Guelph.

Project reports include:

[Dimensions of Voluntarism in Aging Resource Towns: Preliminary Scan of Quesnel, BC](#)

[Dimensions of Voluntarism in Aging Resource Towns: Preliminary Scan of Tumbler Ridge, BC](#)

For further information, please contact Neil Hanlon at hanlon@unbc.ca.

Clearwater Age-Friendly needs assessment project

In this project, the CDI will work in partnership with the District of Clearwater. Work will include one on one interviews, meetings with stakeholders, an Age-Friendly needs assessment survey, the creation of an inventory of the services, programs and initiatives that currently exist.

For more information please contact: Don Manson, manson@unbc.ca

Community Development Institute Community Speakers Series Spring 2012

Building for the future: Foundations for sustainable prosperity

The spring 2012 presentation can be found at: <http://www.unbc.ca/cdi/speakers2012.html>

Community Speakers Series

The Community Development Institute at UNBC will be holding its next Speakers Series this fall. We will be providing further details in September.

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

Past Community Speakers Series presentations are available at: http://www.unbc.ca/cdi/speakers_series.html