

Rural Research Workshop: From Policy to Research and Back Again



Alberta Centre for Sustainable Rural Communities

ACSRC Report Series #05-11

Rural Research Workshop: From Policy to Research and Back Again

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Authors

Alberta Centre for Sustainable Rural Communities

Acknowledgements

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Abstract

The 1st Annual Rural Research Workshop (RRW) took place on May 5, 2011 in Ottawa, Ontario. The aim of this workshop was to promote networking among rural researchers and to provide a forum for the discussion of rural research and rural policy. Rural researchers from all over Canada attended the conference and in total 25 research papers were presented on topics such as: place-based policy, tourism support for rural community development, measuring social capital, and changing paradigms in agricultural policy.

Publications in the Series should be cited as:
AUTHOR, TITLE, ACSRC REPORT SERIES NO./YEAR [URL]

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Rural Research Workshop Description:

This event fostered networking among rural researchers and provided a forum for rural research and policy discourse. Working as a complement to (but in no way a part of) the Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Rural Development Network (this workshop took place on May 5, 2011 - the day after the AGM in order to attract members of that network), it brought together researchers (e.g., academic institutions, government agencies and non-governmental organizations) who were interested and were working on rural issues as well as individuals working in public administration, policy analysis and public policy in order to examine and address the role, opportunities, and state of research speaking to public policy in rural Canada.

Specifically, by bringing together approximately 140 researchers and policy-makers, the purpose(s) of this workshop were: (a) to provide a forum for the sharing of recent research initiatives and findings relating to rural development in Canada; (b) to communicate the emerging agendas for research; (c) to provide comparative information from research in a variety of other international contexts; (d) to identify gaps and collaborative opportunities in Canada's rural research; and (e) to critically explore the connection between research and rural development policy in this country and in comparable contexts.

A Special Edition of the Journal of Rural Community Development was created out of the presentations from the RRW, and can be found at the JRCD website <http://www.jrcd.ca> "From Rural Research to Policy and Back Again" Vol. 7, No. 3(2012).

Conference Abstracts:

Keynote Address “From Policy to Research and Back Again: Evidence from the South”

Julio A. Berdegue

As in most OECD countries, the need to focus on a new rural paradigm is a major policy focus in many Latin American countries. With support from Canada's International Development Research Centre plus other stakeholders, the Latin American Centre for Rural Development is completing a major research program to understand rural territorial dynamics in two rural regions in each of 10 Latin American countries. The focus of this research is to understand how the three major objectives of economic development, social development and environmental sustainability have been accomplished in each of the selected rural regions.

-What evidence did we seek and obtain concerning the future demand for information to inform future policy decisions?

-What questions did we address in our research program? and what are our research results (to date) and how will these research findings will make a difference to future policy decisions?

Federal Government Research Needs – Report from the Annual General Meeting of the Federal Rural Development Network *Christine M. Burton*

Social and Community Development I:

P1 – Social Isolation among Young Quebec Farmers *Diane Parent*

What is the social reality of young farmers? How, and to what extent does emerging farmers' future in agriculture impact on their level of isolation and emotional lives? What are the characteristics of the social and professional networks of young farmers in Quebec? These are the questions that led us to conduct a survey in 2008 that was completed by over 400 young Quebec farmers. Among other results, we present a typology of social contacts that was created by crossing objective data measuring the size of the social networks and subjective data measuring the feeling of loneliness. Four categories, or standard profiles, are presented: the socially competent group (41%), the loners group (27%), the socially inhibited group (16%), and the last, most problematic, the socially isolated group, composed of the 15% of young farmers who, in addition to having a small social network, have a strong feeling of loneliness.

P2 – Measuring Social Support: a comparison of the New Rural Economy Project and General Social Survey Approaches *Bill Reimer*

Social capital measurement has been challenged by the multi-level nature of the phenomenon. It is often conceptualized as a group-level phenomenon but measured using individual characteristics. In many cases these characteristics are taken from general surveys or national census data. In all of them, many tenuous assumptions are necessary in order to make the link. In this paper, detailed data from the analysis of rural sites will be examined to explore the validity of such census-based measures. As part of the New Rural Economy (NRE) project of the Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation, detailed information related to social capital was gathered in 22 field sites across the country -- leading to the development of a framework regarding social capital that is both dynamic and multi-levelled. This information will be compared to several of the commonly-used census-based indicators of social capital in order to assess their validity.

P3 – Rethinking the rural health deficit: Does sense of belonging have an influence *Peter Kitchen*

A growing body of research has identified differences in health outcomes between urban and rural residents in Canada. Further, deep-rooted and sometimes historic social networks and social engagement within rural communities have long been understood to be a substantial contributor to a sense of community belonging. These two stylized-facts lead to a type of paradox: how can regions with lower health outcomes have higher sense of community belonging, particularly, when health has been found to be a contributor to sense of community belonging? Using data from the 2007/08 Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) the objective of this paper is to examine the regional dynamics of sense of community belonging and health. The following four research questions are posed: 1) What are the major health, social and geographic determinants of sense of community belonging? 2) How does this sentiment vary across the urban to rural continuum and among settlements of different size?

Economic Development:

P4 – Creativity, tourism and economic development in a rural context: Strategies for a way forward *Kevin Stolarick*

Rural communities and peripheral regions across North America face significant challenges when it comes to promoting economic development and encouraging continued economic growth. However, opportunities do exist for rural communities to overcome these challenges and continue to promote regional prosperity. This paper suggests that the same kinds of place-based marketing tactics used by rural communities to promote themselves as desirable tourist destinations can also be applied in the attraction and retention of Creative class workers. Creative class workers include individuals employed in science and engineering, architecture and design, education, arts, music and entertainment occupations. The primary economic function of the Creative class is to generate new ideas, new technology and/or new creative content. The promotion of a creative economy through the attraction and retention of creative class workers provides new and alternative ways to generate continued economic growth in rural centers.

P5 – The homogeneity dilemma: Fine tuning tourism support for rural communities *Nicole Vaugeois*

Despite the tendency to generalize about rural areas, they are not homogenous. Programs to support development in rural areas however tend to assume homogeneity and are often packaged for one-size fits all use by various communities. This paper will outline a typology of rural tourism destinations based on level of engagement ranging from those just beginning to pursue tourism to those managing its impacts. Using data from six years of field research in rural British Columbia, the paper illustrates how current government supports within the delivery and development system showcase deficiencies for some types of rural areas seeking to develop tourism. Overall findings suggest that there is a dominance of supports for communities that are seeking to expand tourism via marketing models, however those that are in the earliest steps, and those that are dealing with saturation issues are currently without adequate supports. The paper provides recommendations for enhanced program supports for rural areas to more fully explore tourism as a diversification option or as a tool for amenity based rural development.

P6 – Managing Canada’s rural regions in a knowledge-based economy *Charles Conteh*

Recent global trends have created an apparent paradox whereby an increasingly globalizing world with integrated markets has witnessed a shift in policy emphasis towards local economic development in which rural and metropolitan regions alike scramble to find their niche within the global economy (OECD, 2009). Economic development policy initiatives aimed at rural regions in Canada have included a wide range and mixture of strategies (Savoie, 1992; Blake, 2003; McGee, 1995). The proposed paper will examine to what extent the concepts of knowledge clusters and social entrepreneurship can facilitate our understanding of the adaptation of rural regions to the dynamics of an integrating global economy. A key question that emerges is what institutional requisites existing within rural regions are most conducive to supporting economic adaptation and sustainable development?

Rural Health:

P7 – Setting the socio-historical context for professional ethics: Relevant professional struggles for practising rural Canadian psychologists *Judi L. Malone*

All psychological phenomena should be understood and interpreted within their sociohistorical context. In particular, contextual issues provide a foundation for understanding the complex phenomenon of professional ethics in rural practice. The context and ethical challenges of rural psychological practice are not often explored despite the fact that demographic and practice characteristics may instigate ethical issues. This paper presentation focuses on a significant aspect of a recent in-depth interpretive inquiry of professional ethics that involved twenty rural psychologists from across Canada. This exploration included a focus on the current sociohistorical context for professional ethics. This paper explores the participants' social context from their perspective and in relation to the literature.

P8 – Listening to the voices of rural Manitobans: Using consumer inputs to inform mental health planning at the regional level *Karen G. Dyck*

National population-based data, such as that being sought by the Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC), is invaluable for higher-level planning and development of mental health policy. At the same time, region specific data to inform policy at local levels is equally as important. Moreover, such data permits the gathering of input from marginalized groups, such as Canadians living in rural, remote, and northern communities, consistent with the MHCC's efforts to obtain broad consumer input on emerging mental health policy. In the current research, over 1600 residents from two large rural Manitoba health regions completed mail-out surveys inquiring about experiences with and opinions about mental health difficulties and mental health resources. The purpose of these surveys was to obtain an understanding of adults' preferences for accessing mental health information and treatment delivery options, as well as perceived barriers and facilitators to accessing treatment.

P9 – Towards an understanding of the social determinants of chronic illness within old order Mennonites *Kathryn Fisher*

The study aims to improve our understanding of the social (non-genetic) determinants of chronic illness by comparing two adult farming groups in rural Waterloo, Ontario: Old Order Mennonites (OOMs) and non-Mennonite farmers. The study addresses two questions: do OOMs and farmers differ in their chronic illness experience, and do the social determinants of health explain the differences (or similarities)? We hypothesize that OOMs may have lower levels of chronic illness

for reasons including strong community and family ties, healthy behaviours (e.g., no smoking) and high levels of religiosity. Comparing OOMs in Waterloo with non-OOM farmers eliminates the natural environment as a causal agent, thereby focusing on the social determinants. A survey was employed to obtain data on chronic illness and health determinants, and was delivered to 2,000 OOMs and 1,400 non-Mennonite farmers in the spring and summer of 2010.

Rural and Agricultural Policy:

P10 – Now for the bad news: Prairie agriculture’s contribution to the rural development policy debate *Andrew N. Reed*

Government policies are always a benefit to some constituencies. The problem is how the benefits – and the costs – are distributed. The current debate over the optimal role of government in the economy echoes the same debate a century ago in which it was the political mobilization of prairie farmers that led to government intervention to protect them from market volatility and monopoly capital. The theoretical foundation within economics upon which government intervention to remedy ‘market failure’ was based is now discredited. The alternative view that government intervention is counterproductive draws support from an appreciation of the technical change mechanism and the concept of robust political economy. Dubious effectiveness and mounting cost resulted in the dismantling of some interventions targeting the rural economy in the prairies: the Crow Rate which reduced the cost of shipping grain out of the region was abandoned and the Canadian National Railway privatized. Despite lacking any economic justification, many disadvantageous policies remain politically viable. Wider appreciation of the costs of these policies would reduce their popularity, but research along these lines is likely to be unpopular with policy-makers.

P11 – Triage at the periphery: Place-based policy in resource-dependent rural communities *Rose M. Olfert*

Public policy directed at regions or rural areas, for example, typically has a site-specific or place-based component as well as more standard people-based aspects. In a context of limited budgets relative to demands on those budgets, and the danger of creating adverse incentives, policies designed to effect place-specific development require a sound research basis. We propose a filtering or ‘triage’ process in the identification of candidates for place-based policy, based on both actual performance and empirical estimation. We examine whether resource-dependent (RD) communities, as those most likely to require targeted intervention, form a statistically distinct group of rural communities. Finding that they are distinct, we establish that policy intervention in the form of job creation will indeed be effective in improving policy outcomes. Actual performance of individual communities relative to the mean for all resource-dependent communities determines whether the community is considered in need of policy.

P12 – The rural policy and agriculture policy interface: A quantitative assessment *Alessandro Alasia*

The interaction between the agricultural sector and rural economic development is increasingly becoming a policy focus in Canada. In spite of this, there is no comprehensive framework that allows policy makers to conduct a rigorous assessment of these inter-relationships. This paper provides a quantitative framework that can be used to assess the relationships between rural development initiatives and the sustainability of the Canadian farm sector. The objective is to quantify the flows or the size of the transactions that flow to farms and farming families from the

non-farm sector and to indicate the potential size of the flows for the local community. Similarly, we will indicate the size of the flows or the size of the transactions that flows from the non-farm sector to farms and farming families. We will identify and list the agriculture-intensive communities for the most recent census year (2006).

Rural research institutes' experiences with "From Policy to Research and Back Again"

Bill Ashton, Greg Halseth and Bruno Jean

Three keynote speakers will participate in a mid-day panel. This will consist of presentations from three research institutes (the Community Development Institute at UNBC, the Rural Development Institute at Brandon University and the CRC - Rural Development at UQaM Rimouski). Panelists have been asked to comment on the dynamics of the policy-research interface from a research and university perspective, here with a specific focus on the activities of the RDI and rural development in Western Canada.

Changing Paradigms in Agriculture: the Atlantic Canadian Context:

P13 - Building rural health and supporting small-scale agriculture: A comparative case study of farm-to-school activity in Maine and Nova Scotia *Chloe Kennedy*

Building Rural Health and Supporting Small Scale Agriculture: A In recent years, there has been a growing interest in farm-to-school programs as a way to support small scale agriculture in rural areas and to promote healthy eating among youth. Farm-to-school programs have also been catching the attention of academics, as they represent an interesting social phenomenon, rich with beliefs, attitudes and motivations which fly in the face of dominant corporate food service models and lengthy supply chains. However, the majority of studies examining farm-to-school activity have come from the United States, where the existence of the National Farm-to-school Network exemplifies a heightened emphasis on connecting schools with nearby farms. Focusing on the rural community of Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia, this research examines the Atlantic Canadian context for farm-to-school programs, gauging interest, attitudes and current barriers which prevent stronger farm-school connections. A major component of this research is a comparative case study using a very successful American farm-to-school program in Maine.

P14 - Policy's role in socio-agricultural transition: A community study in Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia *Louise Hanavan*

Atlantic Canada, like other regions, is engaged in ways to adapt innovative and local level solutions to the challenges posed by industrial agriculture. To prevent the further unravelling of rural community fabric, there is growing support among Atlantic Canadians for the re--‐localization of food systems. This in-depth community case study has the following key objectives:

1. Reveal narratives of socio-agricultural transition in Tatamagouche;
2. Use these ground-level insights to recommend policy that supports (re)localization of food systems in Tatamagouche and other rural Atlantic Canadian communities.

Using Lyson's (2004) theory of civic agriculture as a conceptual framework, our preliminary findings show that Tatamagouche farmers tend to be operating a small, labour intensive scale, and value direct links with consumers. Lyson, however, indicates that civic agriculture is also characterized by networks of small scale producers bound together by place and cooperating to form a locally organized system of food production.

P15 - Co-operatives and emerging markets in Atlantic Canada *Greg Cameron*

In Nova Scotia the history of large-scale investment approaches in post-WW2 Nova Scotia range from manufacturing operations and urban growth poles in the 1960s and 1970s, to capital intensive mega-projects in the 1980s, to the knowledge economy of the 1990s. Yet the values of localism, community empowerment, and co-operativism infuse much of the literature on community economic development in Atlantic Canada. This paper argues that the co-operative movement is well positioned to begin to play a larger role in the emerging alternative markets in the region.

Social and Community Development II:

P16 - Using Mobility to gain stability: Household strategies and rural futures *Deatra Walsh*

Current rural studies literature is making the call for more attention to mobilities as a means for understanding contemporary rurality. Mobility, envisioned broadly and inclusive of the movement of people, things and ideas, promises to position the rural in a more active stance, as opposed to passive, reactive and in receivership. Using research conducted with 27 young women (aged 25-34) who returned to a rural area in central Newfoundland, Canada and drawing specifically upon the narratives of 5 returners with partners who commute outside of the province for employment, I explore how mobility is a mechanism through which these women, and their households, achieve employment, economic and familial stability. As such, my research contributes to a theoretical understanding of mobility that is inclusive of, rather than juxtaposed to, stability. I argue that this household mobility perspective reduces the notion of a static rural and raises new considerations for rural futures.

P17 - Evidence-Based Programs Planning for Rural Economic Development Initiatives

Toby Williams

A comprehensive evaluation of two rural economic development programs in Alberta was completed over the winter months of 2011. Administered by Community Futures Alberta, these two programs provided funds to 88 economic development projects in rural Alberta worth over \$10 million. The evaluation included a document analysis, a meta-evaluation of previous project evaluations, interviews with key stakeholders, and a survey of stakeholders. This paper is interested in two particular aspects of the evaluation: the role of capacity building in rural economic development funding programs and how the impact of economic development projects can be measured. Respondents were very clear that partnerships and collaboration along with capacity building and sustainability are keys to the success of rural economic development projects and that program administrators need to measure these as outcomes along with the traditional economic impacts like business productivity, jobs created, and business start-ups. In addition, the research found the ability to start and successfully complete economic development projects was strongly associated with participation in capacity building activities, access to a dedicated project manager, and being located in a region with larger-sized communities.

P18 - Developing responsive, flexible policies to support youth in transition in the new rural economy *Laura Ryser*

Over the last 30 years, population decline and demographic aging have been two significant rural issues that have driven policy responses. Policy responses to these issues have been an important force affecting service closures, economic development programs, new attention to immigration programs, and the development of a host of senior programs and services. These population and

demographic issues, however, are not straightforward and are having quite differential impacts across rural Canada. There are areas of population growth, and there are also areas of population. Sometimes these shifts are due to economic issues, sometimes to specific public policy decisions. In terms of aging, there is the general process of demographic aging across the Canadian population as the 'baby boom' generation gets older, but there also are exacerbating effects in some places such as seen with the process of resource frontier aging.

Social and Community Development III:

P19 – Understanding traditional food behaviour and food security in rural First Nation communities: Implications for food policy *Connie H. Nelson*

The international market-based food system is insufficient for the health and sustainability of remote communities where the cost of store-bought food is high, the nutritional quality low, and the availability tenuous. Furthermore, homogenization of the food system undermines the diversity and ecological relevance of residents' food knowledge, and thus their resilience and capacity to innovate. Development of the regional food system in a way that emerges organically from the unique human, social, and ecological setting will strengthen the autonomy and economic vitality of these communities. In this presentation we summarize quantitative and qualitative findings from two research projects with First Nation communities in Northern Ontario. The aim of this research was to understand the context of local food behaviour from the perspective of community members. Relationships were examined among traditional food behaviour, food knowledge, food values, perceived food security, cultural connection, and well-being.

P20 - Using the Geoweb to engage rural communities in economic and environmental decision-making *Peter A. Johnson*

Community participation is often seen as an essential component of the rural development process. Despite its importance, realizing a high level of community participation can be difficult. The use of new internet technologies holds potential for developing citizen engagement in the planning process. This is evidenced in how technologies such as collaborative mapping, changes how people obtain and share information, make connections with each other, and promote their interests. Recent developments within the area of e-governance use Geospatial Web 2.0 (Geoweb) approaches to support community participation. Despite the broad enthusiasm for these approaches, little research to date has reported on the implementation of a Geoweb platform within a rural development context. This presentation introduces the audience to recent work developing a Geoweb platform for rural development in Acton, Quebec.

P21 - Campus in the country: Community college involvement in rural community development *Nelson Rogers*

This study was an investigation into college involvement in rural community development through an examination of three cases in eastern, western and northern Canada. The inquiry revolved around what colleges do, that is, what kinds of approaches and projects are undertaken, how this work is supported or constrained, how college staff are recruited and trained for this work, and how well it is being done, or how success is defined and evaluated. The observations from these cases were compared with relevant research around the roles of community colleges, the nature of rural challenges, and the field of community development. The cases in this study were in contexts of resource industries in transition, usually related to trends in economic

globalization. The communities were also impacted by their distance from urban economic and political centres.

Sustainable Development:

P22 - Vulnerability to climate change in rural Saskatchewan: Case study of the rural municipality of Rudy No. 284 *Jeremy Pittman*

Given the likelihood of future changes in climate and climate variability, it is important to understand the vulnerabilities of human systems. Rural communities in Saskatchewan that have agricultural-based economies are particularly dependent on climate and could be among the most vulnerable human systems in Canada. Future changes in climate are likely to have significant impacts on rural livelihoods, and rural populations will face the challenge of coping with climate change in addition to a multitude of other changing socio-economic and environmental conditions. To better understand rural vulnerability to climate change in Saskatchewan, a vulnerability assessment was undertaken in the Rural Municipality (RM) of Rudy No. 284 using a participatory, bottom-up approach. One distinctive characteristic of this Saskatchewan municipality is its access to irrigation, a key adaptation to reoccurring droughts in the area.

P23 - Non-timber forest products, maple syrup and climate change *Brenda Murphy*

Non-timber forest products (NTFP), including maple syrup, are an important source of income in rural and remote spaces. Income is generated directly from product sales, as well as from activities along the supply chain, associated tourist attractions, etc. NTFPs also contribute to other aspects of rural wellbeing including environmental services and opportunities for the development and maintenance of social capital and aesthetic/spiritual values. NTFPs are thought to be threatened in various ways by climate change, and yet little research has been undertaken to assess the potential impacts and adaptive capacity of affected rural spaces. Maple syrup is one of Canada's most important NTFPs and an iconic symbol of Canadian identity. However, virtually no research has assessed the value of maple syrup as an NTFP, or the potential impact of climate change. This paper will provide an overview of our ongoing research program into climate change and maple syrup.

P24 – Attitudes towards new renewable energy technologies in the Eastern Ontario Highlands *Stewart Fast*

Rural renewable energy generation is supported by various government policies including biofuel blending mandates, forest residue inventories, and preferential access to the grid via Feed-in-Tariffs. The emerging paradigm of community economic development tells us that the extent to which communities can capture the opportunities provided by renewable energy policies partially depends on access to strategic information and in encouraging discussion between a broad range of community actors. Past research has shown that timely information on fossil energy imports and expenditures can create a long-standing vision for sustainable development based on local energy sources. This paper presents preliminary results from an energy use and opinion survey conducted in early 2011 in several rural eastern Ontario communities. The survey provides community level energy data unavailable from existing national surveys to enrich and complement focus group discussions underway in the same communities.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

“FROM POLICY TO RESEARCH AND BACK AGAIN” THE 1ST ANNUAL RURAL RESEARCH WORKSHOP May 5, 2011

(Workshop participants are invited to afternoon discussions on rural research and policy needs as part of the federal Rural Development Network's AGM on May 4, 2011)

Sussex Pavilion
111 Sussex Drive
Ottawa, Ontario

To foster networking among rural researchers and to provide a forum for rural research and policy discourse, we invite researchers (e.g., academic institutions, government agencies and non-governmental organizations) who are interested in rural issues to submit a proposal for a paper presentation or poster. The plenary sessions will focus on “From Policy to Research and Back Again” but contributed papers and posters on any topic related to rural Canada are solicited.

Paper Presentation - Presentations must include a clear research purpose and objectives, methodology or approach (if applicable), a clear summary of the research results and suggested policy contributions. Up to 24 presentations can be accommodated. Proposals and presentations may be in English or French. A group of three paper proposals may be submitted for consideration as an organized session. Each presentation will be restricted to 20 minutes.

Poster - Poster proposals must include a clear research purpose and objectives, methodology or approach (if applicable), a clear summary of the research results and suggested policy contributions. Up to 13 posters can be accommodated and proposals and posters may be in English or French. Posters are restricted to a width of 3 feet and a height of 4 feet.

Proposals should clearly indicate the name of each author, the email and telephone number of the contact author, the language of the presentation or poster (English or French), paper title and an abstract no more than 200 words. As a workshop outcome, authors may be invited to submit full papers to be considered for inclusion in a journal special edition.

Please submit your proposal as a Microsoft Word file (not docx) or a PDF to:

**David Douglas, Chair, Program Committee, Rural Research Workshop and
President, Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation, djdougl@uoguelph.ca**

DEADLINES AND MILESTONES

Proposal submissions

Early submissions: October 15, 2010 (with potential for travel funding pending results from a SSHRC workshop application)

Later submissions: January 14, 2011 (if space is available)

Notice of acceptance

October 31, 2010 and January 31, 2011 (respectively)

Note: Participating authors will only need to pay the student registration fees.

WORKSHOP HOSTING PARTNERS

Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation (CRRF)

CONTRIBUTING PARTNERS

Alberta Rural Development Network
Canadian Agri-Food Policy Institute
Rural Development Network (Government of Canada)
Natural Resources Canada (Canadian Forest Service)
Rural and Co-operatives Secretariat (Government of Canada)

STEERING COMMITTEE

Alberta Centre for Sustainable Rural Communities, Alberta Rural Development Network, Canadian Agri-Food Policy Institute, Canadian Federation of Agriculture, Canadian Rural Health Research Society, Canadian Rural Research Network (CRRN), Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation, Federation of Canadian Municipalities, The Monieson Centre (Queen's University), Natural Resources Canada (Canadian Forest Service), Regional Innovation Research Chair for Rural Economic Development (Selkirk College), Rural Development Network (Government of Canada), Rural and Co-operatives Secretariat (Government of Canada) and the Rural Ontario Institute.

For additional information, please contact:

Holly Dolan and Ray Bollman (Co-chairs) holly.dolan@agr.gc.ca; rayd.bollma@sasktel.net

Additional information including workshop agenda, confirmed plenary speakers, registration dates and fees, other news and related events will be posted periodically on the Web site (which can be accessed via the CRRN homepage at <http://rural-research-network.blogspot.com/>).

WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT



Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation
Fondation Canadienne pour la Revitalisation Rurale

“FROM POLICY TO RESEARCH AND BACK AGAIN”

1ST ANNUAL RURAL RESEARCH WORKSHOP
 May 5, 2011

Sussex Pavilion, 111 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario

The Workshop aims to foster networking among rural researchers and to provide a forum for rural research and policy discourse. Researchers (e.g., academic institutions, government agencies and non-governmental organizations) who are interested in rural issues were invited to submit a proposal for a paper presentation or poster on any topic related to rural Canada. Read about the Call for Submissions process on the Workshop Web page:

<http://www.fcm.ca/english/View.asp?mp=788&x=1531>

REGISTRATION (limited to 180 participants)

Register online: <https://event-wizard.com/event.asp?eid=0%2E690889422520826R4QH&l=e>

Workshop participants are invited to **afternoon discussions on rural research and policy needs** as part of the federal Rural Development Network's (RDN) Annual General Meeting (AGM) on May 4, 2011. Please indicate your intent on the Workshop [registration form](#). Limited number of places assigned on a first come, first serve basis [see (1)].

(1) You will be informed by the RDN Coordination Team if a place has been reserved for you and provided details related to the agenda once available. Enquiries about the RDN's 2011 AGM, can be sent to the RDN Team at: rdn.rdr@gmail.com.

Registration fees (payable by credit card) and deadlines:

Registration fee - until Friday, April 15, 2011	\$175.00
Student – Author of contributed paper or Poster	\$75.00

For additional information, please contact the Workshop Co-chairs:

Holly Dolan (holly.dolan@agr.gc.ca) and Ray Bollman (rayd.bollman@sasktel.net)

DETAILED WORKSHOP PROGRAMME		
7:45 - 8:30	Registration & networking / Posters displayed all day	
8:30 - 9:15	Keynote Address “From Policy to Research and Back Again: Evidence from the South” – Julio A. Berdegué, Principal Researcher at RIMISP – Latin American Center for Rural Development	
9:15 - 9:45	Federal Government Research Needs – Report from the Annual General Meeting of the federal Rural Development Network – Christine M. Burton, Acting Executive Director, Rural and Co-operatives Secretariat	
9:45 - 10:00	Morning break	
10:00 - 11:45	Research Presentations: Four concurrent sessions (CS)	
CS1 (Victoria Hall*)	SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT I	P1 - Social Isolation among Young Quebec Farmers (Diane Parent) <i>(This presentation will be given in French.)</i>
		P2 - Measuring Social Support: a comparison of the New Rural Economy Project and General Social Survey approaches (Bill Reimer)
		P3 - Rethinking the rural health deficit: Does sense of belonging have an influence? (Peter Kitchen)
CS2 (Ottawa Room A)	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	P4 - Creativity, tourism and economic development in a rural context: Strategies for a way forward (Kevin Stolarick)
		P5 - The homogeneity dilemma: Fine tuning tourism supports for rural communities (Nicole Vaugeois)
		P6 - Managing Canada's rural regions in a knowledge-based economy (Charles Conteh)
CS3 (Ottawa Room B)	RURAL HEALTH	P7 - Setting the socio-historical context for professional ethics: Relevant professional struggles for practising rural Canadian psychologists (Judi L. Malone)
		P8 - Listening to the voices of rural Manitobans: Using consumer input to inform mental health planning at the regional level (Karen G. Dyck)
		P9 - Towards an understanding of the social determinants of chronic illness within old order Mennonites (Kathryn Fisher)
CS4 (Ottawa Room C)	RURAL AND AGRICULTURAL POLICY	P10 - Now for the bad news: Prairie agriculture's contribution to the rural development policy debate (Andrew N. Reed)
		P11 - Triage at the periphery: Place-based policy in resource-dependent rural communities (Rose M. Olfert)
		P12 - The rural policy and agricultural policy interface: A quantitative assessment (Alessandro Alasia)

* Simultaneous interpretation will be provided all day in Victoria Hall.

11:45 - 1:00	Lunch	
12:15 - 1:00	Luncheon panel presentations: Rural research institutes' experiences with "From Policy to Research and Back Again" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill Ashton – Rural Development Institute, Brandon University • Greg Halseth – Rural and Small Town Studies Program, University of Northern British Columbia • Bruno Jean – Centre de recherche sur le développement territorial, Université du Québec à Rimouski 	
1:00-2:45	Research Presentations: Four concurrent sessions (CS)	
CS5 (Victoria Hall*)	CHANGING PARADIGMS IN AGRICULTURE: THE ATLANTIC CANADIAN CONTEXT	P13 - Building rural health and supporting small-scale agriculture: A comparative case study of farm-to-school activity in Maine and Nova Scotia (Chloe Kennedy)
		P14 - Policy's role in socio-agricultural transition: A community study in Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia (Louise Hanavan)
		P15 - Co-operatives and emerging markets in Atlantic Canada (Greg Cameron)
CS6 (Ottawa Room A)	SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT II	P16 - Using Mobility to gain stability: Household strategies and rural futures (Deatra Walsh)
		P17 - Evidence-Based Programs Planning for Rural Economic Development Initiatives (Toby Williams)
		P18 - Developing responsive, flexible policies to support youth in transition in the new rural economy (Laura Ryser)
CS7 (Ottawa Room B)	SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT III	P19 – Understanding traditional food behaviour and food security in rural First Nation communities: Implications for food policy (Connie H. Nelson)
		P20 - Using the Geoweb to engage rural communities in economic and environmental decision-making (Peter A. Johnson)
		P21 - Campus in the country: Community college involvement in rural community development (Nelson Rogers)
CS8 (Ottawa Room C)	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	P22 - Vulnerability to climate change in rural Saskatchewan: Case study of the rural municipality of Rudy No. 284 (Jeremy Pittman)
		P23 - Non-timber forest products, maple syrup and climate change (Brenda Murphy)
		P24 – Attitudes towards new renewable energy technologies in the Eastern Ontario Highlands (Stewart Fast)
2:45 - 3:00	Afternoon break	
3:00 - 4:25	Plenary: Where do we go from here? A facilitated discussion among all participants on what we heard, what we did not hear, and where we need to go from here.	
4:25 - 4:30	Closing remarks Chair, 2012 Rural Research Workshop	

* Simultaneous interpretation will be provided all day in Victoria Hall.

WORKSHOP PARTNERS

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WORKSHOP STEERING COMMITTEE

Alberta Centre for Sustainable Rural Communities
 Alberta Rural Development Network
 Canadian Agri-Food Policy Institute
 Canadian Federation of Agriculture
 Canadian Rural Health Research Society
 Canadian Rural Research Network (CRRN)
 Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation

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