



RPLC
RURAL POLICY LEARNING COMMONS

CAPR
COMMUNAUTÉ D'APPRENTISSAGE
DES POLITIQUES RURALES

BUILDING RURAL POLICY THROUGH INTERNATIONAL
COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

CONSTRUIRE DES POLITIQUES RURALES FONDÉES SUR
L'ANALYSE COMPARATIVE INTERNATIONALE

VOLUME 2: ISSUE 5 | NOVEMBER 2016

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www.rplc-capr.ca

Recent Conferences

Rural Talks to Rural Event (R2R)

Submitted by: Naomi Finseth, Student Research Assistant with the Rural Development Institute



R2R 2016 was hosted in Blyth, ON from September 28-30. This unique conference provided participants and presenters the opportunity to come together and share stories of rural communities from around the world. This form of story telling not only allowed all in attendance the opportunity to share personal stories, but also allowed individuals to take away and adapt the ideas heard at R2R. The Conference was centered around four major theme areas: art & culture, food & farm, community revival, and growing population.

Each panel session presented a different way

of looking at the four theme areas. For example, growing population focused on retaining youth, opportunities for innovation, re-imagining rural assets, and immigration. Although each session was different, they all allowed participants to discuss the various ways in which rural communities can retain and grow their populations. R2R also embraced the local fair of Huron County with food, music, art, and even a modified version of CBC's Dragons Den "The Pitch The Catch," where local entrepreneurs pitched ideas to local investors. Overall, this conference provided a unique environment where participants and presenters could speak openly about the challenges, opportunities, and future of rural communities.

Participant Takeaway for the CRRF-RPLC 2016 Conference, "First Nations Water Security and Pathways for Collaboration Session"

Presented by Dr. Sheri Longboat, University of Guelph

This presentation brought forward the importance of the old expression, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" in relation to the challenges and opportunities related to water source protection in First Nation communities. Primarily, it is important to acknowledge the First Nations, perspectives in the treatment of water. It cannot be "water management" but rather we need to manage how we relate to water. Also, different communities have different water treatment systems with different options available to them – top down "cookie cutter" plans simply will not work. Furthermore, collaboration is key to improvements and success whereby, relationships are built between communities, officials, governments, etc. in advance of water emergencies, so that they are already well established during any time of strain. There was also a call for improved drinking water standards, as well as increased management of water and land use activities (ex. agricultural runoff near First Nations, water intake) within surrounding watersheds. Again, improved collaboration and relationship building is very important, and will continue to be important going forward, if water security goals are to be achieved. 1



The Following Takeaway was submitted by Guelph 2016 Keynote Speaker:

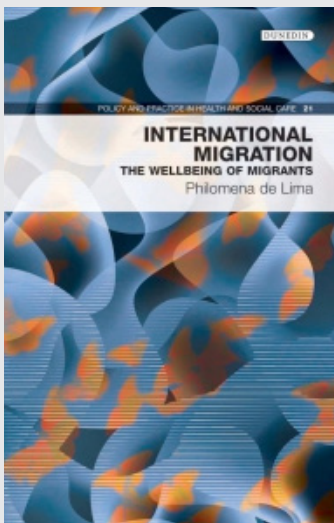
Dr. Erlend Moster Knudsen, climate researcher and science communicator, working as a deputy director for Pole to Paris.

I participated in the CRRF-RPLC conference, having been invited as a keynote speaker to speak about the importance of improved communication among the climate research community, policy-makers, and members of the general public. Being my first time at the conference (and knowing only one person), I did not know what to expect, but saw from the conference program that the outcome potential was substantial. After the four conference days, I can surely say the outcome indeed was significant!

The feedback I got on my talk was great and I made many great connections already the first night. From there, it only got better. Over the remaining three days, I met, discussed, and shared ideas with a great variety of people, all very open-minded, positive, and interested in searching common ground for collaboration. I mainly focused on the climate-related sessions (in which I gave another talk on my current PostDoc project), which had interdisciplinary and international perspectives. Normally participating in more narrowly-focused conferences, I found this a delightful change, which offered many new and widened perspectives.

Overall, I found the conference to be very well organized and I left it re-energized and with many new contacts and friends. This is the type of conference we need in order to bridge the gap between academia and non-academic members of society. I very much hope to be able to return next year, where my next post-conference hiking can take place in the Rockies instead of Algonquin.

To hear Dr. Knudsen's Keynote Session from October 12, 2016, check out the Video Section of the RPLC Facebook page! Find out more by also visiting <http://poletoparis.com/>

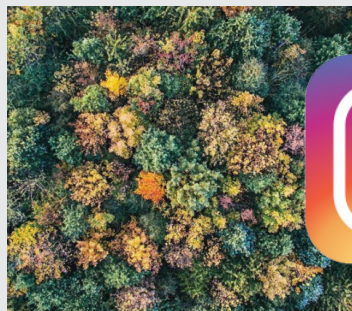


Book Release

Congratulations are in order for RPLC Team Lead Philomena de Lima on her new book. Migration is a widely debated issue. Events in Africa and the Arab world have led to migration to the European Union on an unprecedented scale and pushed the subject to the top of the political agenda. Globalization, demographic trends, and changing geopolitics provide a backdrop to the current discourses and policies on migration. Humanitarian impulses conflict with public concerns and discourses about the 'welfare burden' of migrants on host societies. The book provides a contemporary understanding of migrants and migration processes and trends with a particular focus on the well-being of migrants. The book aims to provide an informative overview of international migration issues /debates to social science students, policy-makers, and those wrestling on a practical level with the implications of migration.

Available via this link: <http://www.dunedinacademicpress.co.uk/page/detail/International-Migration/?K=e2014052716384377>

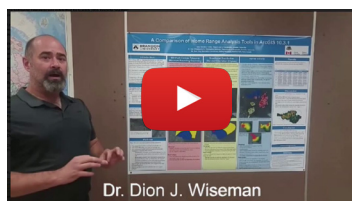
Instagram Photo of the Month



Featured Artist: @jackboothby

Many Thanks for sharing this fantastic photo with us! What does Rural mean to you? Send us your rural photos to share with our audience.

Follow us for more beautiful rural photographs:
https://www.instagram.com/rplc_capr/



Dr. Dion J. Wiseman

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dUNRhkuR8Ts>

Have You Ever Participated in a Poster Presentation? Want to Learn How?

Check out our useful tutorial video on our Youtube channel.



Orthist Adu-Gyamfi, Secretariat Support Member, presenting his poster at Guelph



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mk3av1xa77E>

Governance Team Seeking New Members

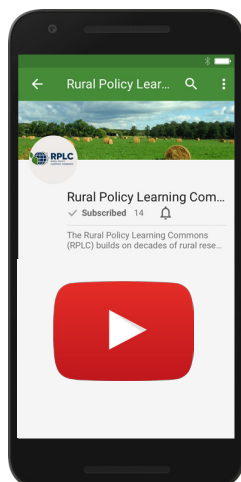
Interested in rural governance issues? Join the RPLC Governance Team; we are now accepting new members! The Governance Team helps to examine the implications of governance structures, processes, and policies that impact rural communities.

Team Lead: Kathleen Kevany – kkevany@dal.ca

& Team Support: Sarah Minnes – sminnes@grenfell.mun.ca

Apply here: <http://rplc-capr.ca/about-the-network/themes/governance/>

For more about the Governance Team through their new team update video, NOW on YouTube!



Upcoming Webinar



The Hutterites in North America: Confronting the Digital Age

PRESENTER: John (Jock) Lehr, *Senior Scholar at the University of Winnipeg*

Tuesday, November 22, 2016, 10:00 am Central CST

To attend, please RSVP: Orthist Adu Gyamfi
204-441-0915 or AduGyamfiO@brandonu.ca

Unable to attend? Not to worry!

This webinar will be available on YouTube shortly after the broadcast date.

Thank You Letter to RPLC

To the RPLC team,

Thank you for sponsoring my trip to attend the recent CRRF-RPLC Building Vibrant Rural Futures conference in Guelph. Even though I was completely new to the CRRF and RPLC social spheres, I felt welcomed by everyone I met. I also appreciate the time people took to explain concepts to me that may be general knowledge to the more experienced. Many people were excited to learn more about my research findings, as youth employment is currently a much-discussed topic in Canada.

As a relative newcomer to the concept of policy, I have had a difficult time visualizing what policy-in-action really looks like at the ground level. Engaging in discussion with others about their research helped to solidify in my mind the practical implications of policy. I also attained a better sense of a timeline for certain issues, which can be difficult to do by solely consulting the academic literature where a comprehensive review is not always available.

I attended a variety of charismatic presentations on topics ranging from regional economic development to arts-based facilitation. My knowledge has been most deepened in the subjects of rural broadband services, regionalization and amalgamation. Several times, a researcher would bring up a resource I had read, but would dig into the content and point out its flaws and biases, which is truly valuable knowledge I could not have easily found elsewhere. There are two sides to every coin!

The issue of knowledge mobilization and getting success stories out to a wider audience came up in most talks during the conference. I think this is where initiatives such as the RPLC come in to fight against stagnation and homogeneity. Ongoing active discussion between communities is essential to avoid doubling efforts and isolating effective methods. As a biology undergraduate student, I was used to attending conferences nearly void of place-based studies – measures of cell cultures and vertebrate physiology tend to be invariable across provinces or countries! But at the CRRF-RPLC conference, where a person came from mattered and I learned some of the unique challenges faced by different regions of Canada.

I also want to make a note of the unforgettable field trip I attended before the conference began, to the Woodland Cultural Centre & residential school, led by Sheri Longboat. I have a personal interest in Indigenous affairs, and I cannot express how much this opportunity meant to me. I also appreciated the integration of Indigenous perspectives into discussions throughout the conference.

After leaving Guelph, I spent a few days touring downtown Toronto. I have to say that upon return to my home in the Alberta prairies, I have never felt more grateful for the wide open land and space to breathe! I now live with the inner struggle of wishing to support my vibrant rural area but also wanting all of its wonder for myself.

Thank you again for your support,

Carly Heck, *Research Assistant*,
Alberta Centre for Sustainable Rural Communities,
University of Alberta



RPLC-Natural Resource Development Team Public Policy Fellow – Call for Applications

Public policy is a critical component to advancing rural policies. Actors involved in public policy (e.g., local government, community groups) hold tremendous experiences, capacities, and skills. The RPLC-NRD Team Public Policy Fellow initiative is designed to recognize public policy actors that are making a substantial contribution to rural policy, whether at the local, regional, provincial, national, or international scale. This initiative facilitates the engagement of public policy actors within the RPLC-NRD network and RPLC-NRD activities,

as well as RPLC activities generally. The Natural Resource Development Team can nominate one fellow per fiscal year. Applicants who wish to be considered must provide a two page description of themselves and their ideas around potential activities they would like to engage with and how they feel they can contribute to the RPLC mandate and vision.

Applications must be received by January 31, 2016.

Please send applications to sbreen@selkirk.ca and include "NRD Policy Fellow" in the subject line.

About the RPLC

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RPLC CAPR



Rural Policy Learning Commons

For more information, visit www.rplc-capr.ca or contact:

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Wayne Kelly, Coordinator
Rural Development Institute
Brandon University
Email: kellyw@brandonu.ca



RPLC Theme Teams and Knowledge Mobilization Teams

Governance	Personnel Exchanges
Migration	Institutes
Infrastructure & Services	Policy Fora
Natural Resources	Distance Learning
Transformations in Indigenous Communities	Publications
Digital Information Hub	Social Media

Deliverables

Policy Briefs	Conferences
Learning Institutes	Presentations
Publications	Workshops/Webinars
Opportunities	Newsletter
Job Notices	Research Reports

Audience

Faculty	Community Groups
Students	General Public
Government	& YOU
Policy makers	



Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en
sciences humaines du Canada

