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Montreal Team Lead Meeting

In March 2016, team leads from all twelve RPLC Research and Knowledge Mobilization teams, along with the RPLC Secretariat, met in Montreal for an in-person update and planning meeting. This strategic session included members from all corners of the RPLC network, from Canada, USA, Italy and Scotland.



Tom Johnson, University of Missouri & RPLC Team Lead, inside the Bell Centre: home of the Montreal Canadiens.



RPLC members meetings held at Concordia University, Montreal.



Iskamoon Corporation presenters: Melissa B. Saganash & Marc Dunn

During the first day of meetings, each team gave a yearly recap outlining a long list of measured deliverables. Here are some of the highlights:

- Funded the State of Rural Canada Report.
- Cataloguing what members are involved and interested in.
- Draft promotional material to let people know what the RPLC is doing.
- Delivered 10 Webinars during the past year with several more scheduled in upcoming months.
- Developing smart services literature – facilitate a review of how different jurisdictions (EU, CDN, USA) approach rural policy topics such as green infrastructure.

A list of upcoming action items were identified in the meeting to help strengthen the RPLC network:

- Develop a new RPLC communications strategy.
- Reviewing the use of social media tools to help aid dissemination of information to members.
- Identify new strategic European partners and re-engage with existing partners both in Europe and North America.
- Re-design the Website portal.
- Develop a guide for RPLC partners to host webinars.
- Launch RPLC Master's Series website journal & possible Journal Club program.
- Co-ordinate a graduate certificate with RPLC partners.
- Increase presence at focus events.

For more information on the RPLC network, please visit our website: www.rplc-capr.ca

2016 CRRF RPLC Conference

Community organizations, policymakers, researchers and businesses are encouraged to attend the 2016 Building Vibrant Rural Futures: Mobilizing Knowledge and Informing Policy Conference. This event will attract participants from North America and Europe and will serve as a critical platform to explore a number of subthemes including:

- Local and regional economic development
- Labour force development and training
- Climate change and the impacts on rural communities infrastructure, economies and lifestyles
- Rural data, information and harnessing digital data
- Aboriginal transformations and issues

Don't miss this unique opportunity to discuss and learn how to inform rural policy and practice. Make plans now to attend!

For more information, please visit the conference website: www.guelph2016.crrf.ca



Rural Routes Podcasts



Launched in December 2015, Rural Routes Podcasts (RRP) is a new venture, spearheaded by RPLC's own Boyan Furst, which attempts to answer the question, "What is rural in the 21st century?"

RRP provides listeners with a weekly podcast featuring an interview with somebody who has something to say about what it means to live rural in the 21st century. With a background in radio, Boyan plans to interview academic researchers, farmers, artists, entrepreneurs and fishermen. You will hear stories from across Canada and maybe even beyond. Talks include everything from what it's like to live on a small, rural island, to what are alternative models of financing available to rural communities.

To date, the website features five episodes:

- Building a community foundation with Dr. Ryan Gibson, St. Mary's University
- Getting smarter about rural with Dr. Bill Reimer, Rural Policy Learning Commons
- Rural home and childhood with Michelle Porter, PhD candidate, Memorial University
- The rural soul of Canada with Dr. Ivan Emke, Memorial University
- State of rural Canada with Dr. Ryan Gibson, St. Mary's University and Dr. Sean Markey, Simon Fraser University

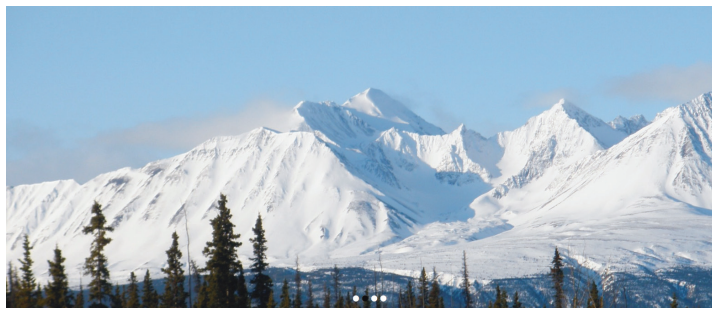
The next episode, #6, will feature an interview with Philomena de Lima, University of the Highlands, Inverness, Scotland, on the topic of rural immigration.

Listeners can subscribe to RRP through iTunes, RSS, and Google Play.



To find out more, including blog and social media links, please visit the webpage: www.ruralroutespodcasts.com.

2016 ICRPS



Approximately 30 students and 20 faculty from Europe, Canada, USA, and Mexico will attend the 13th Annual International Comparative Rural Policy Seminar (ICRPS) Summer Institute in Fairbanks, Alaska, from July 14th -26th. Northern examples will be used to anchor discussion and learning around the broader issues facing rural communities and policy makers around the globe.

The official program is still under development, but sessions will include: Rural Policy and Comparative Policy Studies, Poverty, Food Security, Biodiversity and Natural Resources, Energy Security, Social and Human Capital, Migration, Environmental Justice, Food / Water / Energy / Climate Nexus, Environmental and Climatic Change, Research Methodologies and Analysis, Sustainable Development, The North, and Multiple Ways of Knowing / Local Environmental Governance.

More information can be found at the Institute website:
www.2016.icrps.org.

2017 Niskamoon Event “Building a New Vision of Development”

Niskamoon Corporation, in close collaboration with local and regional Cree entities, wishes to host a two-day event in a James Bay Cree community in Northern Quebec, in connection with the Annual International Association of Impact Assessment (IAIA) conference, which is to be held in Montreal in April 2017. The event will seek to share first-hand Cree experiences with recent large investment projects, namely the EM-1A/Rupert Diversion Project, with indigenous participants from various nations throughout the world. The event will bring to light positive examples of communities participating meaningfully in the impact assessment process for development projects on indigenous territories.

The RPLC network is looking forward to being a supporter of the 2017 Niskamoon Event. For more information on this two-day learning opportunity event, please contact:

Melissa B. Saganash, Event Co-Director
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Marc Dunn, Event Co-Director
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Cynthia Taylor, Event Coordinator
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Upcoming Events

Look for RPLC member presence at the following upcoming events:

Nordic Ruralities Conference
May 22-24, 2016
Akureyri, Iceland

Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences
May 28 - June 3, 2016
Calgary, Canada

Centre for Research on Families and Relationships
June 13-15, 2016
Edinburgh, Scotland

Rural Entrepreneurship Conference
June 15-17, 2016
Lincoln, England

IAMO Rural Labour in Transition
June 22-24, 2016
Halle, Germany

International Comparative Rural Studies Seminar (ICRPS)
July 14-26, 2016
Fairbanks, USA

Rural Sociological Society
August 6-9, 2016
Toronto, Canada

World Congress of Rural Sociology
August 10-14, 2016
Toronto, Canada

Permanent European Conference for the Study of the Rural Landscape (PECSRL)
September 5-9, 2016
Innsbruck, Austria

CRRF / RPLC Conference
October 19-23, 2016
Guelph, Canada

For a complete list of upcoming events, please visit our RPLC partner site: www.crrf.ca

Webinars

Did you know... all of our past webinar videos are posted on our YouTube site? Yet another good reason to register for our upcoming webinars – even if you are unable to attend a particular webinar, you will receive an email with link where you can view the webinar at your own leisure. Of course, the best way to take in the webinar is live and in-person where you can interact and ask the presenters questions.

Here is a list of our upcoming Webinars:



MAY 18

Canada's Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program: impacts on relationships in Mexico



MAY 31

Planning for Climate Change: an oxymoron?

To view previous webinars, please visit: **RPLC YouTube**
www.youtube.com/channel/UC24ZwmEVj0-vlwNwf9er0hQ

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A PRESENTER?

For more information or to register for any of our upcoming webinars, please email blatherwickm@brandonu.ca

About the RPLC

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RPLC CAPR



Rural Policy Learning Commons

For more information, visit www.rplc-capr.ca
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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	



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