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RURAL POLICY LEARNING COMMONS

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**WEBINAR  
SERIES**

## Governance in Rural Contexts: Concepts & Challenges

Wednesday April 10th, 2019 @ 10:00am CST

To Register click: <https://bit.ly/2HNsrir>

Questions: [Munzaleen Sajjad](mailto:munzaleen.sajjad@brandonu.ca), 204-721-0484

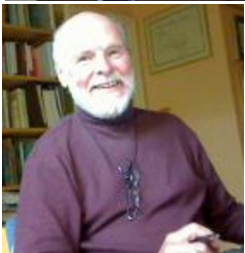
### ABSTRACT

Governance is a particularly promising but challenging way to help rural communities acquire agency - to get things done. And the conceptualization of governance as a collaborative undertaking, selectively involving government, was largely initiated and refined outside of rural contexts. But the realities of rural contexts involving significant distance (in every sense, from markets to political power), and lower densities (again, in every sense, from population to institutions) means that governance has to be critically examined and prudently applied to rural community development. This webinar will critically re-visit the basic thesis of governance, highlight some of the salient characteristics of rurality that will impinge upon its application to rural contexts and development priorities, suggest a conceptual framework for rural governance, provide a number of case studies of rural governance experiences (Ireland and Spain), and encourage discussion, sharing and critical reflection on this topic. The webinar will address policy challenges at all levels (e.g. national, regional and local) and the need to ensure the best "fit" to facilitate endogenous process.

### PANELISTS



**Dr. Brendan O'Keeffe** is Co-Director of *The GESERA Institute for Action Research* – an independent consultancy working in the fields of social research and local & community development. A Human Geographer, he was a Senior Lecturer in Human Geography and Director of Quality in Mary Immaculate College, University of Limerick, Ireland. His research areas include local development, governance, cross-border collaboration, demographics and linguistics. Brendan also has considerable practitioner experience in rural and community development.



**David J.A. Douglas** is Professor Emeritus, Rural Planning and Development, University of Guelph. He has been a researcher, writer, teacher, trainer, facilitator, consultant and adviser in rural development for several decades, in many Canadian regions, the EU and several other international contexts. His most recent published work has been in rural community resilience, rural governance, and regional development.

[CLICK HERE](#) to check out David Douglas recent Journal on Governance in Rural Context.



**Dr. Francisco Navarro** is an associate Professor, University of Granada, Human Geography Department, Spain. Dr. Navarro develops his research in the analysis of the practice of neoendogenous rural development. Over 50 articles, journals and other academic publications. Expertise in local evaluation research on rural policies, especially impacts of the LEADER approach, social and territorial inequalities in rural development programmes, success and failed projects in rural development, social innovation in neoendogenous rural development practise, among others research topics. Dr. Navarro has been involved with several collaborations with Local Action Groups.

To learn more about on getting the goods on governance [CLICK HERE](#)  
Check out [OECD's Rural Policy—A Framework For Rural Development](#)



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