



Resources and Sustainable Development in the Arctic

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Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en
sciences humaines du Canada

Canada



Are resources an answer to Northern challenges?



“Resource production often represents a threat to the Northern environment upon which the traditional economy of the region’s indigenous population still depend...”

“Resource development has often been linked to an increase in the disruption of these communities leading to a variety of social and health challenges...”

Has the world changed enough so that resource development can help communities become sustainable?

“...there is some indication that the worst aspects of the resource dependence can be countered through the introduction of new policies and models of development that increase local control of development and ensure a higher share of resource rents are passed on to northern communities...”

What is different?

- New land claim and self government agreements
- New co-management arrangements
- Better social, economic, and environmental impact assessments (both science and rules)
- World respect for Indigenous rights

ReSDA wants to find out if this is true



“ The potential exists for finding new ways of developing resources that will ensure greater benefits for and build capacity in these northern communities. Rather than being something that threatens their vitality, the development of natural resources can be done in a way that will ensure their long-term sustainability...”



Initial Findings



- Communities have an increasing confidence in their ability to control resource development to meet their needs – but there is a difference between new treaties and historic treaties
- They want to know the best ways to do this
- They want to know what are the likely impacts of resource development, how these impacts can be best measured, and what is the best way of dealing with these impacts.
- They want to know how other communities have dealt with resource development so that they can maximize benefits

ReSDA?



- Currently involves 54 researchers at 29 universities in 9 countries.
- Core funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada – 2011 to 2018.
- The main focus of ReSDA's research will be on finding ways to ensure that a larger share of the benefits of resource development stay in the region with fewer costs to communities.
- Main coordination office at Yukon College with regional coordinators in Labrador, Nunavut, and NWT

Where is ReSDA?



ReSDA First Projects – Gap Analyses



Gap Analysis Theme	Lead Researcher
History of Resource Development	Ken Coates, University of Saskatchewan
Impacts of Resource Development	Peter Schweitzer, University of Vienna; Thierry Rodon, Université Laval
Measuring Impacts	Andrey Petrov, University of Northern Iowa
Resource Revenue Regimes	Lee Huskey, University of Alaska Anchorage
Social, Economic and Environmental Impact Assessment	Bram Noble, University of Saskatchewan
Regional Economic Development	Frances Abele, Carleton University
Social Dimensions of Resource Development	Brenda Parlee, University of Alberta
Community – Industry Relations	Ken Caine, University of Alberta
Impact Benefit Agreements	Ben Bradshaw, University of Guelph
Resources and the Subsistence Economy	David Natcher, University of Saskatchewan
Traditional knowledge and resource development	Henry Huntington, PEW Environment Group
Resources and Environmental Issues	Arn Keeling, Memorial University
Climate Change	Chris Southcott, Lakehead University
Cross Cutting Theme research: Gender and Resource Development	Suzanne Mills, McMaster University; Martha Dowsley, Lakehead University

Project 1: Resource Development Impacts Indicators (Andrey Petrov)

How can we develop better, community controlled, indicators of change linked to resource development?

Project 2: Measuring the fiscal linkages (Lee Huskey)

How can we maximize the amount of money that stays in a region?

Project 3: Distribution of financial benefits within communities (Thierry Rodon)

What are the various ways that funding is distributed within communities and what are the impacts of these?

Project 4: Boom and bust Impacts and mitigation in northern communities

What are the best ways to mitigate the main social impacts of resource development on communities?

Project 5: Long distance commuting and Arctic communities (Gerti Elmsteiner-Saxinger)

What are the best options for Arctic communities in dealing with long distance commuting?

Project 6: Impact Benefit Agreements and Beyond (Ben Bradshaw)

What are the best ways to deal with negative impacts arising from current Impact Benefit Agreements?

Project 7: Resource Development and Subsistence Activities (David Natcher)

How can resource development enhance the subsistence economy of northern communities?

Project 8: Community Wealth Funds and Resource Development (Greg Poelzer)

Which forms of community wealth funds are communities most comfortable with?

Project 9: Educational and Training Benefits (Andrew Hodgkins)

What are the best examples of resource-related employment, training, and education programs?

Project 10: Community Well-being and Resource Development (Brenda Parlee)

What are the best measures of well-being for northern communities impacted by resource development?

Project 11: Traditional Knowledge and Resource Development

What are the best examples of the use of traditional knowledge in resource development?

Project 12: Best practices in Industry/Government/Community relationships (Frances Abele)

What are the best practices in developing relationships and how do these relationships influence success?

Project 13: Gender and Resource Development in the North (Emilie Cameron and Suzanne Mills)

How can resource development enhance gender equality?

Project 14: Environmental Impacts of Resource Development (John Sandlos and Arn Keeling)

How can environmental impacts be best mitigated to the benefit of communities?

Project 15: Housing and Resource Development (Julia Christensen)

New Possibilities (and new dangers)



- Social impacts – better understanding of social impacts over the past 30 years – new possibilities of mitigation (and we now know how severe some of these impacts are)
- Indicators – new realization of the importance of measuring change – new relevant indicators - need for community-based monitoring of social and economic change (and knowledge that community monitoring often benefits outside researchers more than communities)
- Resource revenues - new mechanisms exist to slow leakages and increase linkages – royalties now recognized as belonging to regions – new sovereign wealth funds etc. (resource curse – corruption)
- IBAs (confidentiality)
- New corporate-community relations – corporate social responsibility (possibility of CSR green wash and only to assure community agreement)
- How can we use the short-term benefits of extractive industries to help long-term renewable development?

Barriers to Subsistence Harvesting

Table

Region & Community	Total	Cost	School	Employment	Childcare	Poor Health or Physically Unable	Lack of Knowledge/ Interest	No Game
		n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)
ALASKA	n=441	62 (14)	42(10)	187 (42)	7 (2)	72 (16)	47 (11)	24 (5)
Arctic Village	n=31	1(3)	0	16(52)	3(10)	9(29)	2(6)	0
Beaver	n=23	5(25)	3(15)	4(20)	0	5(25)	5(19)	1(5)
Birch Creek	n=2	0	0	1(50)	0	0	1(50)	0
Chalkyitsik	n=3	0	0	0	0	1(33)	2(67)	0
Fort Yukon	n=273	53(19)	16(6)	99(36)	4(1)	42(15)	36(13)	23(8)
Stevens Village	n=3	0	0	0	0	2(67)	1(33)	0
Venetie	n=106	3(3)	23(22)	67(63)	0	13(12)	0	0
LRRCN	n=269	28(10)	8 (3)	90 (33)	29 (11)	29 (11)	85 (32)	0
John D'Or Prairie	n=99	27(28)	1(1)	12 (12)	2(2)	2(2)	55(56)	0
Fox Lake	n=170	1(1)	7(4)	78(46)	27(16)	27(16)	30(18)	0
NUNAVIK	n=288	127(44)	26 (6)	65(23)	0	34(12)	36(13)	0
Inukjuak	n=101	32(31)	9(9)	31(30)	0	10(10)	19(18)	0
Kangiqsualujjuaq	n=56	14(25)	5(9)	8(14)	0	13(23)	16(29)	0
Quaqtaq	n=131	81(62)	12(9)	26(20)	0	11(8)	1(1)	0
NUNATSIAVUT	n=121	26 (21)	4 (3)	24 (20)	6 (5)	41 (34)	20 (16)	0
Hopedale	n=47	16(35)	0	7(15)	2(4)	7(15)	15(33)	0
Makkovik	n=10	2(20)	0	1(10)	1(10)	2(20)	4(40)	0
Nain	n=43	7(16)	3(7)	10(23)	3(7)	19(44)	1(2)	0
Postville	n=7	0	1(14)	1(14)	0	5(71)	0	0
Rigolet	n=14	1(7)	0	5(36)	0	8(57)	0	0
TOTAL	n=1119	243(22)	80(7)	366(33)	42(4)	176(16)	188(17)	24(2)

Resources and Sustainable Development in the Arctic (ReSDA)

A Northern Social Science Research Partnership Program English

Login Register

74.7620, -161.1352

Map Satellite

Beaufort Sea

Chukchi Sea

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search in (75.9916, -141.2402) (72.6344, -172.5609) Search returned : 0 results.

No filter specified

<http://yukonresearch.yukoncollege.yk.ca/resdaproj/>
Slides by Greg Finnegan SRC Software



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