

# NRE<sup>2</sup> ANNUAL REPORT

October 1, 2002 to September 30, 2003



NRE<sup>2</sup>

BUILDING  
RURAL  
CAPACITY  
IN THE NEW  
ECONOMY

We want to learn how to build rural capacity for a more open, global, and knowledge-based economy. Capacity is the ability to achieve goals by identifying and re-organizing assets and resources. It can be accomplished through a variety of processes – all of them requiring continual learning. Capacity-building also means reducing obstacles to action created by institutions, policies, or perceptions that are insensitive to the new diversity of conditions.

We hope to understand how the new economy changes the conditions and the assets available to rural people, the new forms of capacity it requires, and the best strategies to build these capacities. We will accomplish this by combining high quality scientific research with collaboration among researchers, rural citizens and policy-makers. - *Dr. William Reimer*

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## Introduction

September 30th, 2003 marked the end of an exciting first year for the NRE<sup>2</sup> project, Building Rural Capacity in the New Economy. It is an Initiative on the New Economy project funded with a \$3 million grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) of Canada. Looking back over this first year of the project, it seems an appropriate time to reflect on what has made the year fascinating, what we have learned, what challenges were faced and overcome, and what have been the impacts and outcomes of the research thus far. It is also a good time to take stock of how we spent our money.

## Events Past, Present and Future

While the NRE<sup>2</sup> project is grounded in 15 years of prior research and discussion on rural issues, the Miramichi Rural University was the first major meeting of the NRE<sup>2</sup> researchers. Organized by the Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation (CRRF), this conference brought NRE<sup>2</sup> Canadian and Japanese researchers, students and community representatives to New Brunswick from October 27th to the 29th, 2002. As usual, it was an intensive 3 days – including a special workshop for NRE field site leaders and researchers, the presence of international guests, presentations, round tables, administrative meetings, and local tours. The conference theme (Rural Matters) particularly inspired the more action-oriented approach of the NRE<sup>2</sup> phase of our project.

In November 2002, the Central Team hosted a meeting where an SSHRC delegation met with members of Concordia University's senior administration and the NRE<sup>2</sup> Concordia Team. Based on this meeting, the Milestones Report was prepared, approved and submitted to the SSHRC in February 2003.

The Steering Committee also held a meeting in Montreal in February 2003. Important decisions were made with respect to how the project would be shaped and major budget decisions were taken. It also provided an opportunity to lay the groundwork for the first NRE<sup>2</sup> Spring workshop and prepare the way for hiring project staff.

In mid-April, we hired Madeleine Yates as the Project Administrator and she immediately began familiarizing herself with the rather considerable amount of material – recently organized as part of our move to new quarters in Concordia's MI-Annex.

Madeleine's first meeting with the research team took place in Ferintosh, AB – at our spring workshop (April 30th to May 3rd). On this occasion, 32 researchers and students from across Canada as well as members of CRRF and 2 Japanese delegates met, held discussions, exchanged information, toured the region, shared solutions to common problems and, more importantly, made plans for the execution of three summer research projects: an Innovative Services and Voluntary Sector Survey and a Site Profile Update conducted by the Services Team and a Communications Inventory conducted by the Communications Team.

In May, we hired another important member of our administrative team. Simone Draca came on board as the Liaison Officer – with a mandate to facilitate communication among researchers, site people, project partners, and interested parties. She took little time getting up to speed and was soon planning the fall workshops between phone calls, queries, and information flyers.

Much of the research during the 2003 summer period was focused on the collection of data for the Services and Communication Theme Teams. The Services Team conducted two projects, the first was an Inventory of Innovative and Voluntary Service Sector providers in rural communities. The sampling design involved four selected sites (Mackenzie, Wood River, Tweed and Springhill). The second, was a Services Profile Update of the Services Inventory first taken in 1998 and again in 2000. The Communications Team also gathered data across 22 sites to update its 1998 and 2000 data. They designed a Communications Inventory Instrument to take stock of the communications tools available to and used by rural communities. As a result of this work, we now have a third cycle of profile information from 22 of our field sites, laying the basis for longitudinal analysis at the site level that is unique in the world.

Planning is now being finalized for two events that will take place from October 30th – Nov. 3rd 2003. The first will be the annual fall meeting between researchers and site people held in one of our sites. This year it will be at St. Damase, a site about 50 km south of Montréal where researchers, students, community representatives and other visitors will meet for a two-day workshop and exchange of ideas, culminating in a field site visit. The second will be a one-day workshop at the Palais des congrès in Gatineau/Hull, at which NRE researchers will deliver a series of papers and engage in roundtable discussions with site representatives and policy-makers with the hope of informing future rural policy decisions. Registration is now underway for these two events. An estimated 30-40 people will attend the St. Damase meeting and site visit and between 80-100 are expected to attend the conference in Gatineau/Hull.

Also, in mid-November the last delegation of 7 Canadian site representatives accompanied by an NRE<sup>2</sup> researcher (Laura Ryser), will visit Japan as the CJ (Canada/Japan) project enters its final phase. Formalized in June 1999, this four-year project of international exchange was initiated to provide an international comparison between changes in rural Canada and rural Japan, and to foster understanding of the challenges and benefits of rural community living in these two widely different countries.

In the spring of 2004 the annual NRE<sup>2</sup> workshop will be organized in another of our rural sites where intensive planning for summer research projects, Theme Team meetings and preparation for the Mid-Term Review will take place. The Mid-Term Review will be the most important event on the NRE<sup>2</sup> calendar for the 2004/2005 year since the continuation of SSHRC support for the project depends on its successful outcome.

### **Theme Structure**

Four research Centres (called Theme Teams), have been set up across Canada, each focused on a particular theme and led by an academic working in the area of rural research. These are:

- The Services Theme Team led by Dr. Greg Halseth at the University of Northern British Columbia;
- The Governance Theme Team led by Dr. Bruno Jean at the Université du Québec à Rimouski;
- The Communications Theme Team led by David Bruce at Mt. Allison University; and
- The Environment Theme Team led by Dr. Tom Beckley at the University of New Brunswick.

The Central Team, which plays a key role in facilitating the integration of the various research sectors, is housed at Concordia University in Montréal, under Dr. William Reimer, the Principal Investigator on the grant.

This research network is supported by a team of 10 co-investigators, each involved in one or more Theme Teams and as site coordinators in one to four of 22 rural sites across Canada. (See Appendix C for a listing of the NRE<sup>2</sup> sites and site coordinators). In addition, there are two sites in rural Japan (Iitate and Awano) that are matched with two Canadian sites, Tweed in Ontario and St-Damase, Québec. A wider network of 4 collaborators and 20 partners, numerous policy-makers, site leaders and community representatives buttress this Canada-wide initiative.



## Challenges and Solutions

Distance and remoteness of the field sites are major challenges in the day-to-day work of the project. Some researchers find themselves working alone in small isolated communities. Conditions similar to those faced by rural communities on an ongoing basis have now become part of the research experience. To overcome and deal with these problems we have used a number of different strategies. We hired a Liaison Officer whose regular contact with researchers and our other partners is expected to bridge the geographical gap. Much of her time has been spent making contact with the various researchers in the project. As she moves to the preparations for the fall workshops and the activities of the workshops themselves, we expect that her role as liaison will be greatly enhanced by the face-to-face meetings that these events will facilitate.

The Steering Committee, with members spread out across the country; has also experimented with a range of methods for holding its bi-weekly meetings. Telephone conferencing, video conferencing, internet video conferencing, and email updates have all been utilized with varying degrees of success. We have discovered along the way that technology imposes its own limitations. For example, when using telephone conferencing, the absence of normal visual cues limits the give and take of conversations that might occur around a table. We have tried video-conferencing as a means to overcome these limitations, but have found that the technology is not as dependable as we would have liked, especially in the more remote locations. Much of our time is spent setting up and testing the equipment and connections. We expect that in a few years, however, this will become a valuable addition to our repertoire. The Internet has greatly facilitated the exchange and dissemination of information for our researchers and site people across the country and we rely heavily on email for day-to-day administrative purposes.

When experimenting with the strengths and weaknesses of new technologies, we have discovered that different types of media are useful for different types of objectives. Other efforts to close the geographical gap include a monthly issues bulletin from the Central Office to all researchers outlining the latest news and signaling upcoming deadlines or events. Another recent initiative has been the publication of short 2-page flyers, accessible on our website, entitled "Insights/In Sites", outlining issues, research results and policy implications from NRE<sup>2</sup> research. Since this project was conceived not only to make a contribution to knowledge through research but also to ensure that this knowledge is directly useful to rural people and policy-makers, the use of the Internet has been indispensable as a vehicle for disseminating information.

## Listing of Papers and Publications

An impressive number of papers and publications have been produced by our research team, some of which can be accessed on the NRE<sup>2</sup> website. This list includes eleven papers prepared for the Ferintosh workshop alone. A total of 68 reports, 9 book chapters, 3 books, 91 presentations, 8 newspaper articles, 6 journal articles, 1 conference proceeding, 19 audio visual presentations and 2 dissertations have been produced over the year. A full listing follows in Appendix A.

## Financial Report

### EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN OCTOBER, 1, 2002 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2003

OPENING BALANCE				\$ 750,000.00
Salaries to students (including benefits)	Canadian & Permanent Residents	Foreign		Amount Spent
Bachelor's	\$ 76,093.97			\$ 76,093.97
Master's	\$ 68,757.82	\$ 922.43		\$ 69,680.25
Doctorate	\$ 31,372.60			\$ 31,372.60
Salaries to Non-students (with benefits)				
Other				\$ 119,767.96
Professional & technical services/ contracts	\$ 7,500.00			\$ 7,500.00
Equipment (incl. powered vehicles)				\$ 1,262.56
Materials, supplies & other expenditures				\$ 12,937.20
Travel including Conferences, Workshops, Seminars				\$ 80,595.25
Research time stipends				\$ 6,250.00
Total expenditures for current year				\$ 396,458.79
BALANCE				\$ 353,541.21

## Reports from the Theme Teams

The Theme Teams have had a busy first year. Projects have been framed and the groundwork completed as planned for this early period of the grant. The Theme Teams Annual Reports and the annual report of the Central Team are attached in Appendix B.



Newtown, NL : Site of the NRE 1999 Spring Workshop

## Impacts and Outcomes

Are we making an impact? This question is difficult to assess. We can easily point to the traditional evidence of productivity that is so familiar to academic audiences: refereed articles, books, presentations, reports, and working papers. These are included in Appendix A of this report. To these we can add the outputs that are less often part of a CV: materials produced for more general audiences such as flyers, brochures, media materials, interviews, workshops, conferences, an Internet site, or teaching tools. In our case, these types of products are as important as the more traditional ones, since they are the types of products that are more accessible to rural people and policy-makers. They take as much time (and talent) to prepare as the more formal materials, however, and therefore can act as a 'diversion' for our younger scholars who must pay attention to their careers.

Finally, there are products that are only expressed in verbal or anecdotal form. We frequently come across stories told by our site people or policy partners about how the activities or work of the NRE project have informed, inspired, or facilitated important action on their part. It may be expressions of a new awareness of old issues, different ways of approaching and overcoming challenges, or new contacts and networks that have opened up opportunities for them or their communities. Although these impacts are more difficult to document, they are sometimes the ones that are most important. For this reason, we are attempting to keep a record of them and searching for new ways to document them. Some of these attempts will be found in our records of achievements and impacts below.

## Impacts

reported by D.W. Bruce

1. In Lot 16 one of the NRE<sup>2</sup> sites, the community is moving forward with discussions to establish a legally incorporated community development organization with authority to plan community projects, receive funding (grants, contracts etc.), and provide a structure for the community to plan for the future. Community members have been inspired by the outcomes of the research we have been doing - about the high levels of participation, the strong level of social cohesion, etc. They are making use of the community mapping exercise that was conducted as part of the Household survey in 2001 to help them demonstrate to government that there is a shared sense of identity and community. They have also benefited from having the Japanese delegation visit their area in 2002, and have high expectations about benefits resulting from community members traveling to Japan and to the fall workshop in St-Damase.



Lot 16, Prince Edward Island

2. In Springhill, the town council is using the results of some of the NRE research to help them develop a strategy for playing an active role in the Halifax/Moncton Corridor initiative, as a small town within 2 large urban centres, they are working on a strategy to develop better urban/rural relations and to identify issues which need to be addressed in order for them to benefit from this initiative.

## Conclusion

This has been a very good first year for the NRE<sup>2</sup> project. By building on the infrastructure and momentum of the first NRE cycle, we have been able to achieve all of our goals and position ourselves for a fruitful second year. Our administrative team is in place and functioning well, the research theme teams have formulated and begun the work on their projects, and the conference and workshop program is solidly established. On this basis we are proceeding with confidence and enthusiasm into our second year of research and inquiry.

## Impact

reported by Diane Martz

In Spalding, Saskatchewan, one female site representative returned to her community and ran for mayor in the municipal elections, motivated in part by her involvement with the NRE project. She will also be the site representative on the CJ trip to Japan.



# Appendix A:

## Dissemination Activities

### Audio-Visual Materials

Emke, Ivan. CBC Grand Falls Windsor Morning Show. Ed. Power, Lee Ann. CBC. 2002.  
Notes: Interview on the NRE survey in Twillingate.

Emke, Ivan. CBC St. John's Morning Show. Ed. Browne, Jim. CBC. 2002.  
Notes: Interview on the NRE survey in Winterton and rural research in general

Emke, Ivan. Corner Brook Café. Rogers Cable. 2003.  
Notes: Interview on the INE funding and plans for summer research

Halseth, Greg. BC rural population decreases. CKPG Prince George. 2003.

Halseth, Greg. Closure of BC Rail passenger service. CBC Almanac Vancouver. 2003.

Halseth, Greg. Implications of paper mill closure in Ontario. CBC Thunder Bay. 2003.

Halseth, Greg. Northern BC population change implications. CKPG Prince George. 2003.

### PowerPoint Presentations

Apedaile, L. Peter. The Informal Rural Economy: An Asset Perspective. University of Alberta; 2003.

Apedaile, L. Peter. The Informal Economy: A Research Proposal. University of Alberta; 2003.

Bruce, David. Communications Tools and Resources in Rural Canada : Springhill, NS. Mount Allison University; 2003

Bruce, David and Bill Reimer. The Impact of New Technologies in Rural Canada. NRE; 2003

Jean, Bruno. Le nouveau rôle des élus locaux : Soutenir l'émergence d'une nouvelle gouvernance rurale. UQAR; 2003.

Jean, Bruno. Social Capital and Governance: The Role of Intangible Factors in Community Capacity Building. UQAR; 2003.

Leblanc, Patrice. Les nouvelles dynamiques rurales au Canada. UQAT; 2003

Leblanc, Patrice. Le projet de recherche “ La nouvelle économie rurale “: un regard sur la réalité canadienne. UQAT; 2003

Reimer, Bill. The Canada-Japan Household Surveys. Concordia University; 2003.

Reimer, Bill. CRRF and the NRE: The Fruits of Ambition. Concordia University; 2003.

Reimer, Bill. La FCRR et la NÉR : Une vision devient réalité. Concordia University; 2003.

Reimer, Bill. The Informal Economy in Rural Canada. Concordia University; 2003.

Reimer, Bill. Measuring Canadian Rural Diversity and Social Capital. Concordia University; 2003.

Reimer, Bill. The New Rural Economy Project: What Have We Learned? Concordia University; 2003

Reimer, Bill. Rural Policies In Canada. Concordia University; 2003.

Reimer, Bill. Rural-Urban Relations: Building Alliances. Concordia University; 2003.

Reimer, Bill. Social Cohesion in Rural Canada: Implications for Policy. Concordia University; 2003.

Reimer, Bill and Derek Wilkinson. Understanding Social Cohesion: Its Nature and Manifestations in Rural Canada. NRE; 2003.

Woodrow, Anna and Roger des Ormeaux. The NRE. NRE; 2002.

Woodrow, Anna and Roger des Ormeaux. The Canada/Japan Project. NRE; 2002.

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des Ormeaux, Roger. “Rural Canada Is” Poster (FR available). Concordia University: NRE; 2003.

des Ormeaux, Roger. “Rural Canada Gives Us” Poster (FR available). Concordia University: NRE; 2003.

des Ormeaux, Roger. “Rural Canada Teaches Us” Poster (FR available). Concordia University: NRE; 2003.

des Ormeaux, Roger. “Rural Canada Reminds Us” Poster (FR available). Concordia University: NRE; 2003.

Reimer, Bill, Anna Woodrow, and Roger des Ormeaux. "Canada Site Map" Poster (FR available). Concordia University: NRE; 2002.

Reimer, Bill, Anna Woodrow, and Roger des Ormeaux. "Capacity Matters" Poster (FR available). Concordia University: NRE; 2002.

Reimer, Bill, Anna Woodrow, and Roger des Ormeaux. "Communication Matters" Poster (FR available). Concordia University: NRE; 2002.

Reimer, Bill, Anna Woodrow, and Roger des Ormeaux. "Globalization Matters" Poster (FR available). Concordia University: NRE; 2002

Reimer, Bill, Anna Woodrow, and Roger des Ormeaux. "Governance Matters" Poster (FR available). Concordia University: NRE: 2002.

Reimer, Bill, Anna Woodrow, and Roger des Ormeaux. "NRE Partners" Poster (FR available). Concordia University: NRE; 2002.

Reimer, Bill, Anna Woodrow, and Roger des Ormeaux. "Rural Matters Conference" Poster (FR available). Concordia University: NRE; 2002.

Reimer, Bill, Anna Woodrow, and Roger des Ormeaux. "Services Matter" Poster (FR available). Concordia University: NRE; 2002.

Reimer, Bill, Anna Woodrow, and Roger des Ormeaux. "Sites in Brief #1" Poster (FR available). Concordia University: NRE: 2002

Reimer, Bill, Anna Woodrow, and Roger des Ormeaux. "Sites in Brief #2" Poster (FR available). Concordia University: NRE: 2002.

Reimer, Bill, Anna Woodrow, and Roger des Ormeaux. "Social Cohesion Matters" Poster (FR available). Concordia University: NRE; 2002.

Reimer, Bill, Anna Woodrow, and Roger des Ormeaux. "Stress Matters" Poster (FR available). Concordia University: NRE; 2002.

Reimer, Bill, Anna Woodrow, and Roger des Ormeaux. "Voluntary Matters" Poster (FR available). Concordia University: NRE; 2002.

## **Book Chapters**

Bruce, David. 2003. Internet Access and Use Patterns in Rural and Small Town Atlantic Canada. In *The New Countryside: Geographic Perspectives on Rural Change*. Ed. Beesley, Kenneth B., Hugh Millward, Brian Ilbery, and Lisa Harrington. Brandon and Halifax: Brandon University and Saint Mary's University.

Bruce, David. 2003. Moving Rural Communities from Opportunities to Action in the New Rural Economy. In *Opportunities and Actions in the New Rural Economy*. Ed. Bruce, David and Gwen Lister. Sackville, NB: Rural and Small Town Programme.

Emke, Ivan. 2003. Convergence in the Classroom: Using Communications Technology to Build Human Capital and Community Capacity. In *Opportunities and Actions in the New Rural Economy*. Ed. Bruce, David and Gwen Lister. Mt. Allison University, New Brunswick: Rural and Small Town Programme.

Halseth, Greg, L. Ryser, and L. Sullivan. 2003. Service provision as part of resource town transition planning: A case from northern British Columbia. In, *Opportunities and Actions in the New Rural Economy*. Ed. Bruce, D. and G. Lister. Sackville, NB: Rural and Small Town Programme, Mount Allison University.

Jean, Bruno. 2003. La construction sociale de la ruralité. Pp. 105-24 in *Le Temps Du Paysage*. Eds. Philippe Poullaouec-Gonidec, Sylvain Paquette, et Gérald Domon. Montréal, QC: Les Presses de L'Université de Montréal.

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Ramsey, D. 2003. Lack of Development in the Regulation of Intensive Livestock Production in Manitoba. In *The Structure and Dynamics of Rural Territories*. Ed. Ramsey, D. and C. Bryant.

Ramsey, D. 2003. Responding to Restructuring Forces: Diversification in the Tobacco-belt, Southern Ontario. In *The New Countryside: A Geography of Rural Change*. Ed. Beesley, K., H. Millward, B. Ilbery, and L. Harrington. Brandon University and St. Mary's University. 90-104...

Wall, E., D. J. Connell, and Tony Fuller. 2003. Profitable Associations: The Role of Social Capital in Rural Economic Development. In *Rural and Small Town Canada*. Ed. Halseth, G. and R. Halseth. Mount Allison University.: Rural and Small Town Programme.

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Bruce, David and Gwen Lister. 2003. *Opportunities and Actions in the New Rural Economy*. Sackville, NB: Rural and Small Town Programme.

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Connell, David J. Observing Community: An Inquiry Into the Meaning of Community Based on Luhmann's General Theory of Society. 2003. Guelph, ON, University of Guelph.

Sullivan, Lana Michelle. The Geography of Community Crisis: A case of Tumbler Ridge, British Columbia. 2002. Prince George, BC, University of Northern British Columbia. Notes: Unpublished Masters thesis

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Connell, David J. "Multiple Constructions of the Environmental Crisis: A Sociocybernetic View." *Journal of Sociocybernetics* 3 (2003):1-12.

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Jean, Bruno. "Réussir le développement des communautés rurales: dix conditions gagnantes." *Organizations & Territoires* 12 (2003):19-31.

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Tiepoh, Moses and Bill Reimer. 2002. "Social Capital, Information Flows, and Income Creation in Rural Canada: A Cross-Community Analysis." Submitted to the *Journal of Socio-Economics*. 2002.

## Newspapers

Grenfell prof joins rural research study. 1, 2. 2002. Notes: From Ivan Emke

Grenfell professor involved in \$3-million project. 4. 2002. Notes: From Ivan Emke

Jean-Paul Vanderlinden est nommé chef du volet socio-économique du réseau national Aquanet. 2002. Moncton, NB, Université de Moncton.

Notes: Bill appears in photograph with Mr. Vanderlinden

Professor involved in \$3-million research project. 12. 2002.

Notes: From Ivan Emke

Twillingate Residents Perceive Service Quality as Very Favourable, Though Water Quality an Issue. 2002. Lewisporte.

Notes: From Ivan Emke

Twillingate Residents Rate Health Services Less Accessible, Community Services More Accessible Over Last Five Years. 2002. Lewisporte.

Notes: From Ivan Emke

Jean, Bruno. Le développement territorial: de l'égoïsme à la solidarité. A7. 2003. Montréal, QC.

Savoy, Gail. Miramichi Hosts National Rural Conference. 2002. Miramichi, NB.

## **Presentations**

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Apedaile, Peter, Matsuhiko Nakagawa, and Ray Bollman. Sensitivity of Rural Enterprises to Globalization and Trade Liberalization: A Japan/Canada Comparison. New Rural Economy Workshop. Ferintosh, AB. 2003.

Beckley, Tom and Sara Teitelbaum. Hewers of Wood and Drawers of Water: A National Overview of Subsistence Practices in Rural Canada. New Rural Economy Workshop. Ferintosh, AB. 2003.

Bruce, David. Canadian Agricultural Extension Council, Annual General Meeting. Fredericton, NB. June, 2003.

Bruce, David. Connecting to the Connecting Canadians Agenda: Rural Internet Use for Government Information. New Rural Economy Workshop, Ferintosh AB. 2003.

Bruce, David. The Geography of Housing Needs of Low Income Persons in Rural Canada. 5th British-American-Canadian Conference on Rural Geography. 2003.

Bruce, David. Good Local Government and Sustainable Communities. Sustainable Communities Workshop, Department of Environment and Local Government. 2002.

Bruce, David. Housing Needs of Low Income People Living in Rural Areas. Federal/ Provincial/ Territorial Working Group on Rural and Remote Housing. 2002. Ottawa ON.

Bruce, David. Housing, Smart Growth, and Local Governance. Manufactured Housing Association of Atlantic Canada. 2003.

Bruce, David. Insights on Community Capacity Building. Institute of Public Administration Canada. 2003.

Bruce, David. Integrated Rural Planning and Development: The Case of Agriculture in Tantramar. DalTech School of Planning Fall Field Excursion. 2003.

Bruce, David. The New Rural Economy. Canadian Agricultural Extension Council, Annual General Meeting. Fredericton NB. June 2003.

Bruce, David. The New Rural Economy: Emerging Issues and Implications for Leaders. New Brunswick Advanced Agricultural Leadership Program. 2003.

Bruce, David. What's New in the New Rural Economy? PEI Rural Dialogue Sessions. 2003. Charlottetown PEI.

Brueckner, Ingrid. Gender at Work in the Resource Processing Industries: Women in Agricultural Processing Industries. 2003.

Brueckner, Ingrid. The Social and Economic Contributions of Farm Youth to Family Farms on the Canadian Prairies. Prairie Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers Annual Meeting. 2002.

Brueckner, Ingrid. The Social and Economic Contributions of Farm Youth to Family Farms on the Canadian Prairies. Canadian Association of Geographers Annual Meeting. 2003.

Campbell, A. and D. Ramsey. Defining Rural Health and Well-being in Westman. Annual Association of Geographers. 2003. University of Victoria, BC.

Chouinard, Omer, Pierre-Marcel Desjardins, and Eric Forgues. Les défis de la communauté de Néguaac: puiser dans le capital social de la coopération a partir de l'étude de cas de la caisse populaire acadienne de la communauté locale. New Rural Economy Workshop, Ferintosh, AB. 2003.

Connell, David J. Community is Spatial Inequality. Spatial Inequality: Continuity and Change in Territorial Stratification, Annual Meeting. July 27-30, 2003. Rural Sociological Association.

Connell, David J. Community Theory: A Problem of Self-reference. Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Association Annual Meeting. 2003.

Connell, David J. Searching for Meaning in the Landscapes of Community. Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Association Annual Meeting. 2003.

Emke, Ivan. Convergence in the Classroom: Using Communications Technology to Build Human Capital and Community Capacity. Rural Matters. 2002.

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Everitt, J. and D. Ramsey. Rural Tourism and Recreation as development Variables: Canadian Experience and Manitoba Case Studies. Contrasting Ruralities: Changing Rural Economies, Societies and Landscapes. 2003.

Halseth, Greg. Managing Rural Population Decline in British Columbia: Patterns, Processes, and Prospects. UBC Year of Japan Conference. 2002.

Halseth, Greg. On Strike Against Flexibility: Labour Mobility Versus Capital Mobility in a Late Staples Dependent Town in Northern BC. Northern Exposure - Showcasing Science at UNBC. 2002.

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Notes: Featured speaker at opening of UNBC's Bentley Science Centre

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Hussar, Alberta



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Twillingate, Newfoundland





# **NRE<sup>2</sup>**

## **Appendix B: Reports from the Theme Teams**

**GOVERNANCE  
ENVIRONMENT  
COMMUNICATIONS  
SERVICES  
CENTRAL**

**October 1, 2002 to September 30, 2003**

# 1. GOVERNANCE TEAM

## **NRE<sup>2</sup> Project**

### **Research Centre on Rural Governance**

Report: 1 January to 1 September 2003

Bruno JEAN, UQAR

Team Leader

## **Brief Description of Research Activities Undertaken**

1) Formation and consolidation of the research team, with Bruno JEAN and Steve PLANTE (UQAR), Omer CHOUINARD (U.Moncton), Patrice LEBLANC (UQAT), Derek WILKINSON (Laurentian), Peter APEDAILE (U. Alberta) and the participation of Bill REIMER.

2) Organisation of a First Seminar on Governance in February 2003, and planning of a Second Seminar for December 2004.

3) Identification of two sites (Néguac and Cap-à-l'Aigle) for in-depth case studies on local governance and discussions for two more sites to study in 2004, Taschereau, Séguin or, from the West, Ferintosh or Hussar.

4) Several telephone conference-based work sessions and one formal meeting at Carleton in the Gaspé region between the researchers involved in the Néguac and Cap-à-l'Aigle case studies in May.

5) First studies completed in Néguac and Cap-à-l'Aigle.

6) Preparation of a theoretical and methodological document on governance (first draft completed - ongoing project).

7) Preparation of a paper on governance for the CRRF Conference in Gatineau in November.

## **Number and Level of Students Who Worked on the Project**

- Undergraduate students - 1
- Master's students - 2
- PhD students - 3

(Chantale Barnaby, Sophie-Anne Morin, Esther Turcotte, Annie Besse, Luc Bisson, Augustin Épenda, Tchabagnan Aeyva, Magella Simard)



## Progress in terms of the Milestones Document

### *Case Studies*

- Two case studies (field work) were completed and two preliminary reports were produced, as set down in the Milestones Report.

### *Agencies*

- Development of a sampling frame (AYEVA report).
- Field work to come, but explorations ongoing in the MRC des Basques (A. Besse).

### *Strategies*

- Hiring of a doctoral candidate for the study on governance (Luc Bisson).
- Possible studies on public/private partnerships and the role of SMEs (D. Rheault).

### *Rural/urban relations*

- To be discussed with Bill. Nothing done so far.

### *Theme research*

- Report by Augustin Épenda (doctoral thesis) on the measurement of intangible development factors in community capacity building.
- Preliminary report by Majella Simard on policies for local development.
- Literature review on governance and on community capacity building. (A. Besse, ongoing)
- Other thematic studies to be determined.



## Expenditures

Student salaries:
25,925.\$
Salaries to non-students:
0.\$
Travel :
5,955.\$
Materials and supplies:
1,516.\$

Note: Certain expenses for assistants were paid for by other sources (my Canada Research Chair and a grant from the Ministère des régions du Québec)



## 2. ENVIRONMENT TEAM

### NRE<sup>2</sup> Environmental Team Progress Report Sept. 01/03

#### NRE<sup>2</sup> Expenditures to Sept.01/03

Graduate student salaries	\$ 18,839.84
Administrative salaries	\$ 4,701.69
Travel expenditures (including Ferintosh conference, Montreal conference, and site research)	\$ 6,339.37
Office costs (supplies, software, photocopying)	\$ 1,131.92
Other: Books	\$ 227.09
<b>TOTAL TO DATE</b>	<b>\$ 31,239.91</b>

### SUMMARY

#### Natural Capital

A summer student has produced a report on an approach for gather data on natural capital to be included in the community capacity model.

#### Rural/Urban Values

A master's student has completed a literature review (1st draft) on previous approaches to measuring and reporting environmental values. The work identifies key variables that should be included in surveys, as well as theoretical approaches to the categorization of values.

#### Governance of natural resources

Two students are working in this theme. This summer they have conducted initial interviews with potential case study sites. Both projects will take a case study approach to addressing the issue. Proposals will be prepared before Christmas.

## 3. SERVICES TEAM

### Services Research Centre Fall 2003 Status Report

Submitted by Greg Halseth  
August 23, 2003

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From the Fall of 2002 to August 2003 the Services Research Centre has been very busy. Activities have included the following items.

#### **Site Profiles**

This project included the development of a revised site profile document for execution across the research network. Drafts of the revised document were circulated to members of the NRE network and it was reviewed at the Spring 2003 workshop in Ferintosh. Beginning in May 2003 the profile document was executed across Canada. At UNBC we completed the work in the Mackenzie and Tumbler Ridge sites. The remainder of the summer months was spent on data input and clean up with the rest of the NRE network. Most NRE site coordinators submitted the site profiles on time, however, all needed substantial additions or clarifications and many of these are not completed at the end of August 2003.

#### **Innovative and Voluntary Sector Groups**

This project included the development of a new survey instrument for collecting information on a range of voluntary and innovative service providers in rural communities. The sampling design involved four sites from across Canada (Mackenzie, Wood River, Tweed, and Springhill). The survey instrument was vetted by the NRE network and reviewed at the Spring 2003 workshop in Ferintosh. The UNBC team completed the work in Mackenzie. All research teams submitted the completed survey instrument by August 2003.

#### **Communications Profiles**

The Services Research Centre coordinated with the Communications Research Centre on the development and application of the site profile and communications profile instruments. This included simplification of data collection tools, and efforts to ensure both coverage and the deletion of unnecessary duplication.

#### **Literature Review**

The Services Research Centre continues with the development and expansion of its literature review on rural and small town services delivery. One of the achievements over the past year has been the completion of a report (together with Patrice LeBlanc's group at the Département des sciences du développement humain et social Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue) on the connections between services provision and social capital in rural and small town places.

**Services Research Centre team:**

Greg Halseth - Services Research Centre Coordinator

Laura Ryser - Research Manager

**Student assistants:**

Nora King - research assistant, undergraduate student, continuing at UNBC Fall 2003

Virginia Pow - research assistant, undergraduate student, going to Grad School at Dalhousie, Fall 2003

Shiloh Durkee - research assistant, undergraduate student, moved to Okanagan, Fall 2003

Onkar Buttar - research assistant, undergraduate student, continuing at UNBC, Fall 2003

Kelly Giesbrecht - research assistant, graduate student, MA completed, remaining on research team at UNBC, Fall 2003

**Budget:**

Budget Period is Year 1

(1 October 2002 - 31 March 2003) and Year 2 (1 April 2003 - 31 March 2004)  
of INE Project:

**Revenue:**

\$ 81,536 from Concordia to the Services Research Centre

**Expenditures:**

\$ 6,513.58 Undergraduate student salaries

\$ 8,040.97 Graduate student salaries

\$ 20,369.20 Research manager salary

\$ 1,670 Office costs (copy, tele, stationery)

\$ 747.82 NRE workshops

\$ 4,931.16 Conferences / dissemination

**Funds remaining 1 September 2003**

\$38,515.45 (47% of funds remaining with 39% of time remaining)

**Research Exchange:**

- Two members from the research team participated at the Ferintosh workshop in Spring 2003.

- Two members of the research team will participate at the St. Damase and Gatineau conference in Fall 2003.

**Dissemination:**

*Site Contact*

A key element of dissemination will involve our regular community visits during the Fall 2003 period to both Mackenzie and Tumbler Ridge.

## 4. COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

### Communications Theme Report New Rural Economy 2 Project

April 1 2003 to August 31, 2003  
August 29, 2003

Prepared by  
David Bruce  
Director, Rural and Small Town Programme  
Mount Allison University  
315 Avard-Dixon Building, 144 Main Street  
Sackville NB Canada E4L 2A7  
Tel 506-364-2395, fax 506-364-2601  
dwbruce@mta.ca

### Brief Description of Research Activities Undertaken

#### ***Communications Inventory (led by David Bruce and Anna Woodrow)***

- data collection instrument prepared and distributed to all researchers
- data collected by site researchers over the summer
- data entry performed by Carla Stevens
- there were some problems getting data back from sites in a timely fashion
- data analysis plans to be discussed at September 2 conference call Theme meeting

#### ***Technology Mediated Learning Project (led by David Bruce and Anna Woodrow)***

- project action plan prepared by David Bruce
- background discussion paper prepared by Lindsay Lyghtle
- testing of various on-line communications technologies completed
- participant assessment forms and post-participation evaluation forms completed
- assembly of contact names and information from each site nearing completion (not all sites submitted the requested names)

#### ***Traditional Media (led by Doug Ramsay and Anna Woodrow)***

- action plan prepared by Doug Ramsay

#### ***Communication Strategies (led by Doug Ramsay, Ivan Emke & Derek Wilkinson)***

- action plan prepared by Doug Ramsay and Ivan Emke

### Number and Level of Students Who Worked on the Project

- Undergraduate students - 2
- Master's students - 0
- PhD students - 0



## Key Milestones and Scheduled Dates of Delivery

### **Communications Inventory** (led by David Bruce and Anna Woodrow)

- September 5 data entry complete
- September to January various working papers to be prepared by team members

### **Technology Mediated Learning Project** (led by David Bruce and Anna Woodrow)

- week of September 8 will begin with first on-line learning session, expect to host a session every two weeks
- January onward - data analysis and preparation of various working papers

### **Traditional Media** (led by Doug Ramsay and Anna Woodrow)

- literature review starting in September

### **Communication Strategies** (led by Doug Ramsay, Ivan Emke, and Derek Wilkinson)

- literature review starting in September

## Expenditures

Travel -	\$ 3,527
Supplies and related -	\$ 575
Non-student support -	\$ 6,667
Student wages -	\$ 5,168
(Centre support, Communications Inventory, Technology- Mediated Project)	

## Plans for Dissemination of Research Results

No specific plans at the present time, but as the projects unfold these plans will be developed. We are also committed to contributing to the “In Sites / Insights flyers” as well to preparing various popular media articles from existing and emerging data.



Springhill, Nova Scotia

## 5. CENTRAL TEAM

### CENTRAL THEME REPORT New Rural Economy 2 Project

September 30, 2003

William Reimer  
Principal Investigator  
Department of Sociology &  
Anthropology  
Concordia University  
Montreal, Quebec  
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reimer@vax2.concordia.ca

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF RESEARCH ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

- **Capacity Outcomes:** Conducted ongoing literature review regarding capacity; prepared preliminary suggestions for indicators. Prepared presentations on capacity model (International Rural Network, Inverness; Rural Sociological Society Meetings, Montréal).
- **Social Economy:** Social Economy organizations identified and classified in the NRE Household database. Preliminary analysis for CRISES conducted and sent.
- **The Informal Economy:** E-mail correspondence conducted with collaborators. Several drafts of proposals circulated and comments compiled.
- **Access to Equity:** Gathered information regarding municipal finances for all rural municipalities in Canada. Currently in the process of being coded for processing.
- **Building Rural/Urban Relations:** Conducted literature review of related information. Prepared structure and gathered materials for a chapter in an urban sociology text. Responded to material for chapter in CJ Book. Prepared and gave presentation to International Rural Network, Inverness.
- **Rural Canada Database:** Updated and expanded macro level analysis with 2001 data. Integrated all field site profile data. Prepared data for use. Began work on constant boundary database. Prepared analysis for presentation to USDA on Rural Diversity.
- **Integration of Themes:** Commenced update to Rural Canada Profile. Responded to requests from Theme teams.
- **Exploration of GIS:** Completed scanning of community maps. Examined options for GIS use in project - report in preparation.

### NUMBER AND LEVEL OF STUDENTS

Undergraduate students: 1

Master's Students: 8

Ph.D. students: 2

### EXPENDITURES

Travel - (includes all expenses related to field site research only: St. Damase)  
\$ 3,541.91

Student wages - (Oct. 1, 2002 - Sept. 30, 2003)  
\$ 36,927.63



# Appendix C: Sites and Site Coordinators

Arctic Bay, NU  
Armagh, QC  
Blissfield, NB  
Benito, MB  
Cap-à-l'aigle, QC  
Carden, ON  
Ferintosh, AB  
Girouxville, AB  
Hussar, AB  
Indian Brook, NS  
Lot 16, PE  
Mackenzie, BC  
Néguac, NB  
North Plantagenet, ON  
Okanese 82, SK  
Pic Moberg S., ON  
Port Alice, BC  
Rhineland, MB  
Seguin, ON  
Spalding, SK  
Springhill, NS  
St. Damase, QC  
St. Roch de Mékinac, QC  
Ste. Françoise, QC  
Taschereau, QC  
Tumbler Ridge, BC  
Tweed, ON  
Twillingate, NL  
Upper Liard, YK  
Usborne, ON  
Winterton, NL  
Wood River, SK

Tom Beckley  
Doug Ramsey  
Bruno Jean  
Ellen Wall  
Diane Martz  
  
Diane Martz  
  
David Bruce  
Greg Halseth  
Omer Chouinard  
  
Doug Ramsey  
Derek Wilkinson  
Diane Martz  
David Bruce  
Anna Woodrow  
  
Bruno Jean  
Patrice Leblanc  
Greg Halseth  
Ellen Wall  
Ivan Emke  
  
Ellen Wall  
Ivan Emke  
Diane Martz

# Appendix D:

## Biographies

### **Tom Beckley**

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Tom Beckley received his A.B. (Anthropology and Environmental Studies) from Bowdoin College and his MSc. (Rural Sociology) and Ph.D. (Sociology) from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is currently associate professor in the Faculty of Forestry and Environmental Management at the University of New Brunswick. From 1993 to 2000 he worked as a forest sociologist for the Canadian Forest Service. His research interests include community studies, especially in resource-dependent communities, public involvement in resource management, local control of resource management, sociological dimensions of land tenure, and community capacity.

### **David Bruce**

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David is Director of the Rural and Small Town Programme, at Mount Allison University, where he has been employed since 1990. He has a BA in Geography from Mount Allison and an MA in Geography from UBC. David's principal research focus is in the broad field of housing and community development, and also includes projects on information technology, health, organization development, and rural tourism. He is a certified trainer with the Canadian Housing and Renewal Association. David is a national CED technical provider through Carleton University's Community Economic Development Technical Assistance Program. David also teaches part time in the Department of Geography at Mount Allison University.

**Omer Chouinard**

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Omer Chouinard is currently the Director of the Environmental Studies Programme at the University of Moncton. He has been working for 25 years in the field of sustainable development at the level of community participation in the management of fishing and forestry resources, as well as in education about the environment. He is also interested in local cooperation and viable development. His recent works have addressed the issue of community management of the watersheds in New Brunswick, as well as micro credit and its repercussions on local development. He has a vast experience in dealings with labour unions and cooperatives in the fishing industry. He has also been a Senior Consultant with the Ministry of Fisheries. Recently, he was invited as a guest lecturer at Renne 2, in France, and at the University of Quesqueya in Haiti.

**Ivan Emke**

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Ivan Emke was educated in a number of disciplines, including Communication Studies, Anthropology, Public Relations and Sociology. He currently teaches at Sir Wilfred Grenfell College, Memorial University of Newfoundland, in areas such as Communication and Culture, Canadian Society, Mass Media, Technology and Culture, Social Research Methods and Death and Dying. He is involved in two major research thrusts, one related to the use of community based participatory communications technologies in the process of community economic development in rural Newfoundland and the second related to the professionalization of the Funeral services industry in Canada.

**Greg Halseth**

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Greg is an Associate Professor in the Geography Program at the University of Northern British Columbia. He earned his Ph.D. at Queen's University. His research interests are centered around Social Geography of rural and small town community change, particularly the contention and conflict so often bound up with that change. Previously his research concentrated upon the interactions between rural communities and cottage property owners. His current research interests include household and community strategies for coping with economic change and uncertainty in single-industry, resource based small towns in B.C. His current publications are related to his research topics and have appeared in publications like *The Canadian Geographer*, *Environment and Planning*. In July 2002, Greg was appointed Canadian Research Chair in Rural and Small Town Studies.

**Bruno Jean**

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Bruno Jean holds a Canada Research Chair on Rural Development at the Université du Québec à Rimouski. He is the Director of the new inter-university research group at the Centre de recherche sur le développement territorial. He teaches Regional Development at the Master's and Ph.D. levels. His areas of specialization and research are, the New Rural Economy, Rurality, Rural Development of Marginalized Regions, Family Farming, Environment and Rural Policies and Rural Governance. With various universities in Canada and the European Union, he is involved in International Comparative Rural Policy Studies, a higher education training program. His latest book, "Territoires d'avenir" was published by the Presses de l'Université du Québec.

**Patrice Leblanc**

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Patrice Leblanc is a professor in the Social Sciences and Health Department at the Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue. He teaches in the Local development and the Social Work programmes (undergraduate and master's). He received his Ph.D in Sociology in 1992 from the Université de Montréal. His main research work has concentrated on small communities in Québec and on the outmigration of youth. In 1999-2000, he was the director of the Social Sciences Department, and was responsible for the Master's programme in Regional Development at UQAT. He is also currently Interim Director of the Desjardins Chair for the development of small communities.

**Diane Martz**

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Diane Martz is the Director of the Centre for Rural Studies and Enrichment at St. Peter's College in Muenster, SK. Her work focuses on rural women, rural families, family farms and rural communities. She has been involved in qualitative and quantitative research projects in sustainable community planning in economic regions and watersheds: farm family work; the new rural economy; women's work in the agricultural and forestry processing industries; and family violence in rural Saskatchewan. Diane was involved in the establishment of the rural family support center in Humboldt, SK and is currently taking the lead role in the development of a family violence protocol in that region.

**Doug Ramsey**

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Doug Ramsey is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Rural Development at Brandon University (BU), where he has been employed since 1999. Prior to arriving at BU, Doug taught at Mount Allison University and held a research position at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College. He received his PhD in Geography from the University of Guelph in 1998, an MA in Geography from Memorial University of Newfoundland in 1994, and an Honours Bachelor of Arts from Guelph in 1991. Doug also graduated from Sir Sandford Fleming College in Ontario as a Cartographic Technician in 1986. At BU, Doug teaches courses in research methodology, tourism, and resource development. Primarily interested in how rural communities in Canada respond to restructuring forces, he also has research interests related to the geography of music. Doug is the Chair of the Rural Geography Study Group of the Canadian Association of Geographers. He is also an executive board member of the Neighbourhood Renewal Committee in the City of Brandon. On campus, Doug is the Chair of the Department of Rural Development and is the Faculty of Arts representative to the Senate Graduate Committee.

**Bill Reimer**

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Bill Reimer is a Professor of Sociology at Concordia University in Montréal. He is currently a Board member of the Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation (CRRF) and Research Director for their national research and education project entitled, Understanding the New Rural Economy: Options and Choices. He has conducted research on issues relating to social rural Canada, with particular focus on social inclusion and exclusion. His publications deal with the impact of technology on rural communities, women's farm and household labour, the economy and the household, Aboriginal communities, the informal economy, social support networks, social capital, social cohesion, and community capacity-building. In addition to directing the NRE Project, he participates as a researcher in 4 other partner-based rural research projects.



**Ellen Wall**

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Ellen Wall received undergraduate degrees in Anthropology from McMaster University. She moved to the University of Guelph to study for an MA in Sociology and then returned to McMaster for her Ph.D. degree in Sociology in 1992. After working as an instructor in Sociology both at McMaster and at the University of Guelph, Ellen now is a full time researcher in Environmental Sciences with projects on environmental management systems, sustainable rural communities, and climate change adaptation. She coordinates a national research network providing a forum for those in industry, research, and policy to work together on effective climate risk management strategies ([www.c-ciarn.uoguelph.ca](http://www.c-ciarn.uoguelph.ca)). Ellen is involved in the NRE<sup>2</sup> Project, Building Rural Capacity in the New Economy as research manager of 3 rural communities in Southern Ontario.

**Derek Wilkinson**

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Derek Wilkinson has an MA from Queen's Political Studies and a Ph. D in Sociology from the London School of Economics. He is currently director of the Institute for Northern Ontario Research and Development and teaches in the Sociology and Human Development Masters programs at Laurentian University. He was one of the founding members of the Elliot Lake Tracking Study and has done research on the effects on miners of the layoffs and social changes in that community.

**Anna Woodrow**

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Anna Woodrow graduated in 2001 from Concordia University with a doctoral degree in Humanities. She currently teaches full time at John Abbott College in the Humanities, Philosophy and Religion Department, and part-time at Concordia University in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. Her research interests include: Canadian studies, communications and traditional media studies, sociology of humour, regional, national and transnational identity, rural sociology, and reception theory.



Left to Right:

Dr. Frederick H. Lowy, Rector, Concordia University

Hon. Allan Rock, Minister of Industry

Dr. William Reimer, Director, The New Rural Economy Project

Dr. Gregory Kersten, Co-Director, Concordia Electronic Commerce Institute

Dr. Marc Renaud, President, SSHRC

November 2002, SSHRC/INE Press Conference, HEC, Montréal

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This report was prepared and edited by Madeleine Yates, Project Administrator, NRE<sup>2</sup>

Translation, layout and graphic design by Roger des Ormeaux, Communications Officer and Controller, NRE<sup>2</sup>



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The Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation