



Perspectives on Community-Oriented Research

Dr. Robert MacKinnon

**Knowledge Impact in Society
Showcase, The Monieson Centre,
Queen's University**

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Research**

by: Dr. Robert MacKinnon

www.unbsj.ca

What is a University-Community Partnership?

- Individual faculty members working in their communities on collaborative projects
- More formal institutional structures (e.g. Centres or Institutes) established to work with community-based researchers
- Can include: service-learning, community-based research, local economic development projects, health, literacy, education, social initiatives, etc.

Two Community-Oriented Research Grants at UNB Saint John

- Knowledge Impact in Society (KIS),
“Business Development Through Community Development” (2008)
- Community University Research Alliance (CURA),
“The Industrial City in Transition: A Cultural and Environmental Inventory of Greater Saint John ”
(2004)

Our KIS Team

- Award Holder/Applicant:

Dr. Robert MacKinnon, VP UNB Saint John

- Co-Investigator/Co-applicant:

Dr. Nancy Mathis, G. Wallace F. McCain Institute

- Project Coordinator:

Ms. Lisa Hrabluk, UNB Saint John

- Collaborator:

Dr. Robert Austin, Harvard University

Our Partners

- Business New Brunswick
- Enterprise Fredericton
- Human Development Council
- Junior Achievement
- New Brunswick Innovation Foundation
- New Brunswick Security Commission
- Policy Link NB
- Vibrant Communities Saint John

Project Overview: Two Main Streams

Interdisciplinary Analysis:

The KIS Team will utilize research conducted by UNB research teams, government departments and agencies, and community groups that have examined the socio-economic characteristics of the Province of New Brunswick and its labour force.

Business Case Studies:

The KIS Team will oversee the development of eight case studies each year over three years by MBA students.

Young People & Evolving Work/Life Values

- Joint project with the Population Growth Secretariat, NB
- \$20,000 contribution from PGS
- Focuses on young people's attitudes towards work and working in New Brunswick
- The Project:
 - Research & Literature Review: Transition to Work
 - Joint project: Focus groups
 - Knowledge Transfer: Producing a Best practice guide & performance indicators for employers