

Research Partnerships to Revitalize Rural Economies

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Purpose

- Researchers and partners collaborate to conduct research of importance to rural Canadian communities
 - Rural Entrepreneurs and Businesses
 - Innovation and Sustainability in Rural Communities
- The Research Partnerships project shortens the distance between identified research needs and solutions by strengthening existing partner-researcher networks and creating new mutually beneficial connections

Leadership Team & Steering Committee



- Leadership Team:

- Northumberland County Economic Development
- PELA CFDC
- EOWC
- RDÉE-Ontario
- Rural Ontario Institute
- The Monieson Centre

- Steering Committee:

- Ontario Association of CFDCs
- Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Innovation Network
- Queen's Sustainable Bioeconomy Centre
- City of Kawartha Lakes

Partners



- Communities of Eastern Ontario Network (CEONET)
- Eastern Ontario CFDC Network Inc.
- Economic Developers Council of Ontario
- FedNor Ontario
- Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve
- Haliburton County Development Corporation
- Municipality of Marmora and Lake
- Northumberland CFDC
- Ontario East Economic Development Commission
- OMAFRA
- Ontario Ministry of Economic Development and Trade
- FedDev Ontario
- Prince Edward County - Economic Development
- Queen's Executive Decision Centre
- Queen's School of Policy Studies
- Queen's School of Urban and Regional Planning
- Rural Secretariat
- University of Guelph School of Environmental Design and Rural Development
- U Waterloo School of Environment, Enterprise and Development (SEED)
- Two Rivers CDC – Oshweken
- The Venture Centre – Timmins
- Canadian Rural Research Network, Rural Research Group - Stats Canada
- Concordia Rural Research Group
- Harris Centre
- Martin Prosperity Institute
- PELA Institute for Rural Development
- Rural Development Institute
- U-Links Centre for Community-Based Research

Research Partnerships to Revitalize Rural Economies

Dr. A. Scott Carson, Director

Agenda

1. About The Monieson Centre
2. About The Project
3. Economic Development Priorities
4. Today's Conference

ABOUT THE MONIESON CENTRE

The Monieson Centre



- A Queen's School of Business research centre founded in 1998
- Facilitates the generation of breakthrough knowledge at the intersection of business and public policy, creating opportunities for academics, business leaders, and policymakers to develop research-based solutions to real-world questions
- <http://business.queensu.ca/knowledge>

Research Themes

- The Monieson Centre currently pursues two core research themes:
 - Economic Revitalization
 - www.economicrevitalization.ca
 - www.revitalisationeconomique.ca
 - The Business of Healthcare
 - www.business.queensu.ca/healthcare

Sample Economic Revitalization Projects

- Research projects focusing on economic revitalization in rural Ontario:
- Generated over \$1.7m in research activity and conferences
- Large regional projects, e.g.:
 - Knowledge Impact in Society (KIS) Project (SSHRC)
 - The Impact of Knowledge Mobilization on Rural Economic Development (Rural Secretariat)
- Local community projects, e.g.:
 - Knowledge-based regional economic development (PELA CFDC)
 - Improving the retention of knowledge workers in semi-urban settings (KEDCO)
 - Renewable energy (bio-mass) opportunities (Renfrew County CFDC)

Research Partnerships to Revitalize Rural Economies

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Research Partnerships to Revitalize Rural Economies

2

- Two main objectives:
 - To develop new, and strengthen existing, research partnerships
 - To conduct research on topics identified as priorities in rural communities by the Monieson Centre's network of partners and in the KIS project

Research Partnerships to Revitalize Rural Economies

3

- A three-year project:
 - Apr. 2011-Mar. 2014
- This conference is the first of three annual events addressing rural Ontario's economic development priorities

Research Partnerships to Revitalize Rural Economies



14

- The project draws together 14 researchers from 5 Institutions:
 - Queen's
 - University of Guelph
 - Martin Prosperity Institute at the University of Toronto
 - Wilfrid Laurier University
 - University of Lethbridge
- Disciplines include business, geography, policy and rural development

Research Partnerships to Revitalize Rural Economies

14

- 14 community-based research studies address issues of entrepreneurship, innovation and sustainability including:
 - Green economic development
 - Incubators & small business centres
 - Rural transportation
 - Human capital
 - Arts & culture
 - Agri-food innovation
 - Succession planning
 - Mentoring
 - Immigration
- Details included in today's package

Research Partnerships to Revitalize Rural Economies



40

- Over 40 community partners are working to connect the research with local needs
 - Leadership Team: Northumberland County Economic Development, PELA CFDC, the Rural Ontario Institute, RDÉE Ontario
 - Steering Committee: Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus, City of Kawartha Lakes, Sustainable Bioeconomy Centre at Queen's University, Ontario Association of CFDCs
 - A growing network of supporting partners
- Today's conference is also made possible through additional support from the Queen's University Office of the Vice-Principal (Research)

Research Partnerships to Revitalize Rural Economies

330

- Over \$330,000 in funding
 - \$238,610 from SSHRC
 - \$91,500 from Leadership Team & Steering Committee

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

Economic Development Priorities

- The Research Partnerships project is designed to address key priorities facing rural Ontario:
 - Priorities identified at 24 Discovery Workshops hosted across rural Southern Ontario from 2008-2010
 - SSHRC-funded Knowledge Impact in Society project in Eastern Ontario
 - OMAFRA-funded Rural Research Priorities project in SW Ontario
 - Continuing to measure the changing face of rural economic development in Ontario
 - 20 Discovery Workshops under way through funding from the Rural Secretariat

Discovery Workshops

- Community leaders and academics collaborate using electronic decision making technology in order to:
 - » Identify opportunities for academic institutions to support rural communities
 - » Prioritize Southern Ontario research priorities
 - » Share experience and knowledge
 - » Build lasting relationships and communication channels



Discovery Workshops

- Past workshops
 - Bancroft
 - Verona
 - Renfrew
 - Belleville
 - Napanee
 - Picton

- Upcoming Workshops
 - London
 - Montague
 - Almonte
 - Cumberland



**Contact The Monieson Centre to bring
a Discovery Workshop to your
community.**

Discovery Workshops – Top Research Themes



Eastern Ontario 2008-2010	Eastern Ontario 2011-2012
Competitive Advantage	Small Business Development
Sustainable Econ Dev	Skills Training/Education
Econ Diversification	Local Data & Demographics
Small Business Development	Aging Population
Labour Migration & Attraction	Tourism
Regional Strategies	Youth Retention
Best Practices	Broadband & On-line Opportunities
Tourism	Investment Attraction
Youth Retention	Regional Collaboration
Skills Training/Education	Labour Market Development

The Face of Rural Economic Development

- Three major themes in rural Ontario, 2008-2010:
 - **“Build it Deep”**: Sustainable Economic Development
 - **“Build it Unique”**: Competitive Advantage
 - **“Build it Wide”**: Economic Diversification

The Changing Face of Rural Economic Development



- Emerging themes in rural Eastern Ontario, 2011-2012:
 - **Entrepreneurship is the future:** Small business development moves from #4 to #1
 - **A new skills set is needed:** Rising importance of education, skills training, labour force development, investment in broadband
 - **Emphasis on local data:** Useful demographic information for rural communities is difficult and expensive to obtain

2012 Economic Revitalization Conference:
Sustainable Economies, Sustainable Communities

TODAY'S CONFERENCE

Sustainable Economies, Sustainable Communities



- Will address priority issues including:
 - The green economy
 - Arts & culture
 - Entrepreneurship
 - Implications for policy
- Designed to connect research with rural Ontario's economic development needs

Sustainable Economies, Sustainable Communities



- Draws on several Monieson Centre projects:
 - Work-in-progress from the Research Partnerships project
 - Reports from Monieson Centre research conducted in 2011-2012 for Economic Developers' Council of Ontario
 - Student consulting projects funded by OMAFRA
- Keynote speakers:
 - Dr. Mark Roseland, Director, Centre for Sustainable Community Development, Simon Fraser University
 - Mr. Ted Hsu, Member of Parliament, Kingston and the Islands

Sustainable Economies, Sustainable Communities



- Slides, videos and free resources available following the conference at:

www.economicrevitalization.ca

Sustainable Economies, Sustainable Communities



- Thanks to:
 - Leadership Team & Steering Committee
 - Queen’s University Office of the Vice-Principal (Research)
 - SSHRC

Thank You

www.economicrevitalization.ca

www.business.queensu.ca/knowledge