

Research Partnerships to Revitalize Rural Economies

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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

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- 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

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- 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



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- 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

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- 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



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- 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



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- 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