

outside the box but not tripping on lines

EXPERIENCES IN NORTHERN AND RURAL
MULTI-COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

Ryan Gibson



One University. One World. Yours.

road map

|a| future of rural Canada

|b| innovative collaborative case studies

|c| tripping over lines: unique yet common

Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation

- a charitable institution committed to bettering the lives of rural Canadians through collaborative research and education
- enhances the understanding of rural issues and opportunities
- facilitates national and regional dialogues

www.crrf.ca



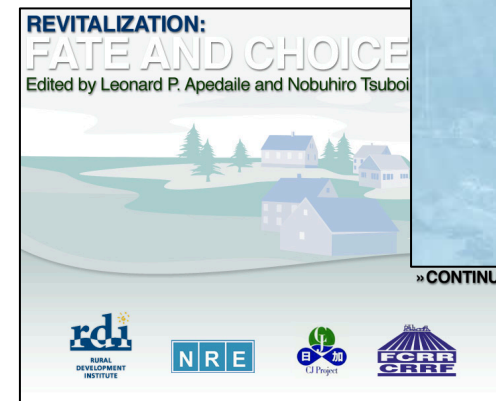
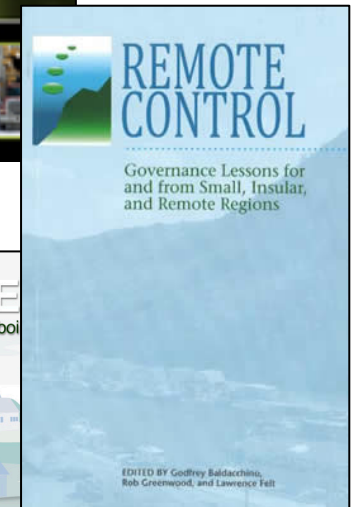
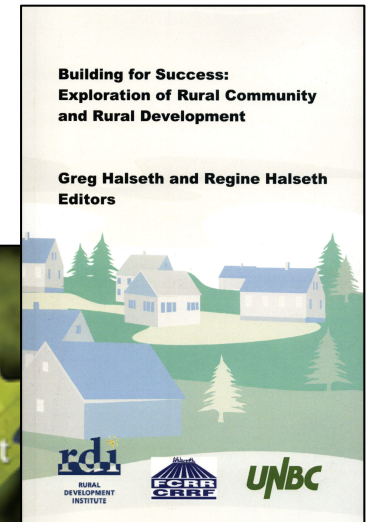
Illustrative Research Initiatives

- Rural Policy Learning Commons (2014-2020)
- Canadian Regional Development-New Regionalism (2010-2014)
- The Influence of Lines and Boundaries on Collaboration (2014-2015)
- Rural-Urban Interactions in Newfoundland and Labrador (2008-2012)
- Pathways to Prosperity (2012-2019)
- New Rural Economy (1998-2009)
- Illustrative research topics
 - rural health and social provision
 - local and regional economies
 - local government and community governance,
 - education
 - organization development
 - environmental management and stewardship
 - and many others facets of life and livelihood in rural Canada



Recent CRRF Publications

- Place Peripheral: The Promise and Challenge of Place-Based Development in Rural Regions (*forthcoming*)
- Rural Planning and Development in Canada (2010)
- Remote Control: Governance Lessons for Small, Insular, and Remote Regions (2009)
- Revitalization: Fate and Choice (2008)
- Building for Success: Exploration of Rural Community and Rural Development (2004)



the 'state' of rural

FCM commissioned 'state of rural', based on 2013 Statistics Canada data

- www.crr.ca/?page_id=80

key messages

- create people, not jobs
- tremendous diversity in rural = challenge for policy creation

good news

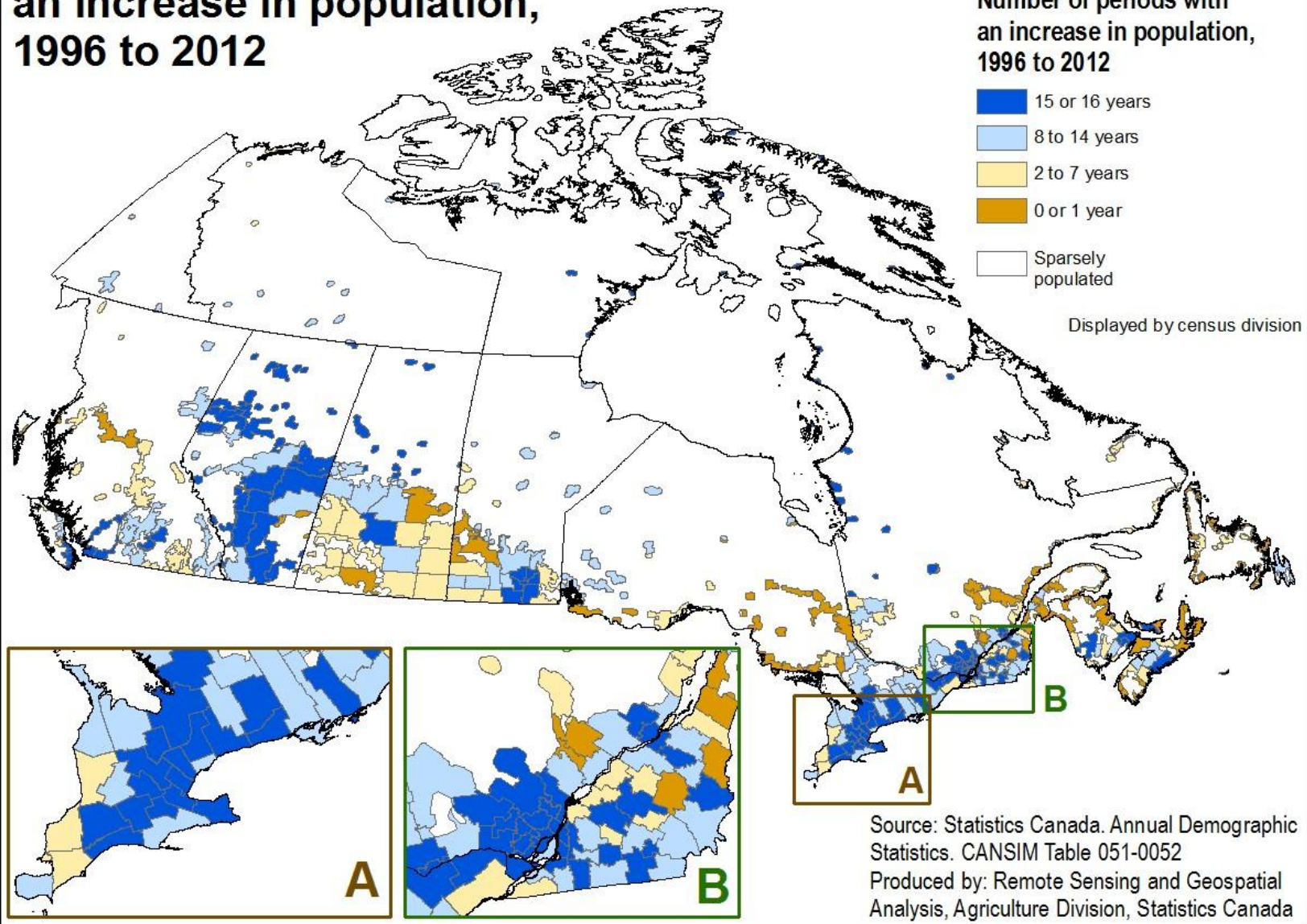
growth in most rural communities

31% of the national population

immigrant attraction

GDP contribution equals share of population

Number of periods with an increase in population, 1996 to 2012



not so good news

good news is geographical uneven

urban population growth far exceeds rural growth

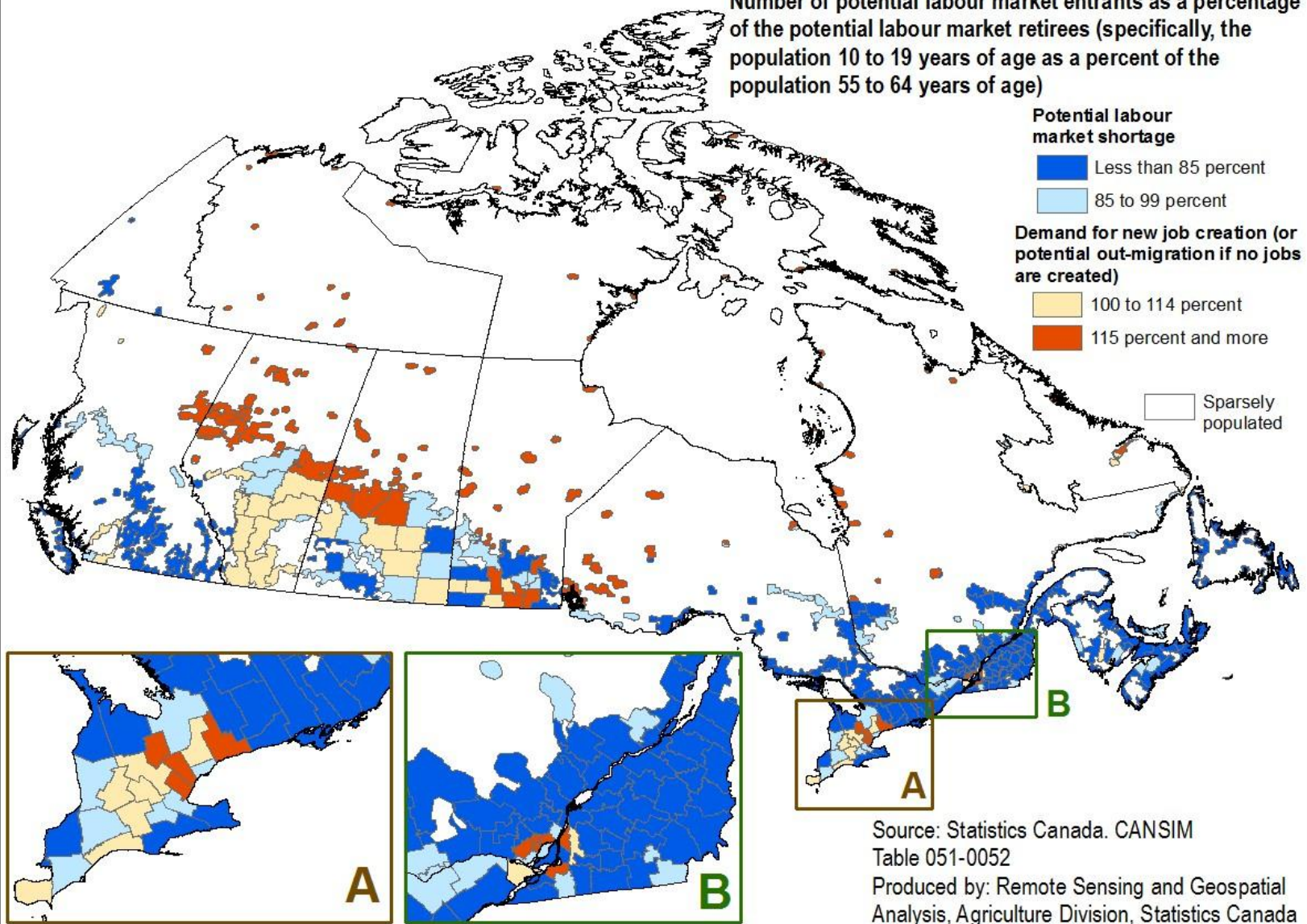
rural economy is more intensive, seasonal

creative destruction

labour force replacement

Demographic Pressure on the Labour Market, Canada, 2012

Number of potential labour market entrants as a percentage of the potential labour market retirees (specifically, the population 10 to 19 years of age as a percent of the population 55 to 64 years of age)



Source: Statistics Canada. CANSIM Table 051-0052

Produced by: Remote Sensing and Geospatial Analysis, Agriculture Division, Statistics Canada



**CHANGE
AHEAD**

projected rural trends

remain as resource dependent in Canada

water is a significant issue

digital divide(s)

key growth determinants

- population,

- resource endowment,

- type of economic case, and

- proximity to major urban centres

emphasis on municipalities as local service delivery role

options for rural Canada

1. Leave
2. Die
3. Change



SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATION

It only works when everyone knows their talents.

preparing for the future

understanding local/regional assets

re-examine local 'wealth' and how to keep it

be open to collaboration

community as partner (not community as client)

innovative thinking

rural dividends

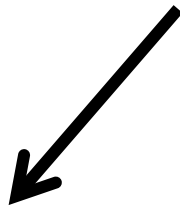
» returns a portion of the revenue created by rural-based resource industry activity to the regions that supply the natural assets

» re-investment should be decided by regional communities to maintain social, economic and environmental well-being.

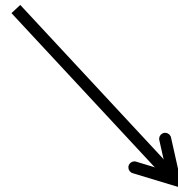


what is philanthropy

“the art of giving money to non-profit organizations and individuals to provide both financial assistance to those in need and to further the well-being of a society”



Meal programs
Housing/shelter
Emergency relief



Sustainability

philanthropy

» long history of contributions of rural residents to charitable causes

» considerable wealth held in rural regions in the form of land, equipment, and rights

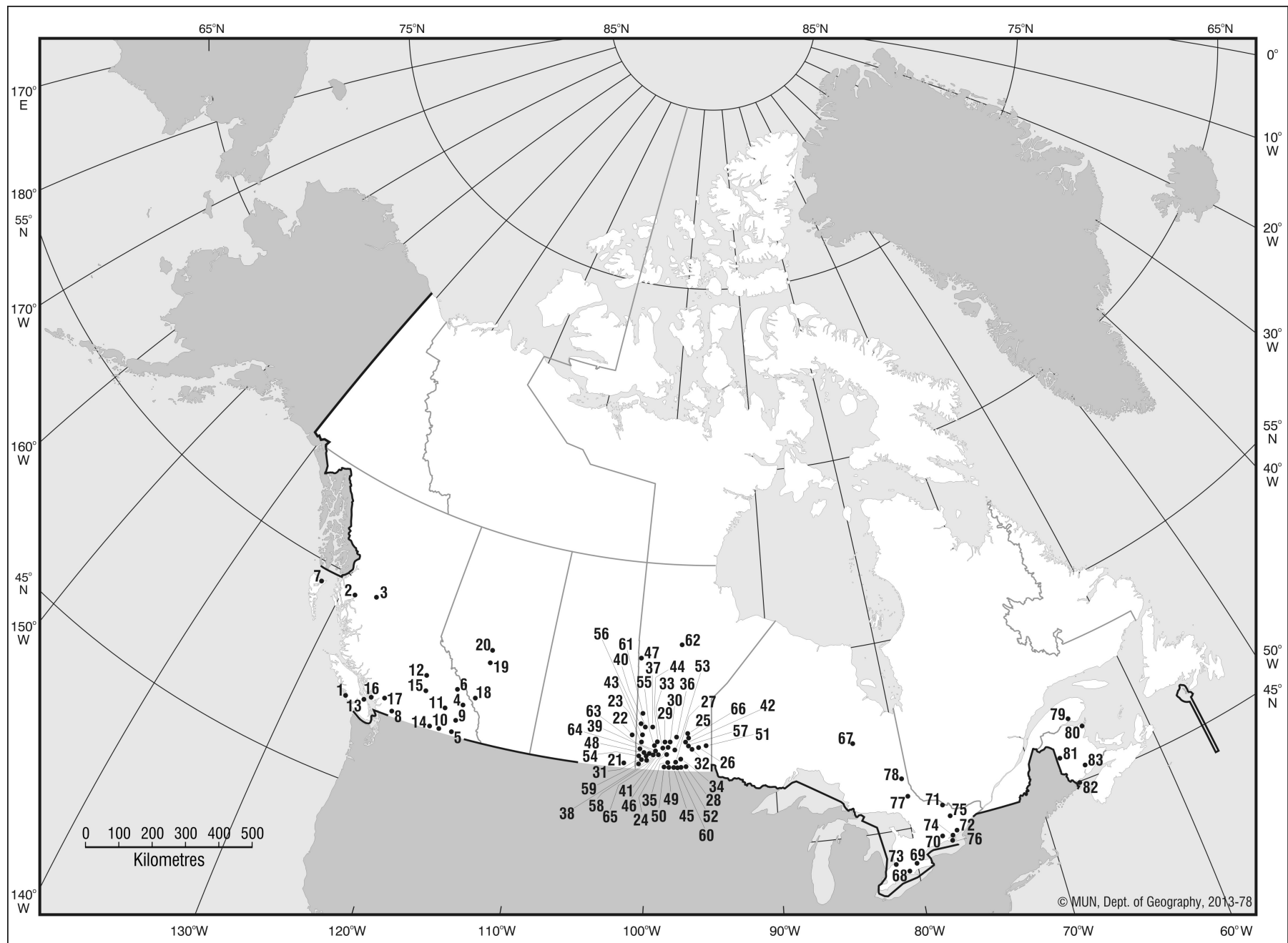
» 185 Community Foundations in Canada

- \$3.35 billion in assets
- \$143 million in grants



**92 community
foundations in
rural Canada**

**\$114,550,651
endowed**



© MUN, Dept. of Geography, 2013-78

preparing for the future

understanding local/regional assets

re-examine local 'wealth' and how to keep it

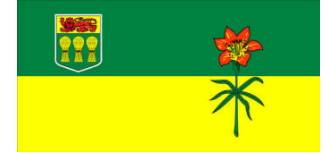
be open to collaboration

community as partner (not community as client)

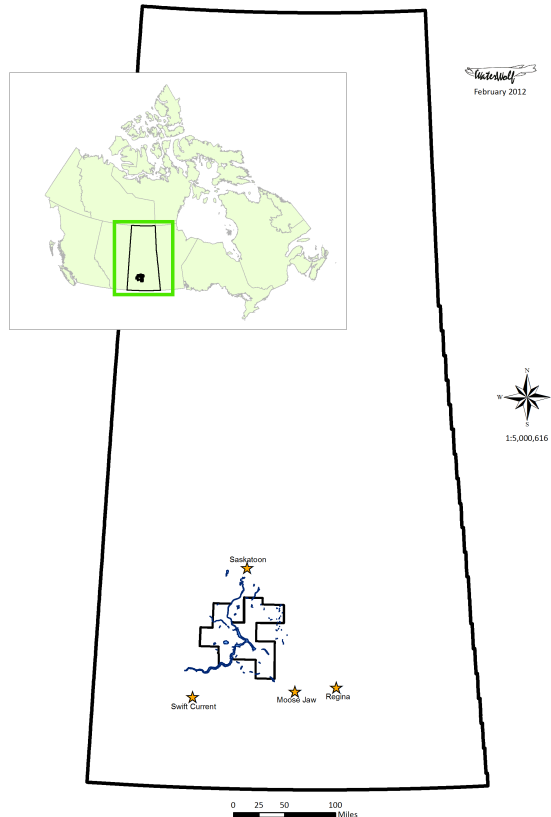
innovative thinking

**innovative
multi-community
collaboration**

waterwolf



Regional Context



» 36 rural communities and First Nations

» voluntary regional district planning body

» www.waterwolf.org

Communities did not realize the power they held collectively.

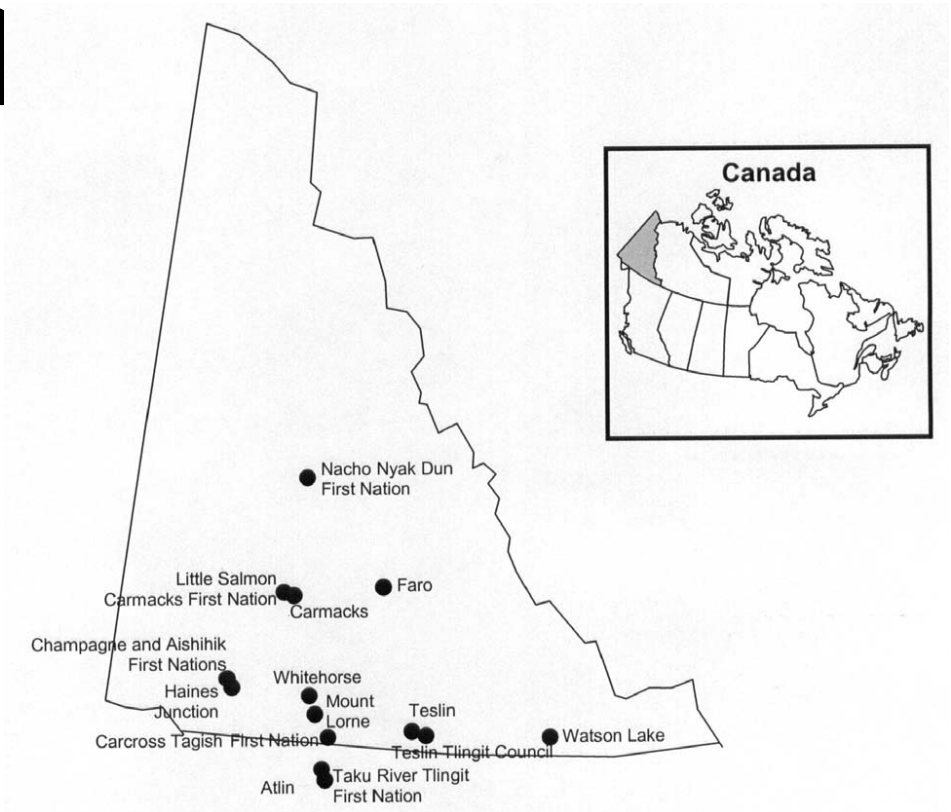
This level of cooperation and working together is quite extraordinary.

atlin and the yukon

» only way to access Atlin and Taku River Tlingit is through the Yukon

» joint tourism collaboration

» information sharing



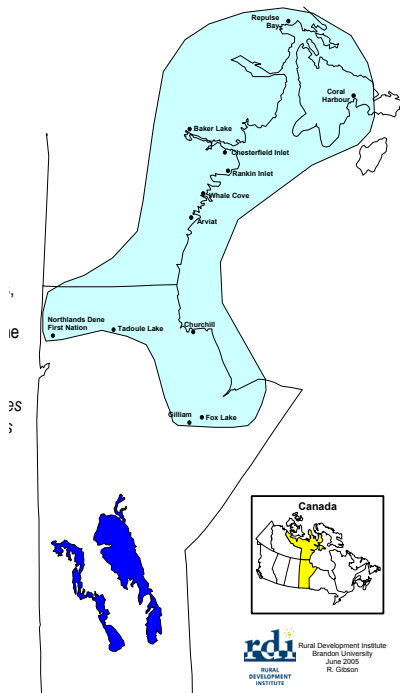
hudson bay neighbours



» 12 communities and First Nations

» to secure a strong, self-reliant Region containing self-sufficient communities.

» information sharing, collective advocacy, and joint projects



**tripping on
lines**

influence of lines

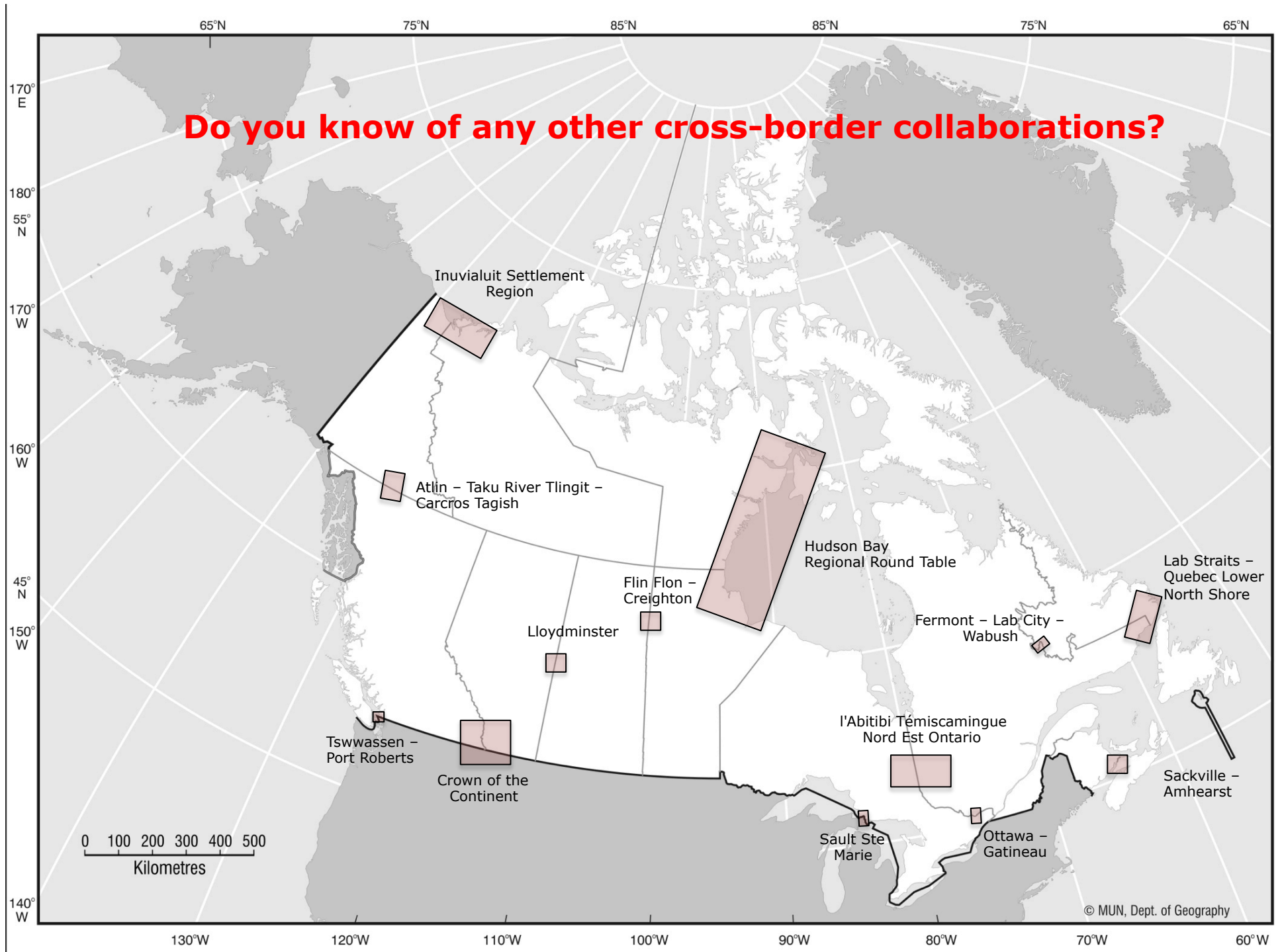
Labrador Regional Council & Saint Mary's University

exploring collaboration in cross-provincial/territorial
border regions

» economic, social, environmental, recreation,
planning,

generate recommendations for how government can
facilitate collaboration in cross-border regions

Do you know of any other cross-border collaborations?




JOHN MAYNARD KEYNES

**THE DIFFICULTY LIES
NOT SO MUCH IN
DEVELOPING NEW
IDEAS AS ESCAPING
FROM OLD ONES**

contact

 ryan.gibson@smu.ca

 (902) 420-5736

 ryanfgibson

 www.ryangibson.org

 <https://www.linkedin.com/in/ryanfgibson>