



## BUILDING CAPACITY THROUGH RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS

In an effort to increase research capacity in the region, the RDI works to foster collaborative research partnerships with Canadian universities and national and provincial rural research networks. As the only college-based Rural Development Institute located in a rural context in Canada, the Columbia Basin RDI is in a unique position to promote the region as a 'rural research incubator'. The RDI is committed to ensuring knowledge is transferred into the region and community capacity to use this information is built in the process. The RDI is currently working with the University of British Columbia Sauder School of Business to bring their Rural Community Learning Initiative to the region. <http://isis.sauder.ubc.ca/programs/ruralcommunity-learning-initiative/> The RDI is a collaborator on a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) funded research project focused on better understanding the social economy, community resilience and the transition to sustainability. The RDI is also listed as a co-investigator in a national research partnership grant application to SSHRC aimed at better understanding the implementation of sustainability plans in rural communities. In addition, the RDI is supporting the SSHRC funded Canadian Regional Development research project. The Kootenay region is one of five regional case studies under investigation. <http://cdnregdev.wordpress.com/>

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