



COLUMBIA BASIN  
**RDI**  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

UNDERSTAND • CONNECT • MOBILIZE

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# Engaging Communities Through Research and Knowledge Mobilization

# Agenda

Context & About the  
CBRDI

Roadmap to Engagement

Guiding Principles

Engagement in Action

Challenges



# Regional Context



- ‘Stabilized’ population of approx. 170,000
- Primarily resource-based economy (forestry, mining, manufacturing, construction)
- Amenity rich, tourism sector
- Over 13,500 small businesses
- ‘Fracturing’ geography

# Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute



## Vision

The RDI envisions a resilient region where communities thrive as a result of collaborative learning and informed decision-making.

# Strategic Priorities

Consolidate and improve accessibility of regional knowledge

Undertake applied research

Support use of research and tools

Build research capacity and enhance collaboration

## 2014 State of the Basin SNAPSHOT REPORT

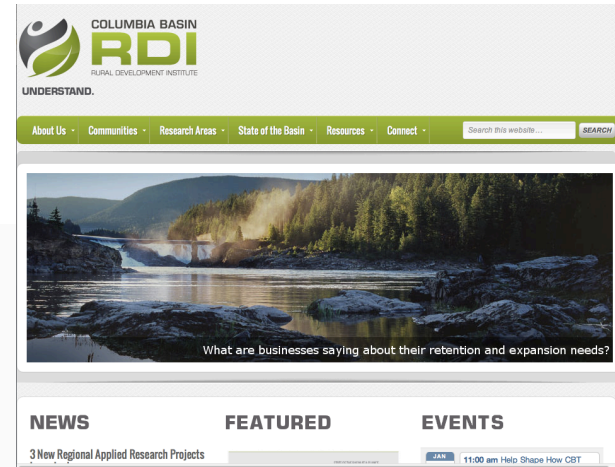
86% of residents say they love where they live.

What else do we know about our region?

STATE OF THE BASIN AT A GLANCE		
PILLAR	TREND	HIGHLIGHT
 Economic Development & Innovation	 Economic Development & Innovation	Continued collaborative planning through the region. The Economic Development Region made record growth of 8.2 percent last year. Our healthiest economic sector is led by professional and business services. The number of construction jobs added last year.
 Education & Learning	 Education & Learning	70% of the population is over 18. 52.9% of residents have completed post-secondary education. While still facing an aging population challenge, our region is steadily achieving development milestones. The number of students in our region last year.
 Culture	 Culture	More residents are going to the Olympics in Sochi, bringing attention to our region. There are over 100 festivals across our region each year. Our region has received 10 national award-winning festivals. The number of residents who live in our region.
 Health & Well-being	 Health & Well-being	One in five residents report being in good health, down from one in four in 2013. Our region has the highest percentage of residents reporting good health. The number of residents who live in our region.
 Environment	 Environment	One in five residents report being in good health, down from one in four in 2013. Our region has the highest percentage of residents reporting good health. The number of residents who live in our region.

The State of the Basin is a Columbia Basin Basin Development Institute (CDDI) initiative that monitors and reports on information relating to the well-being of the Columbia Basin boundary region. The 2014 Snapshot Report provides current highlights on ongoing State of the Basin research. For more information visit [www.2014.snapshotofthebasin.com](http://www.2014.snapshotofthebasin.com)

# Primary Audience



Local  
Government



Non-Profits



Economic  
Development  
Practitioners



# Our Roadmap to Engagement

1. Bring people together and fit into the conversation
2. Co-produce knowledge throughout
3. Mobilize knowledge and position for action
4. Inform policy and programming decisions
5. Stand by – LISTEN – and repeat



‘Learning regions’ networks foster the capacity to experiment, innovate and adapt to changing circumstances (Florida, 1995, Morgan, 1997)

# Guiding Principles



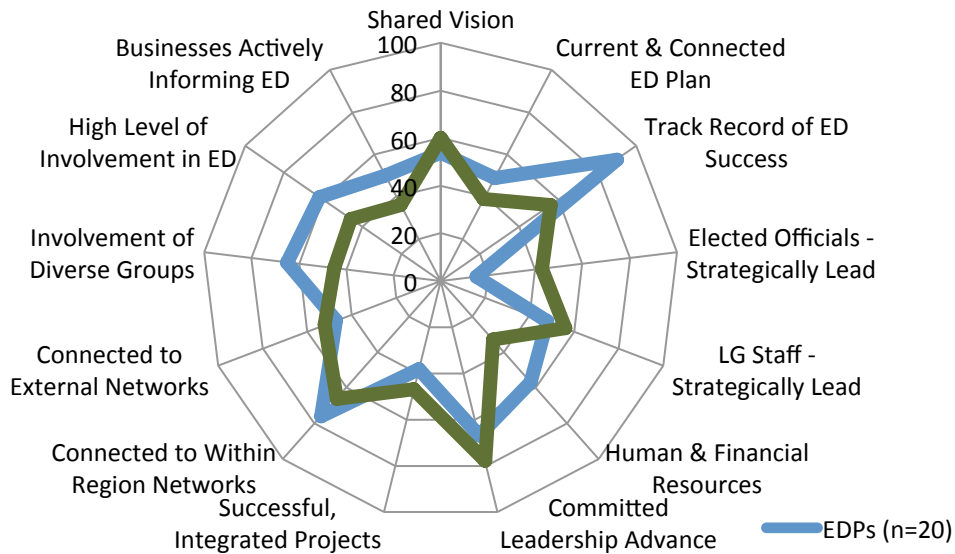
- Bring partners in early, utilize as advisors throughout
- Build projects on identified needs
- Identify & articulate where you fit into the regional rural development landscape
- Identify metrics prior to start & commit to measuring long term impact
- Take a regional approach built on collaborative partnerships
- Build capacity – of ourselves & our partners
- Utilize technology to bring people together



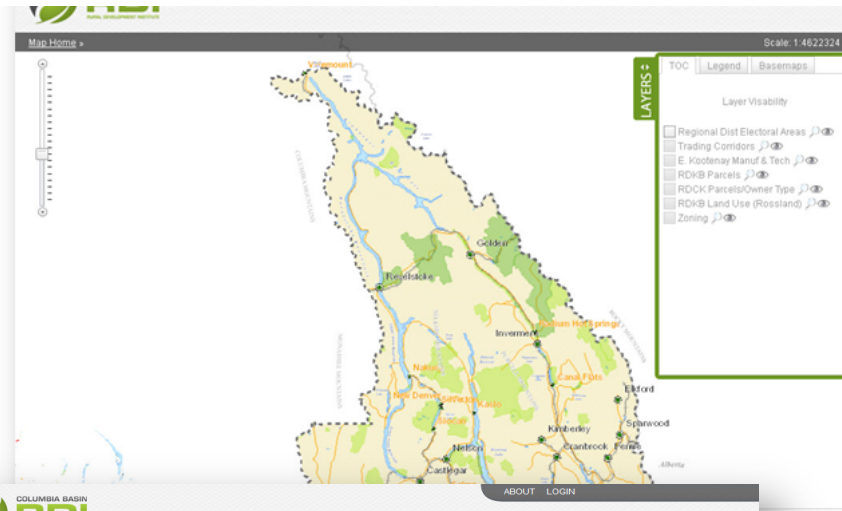
# Engagement in Action: BRE



- Over 800 businesses surveyed
- 30+ partnerships in over 42 communities
- Capacity building through training and knowledge mobilization



# Engagement in Action: Land Development

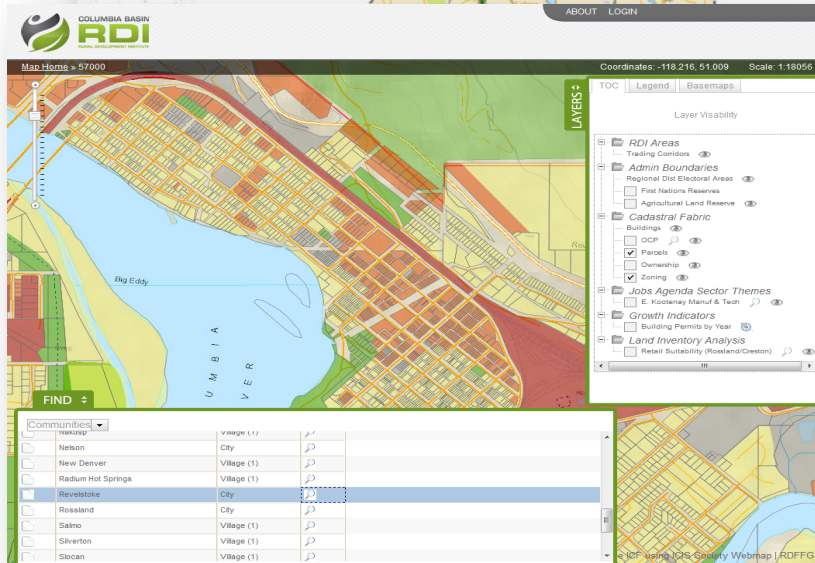


- Over 100 economic, social, cultural & environmental data layers, charts, & related analysis

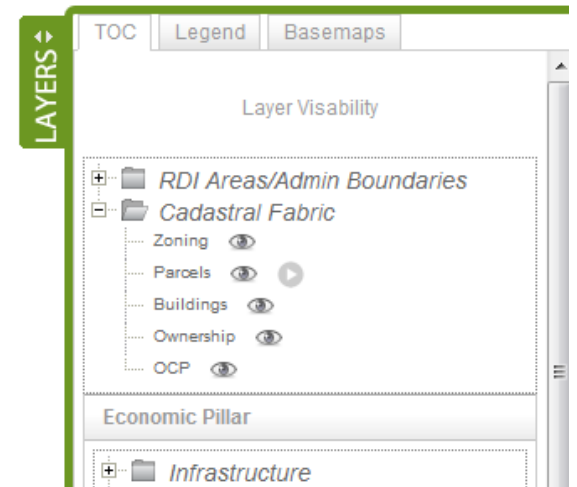
- Creation of a seamless parcel fabric at a regional level with query functionality

- 35+ partnerships

- Training and capacity building



# The Site Selector Tool



## DATA



Layer Selection

Parcel Selector Tool

Location Filter:

Map Extent

Info

Table

Graphs

Reports

Location: RDCK ▼	Community: Castlegar ▼	Min Size (Ha): <input type="text"/>	Max Svc Dist (Km): <input type="text"/>	Max Hwy Dist (Km): <input type="text"/>	Grade: Any ▼	 Search
Zoning: Industrial ▼	Within (Km): <input type="text"/>	Max Size (Ha): <input type="text"/>	Developed: Any ▼	Max Transit Dist (Km): <input type="text"/>		

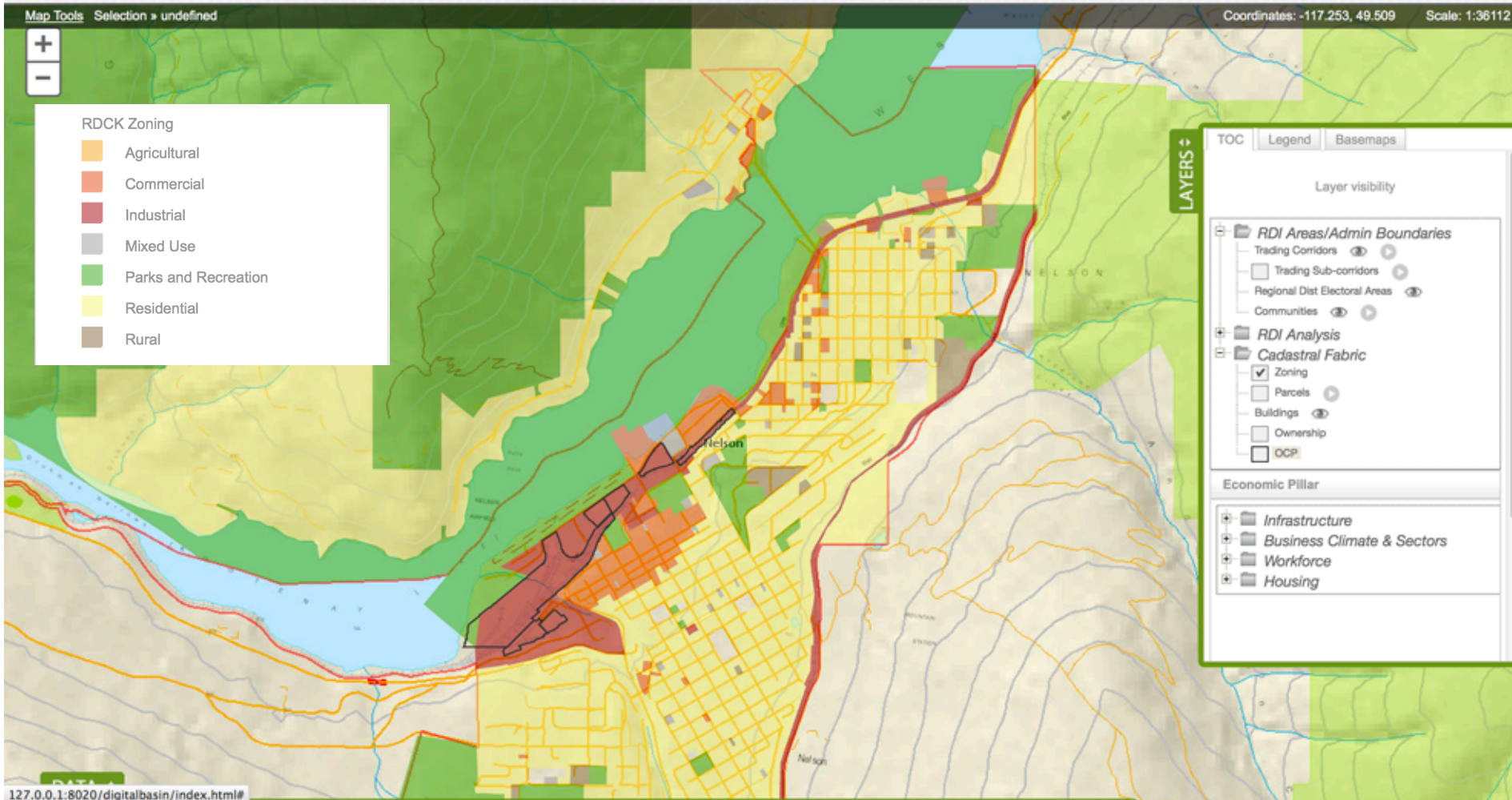
# Search Results



Nelson zoning only:

- Nelson and 10 Km surrounding.
- Industrial zoned (center of parcel is on zone)
- Min size 10 Ha
- Within 1Km from power
- Within 3 Km from Major Hwy
- Within 1 Km from water service
- 30 % Area of parcel must be at or below 10% grade

ABOUT LOGIN



Parcels outlined in black meet the filtering criteria

# Challenges

Shifting landscape

Institutional culture

Political constraints

Communicating ROI

Managing expectations





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