

# Rural Policy Learning Common's Governance Team

## Who Are We?

The Governance Team promotes and facilitates connections among actors engaged in rural governance and works to harness the power of formal and informal mechanisms and tools to help rural communities and regions advance their economic, environmental, political and social-cultural goals. The Governance Team examines governance structures, processes, and policies to assess and mediate their impact on rural communities.

## Our Team

**Team Lead 2014-2018:** Kathleen Kevany, Associate Professor, Dalhousie University- Truro Campus

**Team Lead 2018-2020:** Matteo Vittuari, Associate Professor, University of Bologna

**Team Support:** Sarah Minnes, PhD Candidate, Memorial University of Newfoundland

**Policy Fellow:** Patrick Lévêque, Chief of Staff, Office of the Third Party, Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island

And **47** other team members from various sectors in Canada and beyond

**We want you to join us.**

E-mail GT Team Support,  
Sarah Minnes:  
sminnes@grenfell.mun.ca

“Joining the RPLC GT has been great for me. It's allowed me to make many new connections that are very much contributing to the scope, depth, and quality of my work”

- Patrick Lévêque

## Some Accomplishments in Rural Governance 2016/2017

### 6 webinars

- British Columbia's Regional Districts: An Overview and Critical Reflections.
- Quebec's Approach to Regional Government: An Overview and Critical Reflections
- Rural Scotland in Focus 2016
- Food waste in the EU: from evidence to policy interventions
- Climate Change and Food
- Considering Climate Change in Rural Planning and Policy

### 3 policy briefs

- Food security and promoting local food in Ontario (coming soon)
- First Nations governance tools for exerting sovereignty over territorial land and resources (coming soon)
- Considering Climate Change in Rural Planning and Policy

### 3 literature reviews (currently in progress)

- How might support for agriculture, rural, and food policies enhance rural well-being?
- Governance and rural renewable energy
- Policies and governance for source water protection for unserved rural areas

Conference funding for **13** members to attend conferences. Conference include:

- 2017 North Atlantic Forum
- 2017 Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation
- 2017 International Conference on Natural Resources Management for Sustainable Development and Rural Livelihoods
- 2016 Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation
- The Georgetown Solutions Conference 2.0
- Advancing Women East

**Other activities:** Quarterly team meetings, Monthly team e-mails, and RPLC newsletter articles

## Governance Team Research Themes

### Governance and Policy Development

Policy development processes and social, political, and psychological components of community engagement and mobilization. This theme also includes community engagement as it relates to governance practice as well as governance structures and collaborations.

### Environmental Issues

This includes governance components of environmental issues such as rural water and watersheds and climate change adaptation.

### Food, Health, and Prosperity

Focusing on governance considerations within food policy, agro-food systems management, food losses and waste, and food security and safety.

