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UNDERSTAND • CONNECT • MOBILIZE

Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute

Rural Issues Affecting BC

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Overview

1. Rural Networks
2. Rural Economic Issues
3. Rural Social & Cultural Issues
4. What are the roots





Your Network Includes...



These are just a small sampling of the organizations in our network. **!!!**

Sign up with the CRRF for newsletters and conference alerts



Rural Economic Issues



#1 Barrier to expansion in Basin-Bound
~ 35% of the



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Rural Economic Issues



72% of jobs in Basin-Boundary are for skilled or semi-skilled workers ~ only 8% entry level



Are we training for growth?
How do we ensure we are training innovat





Rural Economic Issues



This is getting old...



We're still waiting on this...



And, these are starting to feel a bit neglected and under-funded...





Rural Economic Issues



Administrative
Staff



Knowledge Base



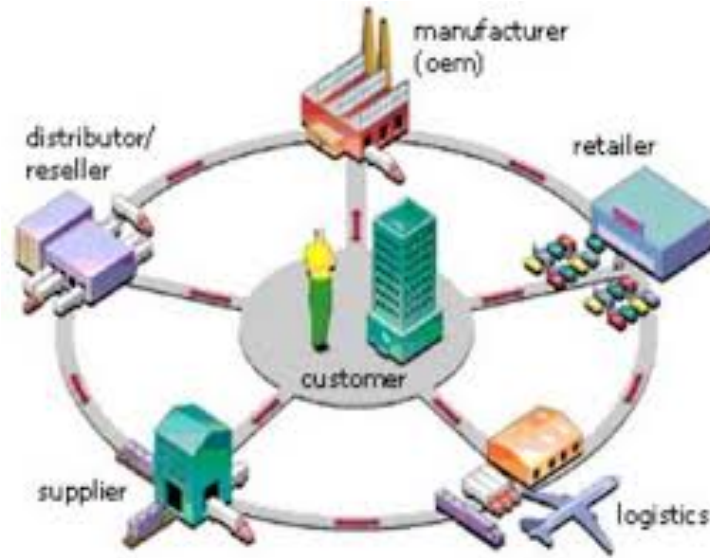
The most cited determinant of successful ED programming is the capacity of the local ED community (gov't, admin, NGOs)



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Rural Economic Issues



Regional supply-chain

In the Basin-Boundary, only 17% of supplies are sourced locally

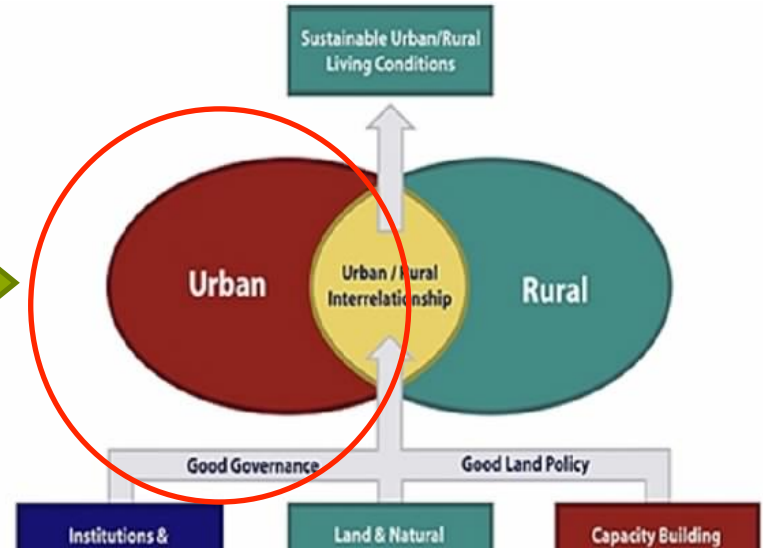
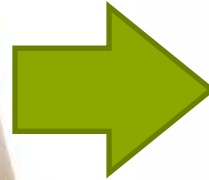




Rural Economic Issues

Urban-Centricity

- Funding (i.e. WED)
- Policy (i.e. Abbatoirs)
- Service (i.e. LFS, Census)



Availability of Employment Lands and development approval processes strain business



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Rural Social & Cultural Issues





Rural Social & Cultural Issues

Again, capacity drives delivery of social and cultural programming





Rural Social & Cultural Issues



Higher unemployment

Kootenay rate of post-secondary
~7% lower than BC
(~3% lower than Canada)





Rural Social & Cultural Issues



Family support
and quality of life



Top concerns
identified by Basin-
Boundary
employees



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Rural Social & Cultural Issues



Aging population &
Healthcare infrastructure





Rural Social & Cultural Issues



Missing
Works





The Roots

These problems are common

*Why do we continually struggle
with effective solutions?!?*





The Roots

Well, they're tough problems...

But, beyond that...



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The Roots: Overvaluing Uniqueness



Failure to collaborate or cooperate

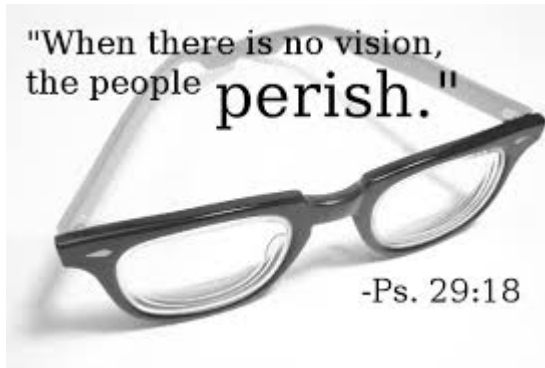
Prevents us from seeing opportunity



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The Roots: Capacity (or Ad-Hocery)



We need increased focus on capacity building

Resources are not likely to magically appear



Specifically, need to learn to work with data





The Roots: Image Problems



We are a resource economy!



We are a tourism economy!

Beware limited thinking! Focusing on industries excessively exposed to global economic swings

We have for the first time an economy based on a key resource [Information] that is not only renewable, but self-generating. Running out of it is not a problem, but drowning in it is.

(John Naisbitt)

izquotes.com



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How about our strengths?!?

1. The people

- a) Love of place (86% love where they live RDI poll)
- b) Strong, creative and innovative

2. The geography

- a) Brings in tourists -> amenity migrants
- b) Inspires us all in our day to day lives
- c) Protects us from over-development (to an extent)

3. The communities

- a) Integrative and supportive
- b) Demonstrate huge level of caring

4. Common issues and challenges

- a) Opportunity for meaningful collaboration
- b) Individually, we are small -> working together we have a strong voice!





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Thank you

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