

Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute

STRATEGIC PLAN 2014-2017



COLUMBIA BASIN
RDI
RURAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

STRATEGIC PLAN

The RDI developed a three-year strategic plan (2014-2017) that outlines the mission, vision and strategic priorities of the RDI. The strategic plan will guide the RDI's activities for the next three years and is informed by various consultation processes that have been completed in the region, including over 140 RDI one-on-one consultations with economic, social, cultural and environmental stakeholders, feedback from RDI Governance and Advisory Committees, and feedback generated from Selkirk College and CBT sector strategic planning consultations.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1: CONSOLIDATE, IDENTIFY GAPS & BUILD REGIONAL KNOWLEDGE

Undertake research that provides information on economic, social, cultural and environmental conditions and trends in the Columbia Basin-Boundary region:

- Compile and manage priority datasets.
- Develop and monitor relevant indicators.
- Interpret data and highlight important trends and conditions.
- Compile an inventory of regional research and rural development plans.

Identify and address priority data gaps:

- Encourage the standardization of data collection methods across communities.
- Access data from a variety of sources to address priority data and indicator gaps.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2: UNDERTAKE APPLIED RURAL DEVELOPMENT FOCUSED RESEARCH

Lead, broker, and support applied research partnerships related to identified research priorities:

- Identify research that will benefit the region.
- Lead and support high priority regional applied research projects.
- Broker and support college-community applied research projects.
- Provide advisory services to support community-based applied research projects.

Assist in the diversification of the regional economy through the promotion of innovation and technology transfer in existing and new enterprises:

- Broker and support college-company applied research and development projects.
- Promote best practices, innovation and collaboration in economic development.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3: SUPPORT THE ACCESS, USE & APPLICATION OF RDI RESEARCH & TOOLS

Raise awareness and provide opportunities for communities to access and use RDI research and tools:

- Engage in communication and outreach activities to encourage the use of appropriate RDI research and tools by communities.
- Support the use of RDI research and tools through the provision of training and extension services.
- Connect communities to support organizations and other communities with similar rural development and /or research goals.

Contribute to the awareness of rural development issues, challenges, and opportunities:

- Participate in provincial and national rural development networks.
- Promote rural development best practices and share lessons learned from similar rural regions to Basin-Boundary communities.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4: SUPPORT MEANINGFUL APPLIED RESEARCH COLLABORATION AMONGST EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS & COLUMBIA BASIN TRUST

Improve information sharing and collaboration between CBT and RDI:

- Ensure mechanisms are in place to support ongoing collaboration, information sharing, and shared decision making related to applied research projects.
- Include data generated by applicable CBT research and funded projects into RDI knowledge products.
- Support cross-referrals between CBT and RDI.

Improve information sharing and collaboration across post-secondary institutions:

- Ensure mechanisms are in place to support ongoing information sharing and collaboration across the colleges related to the RDI and applied research.
- Provide opportunities for students to engage in applied research.
- Encourage regional applied research partnerships with post-secondary institutions from within and outside of the region.

Support applied research capacity improvements at the region's colleges:

- Assist in the development of college policies and procedures that support applied research and development activities.
- Promote the integration of applied research within administrative functions.
- Connect companies and communities with available college applied research supports.

