



COLUMBIA BASIN
RDI
RURAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

UNDERSTAND • CONNECT • MOBILIZE

Colleges as Anchors of Innovation in Rural Socio-Economic Development

The Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute Case Study

Agenda

Case Study Background

New Regionalism & Processes
of Learning & Innovation

Colleges & Socio-Economic
Development

Applied Research Capacity



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

Rural Development Institute

1. Build Regional Knowledge
2. Regional Revitalization-Focused Applied Research
3. Innovation, Knowledge Mobilization, Capacity Building & Collaborative Learning


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		
PELLEW	TREND	HIGHLIGHT
	Economic Development	Continued confidence in the regional development strategy. The Columbia River country is experiencing a record level of growth of 4.2% regionally and 4.5% for the state. Our low inflation rate is a sign of a strong economy. The number of new jobs created in the region is 1,200.
	Education & Learning	More children are participating in early childhood education. The number of children in early childhood education is up 10% from 2013. The number of children in early childhood education is up 10% from 2013.
	Culture	More people are participating in cultural activities. The number of people participating in cultural activities is up 10% from 2013. The number of people participating in cultural activities is up 10% from 2013.
	Heritage	Our region has a rich heritage. The number of people participating in heritage activities is up 10% from 2013. The number of people participating in heritage activities is up 10% from 2013.
	Demographics	75% of the population is 65 years of age or older. The number of people 65 years of age or older is up 10% from 2013. The number of people 65 years of age or older is up 10% from 2013.
	Wildlife	Wildlife populations are increasing. The number of people participating in wildlife activities is up 10% from 2013. The number of people participating in wildlife activities is up 10% from 2013.
	Land Use	Land use is changing. The number of people participating in land use activities is up 10% from 2013. The number of people participating in land use activities is up 10% from 2013.
	Rural	Rural areas are thriving. The number of people participating in rural activities is up 10% from 2013. The number of people participating in rural activities is up 10% from 2013.

The State of the Basin is a Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute (RDI) initiative that monitors and reports on information relating to the well-being of the Columbia Basin. Boundary Region. The 2014 Snapshot Report provides a snapshot of the changing State of the Basin. Research. For more information visit www.columbia-basin-rdi.org.




Find out how food systems research supports regional agriculture.



New Regionalism & the Rural Context

The withdrawal of the state from regional economic development (Markey et. al, 2012)



Sustainability requires new ways of thinking and making decisions, of using technologies and resources, financing and working together (Roseland, 2002)

Broader community participation sustains traditions and innovation, leading to socio-economic renewal (Neumeier, 2012)

Region has become 'vital relational asset for distilling learning-based competitive advantage' (Macleod, 2001)



Processes of Learning & Innovation

How can learning and innovation be fostered and supported?

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

Implementing 'new' approaches

Acting on creative inspirations

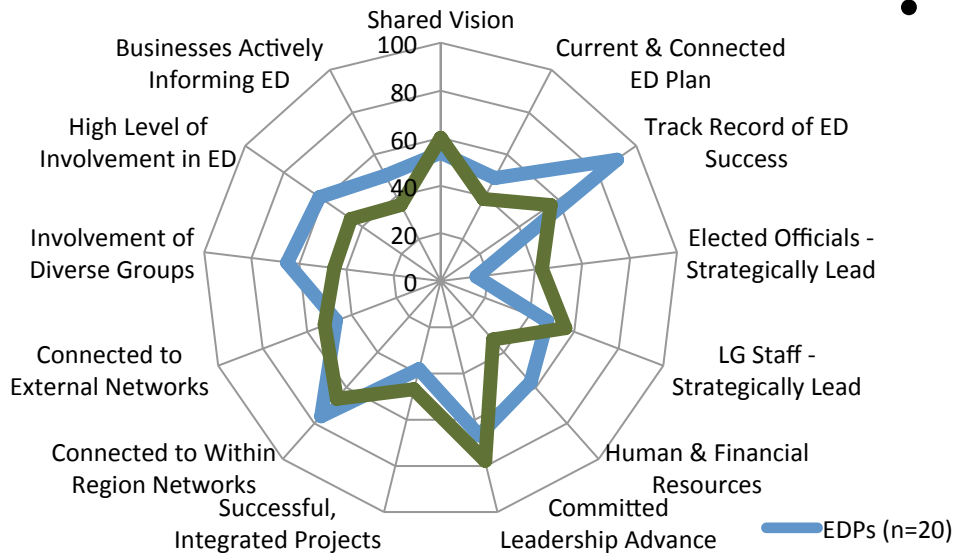


Collaborative learning = new knowledge

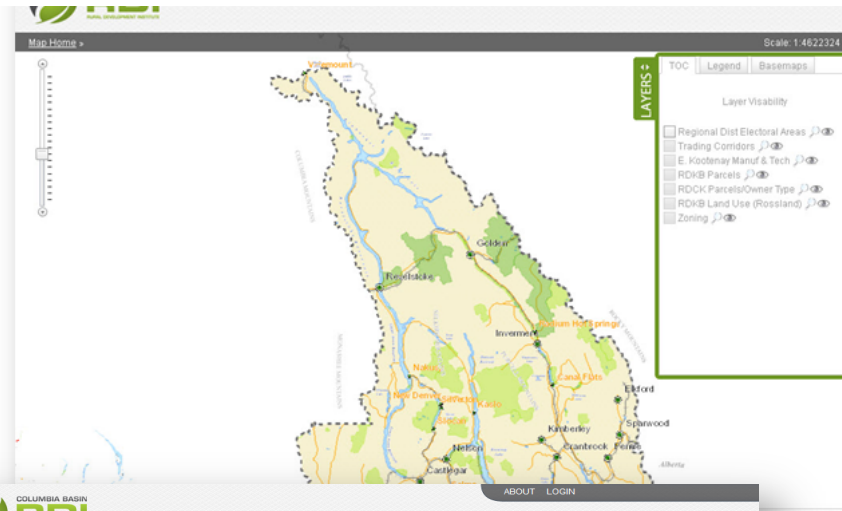
Business Retention & Expansion



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



Digital Basin & Employment Lands Inventory

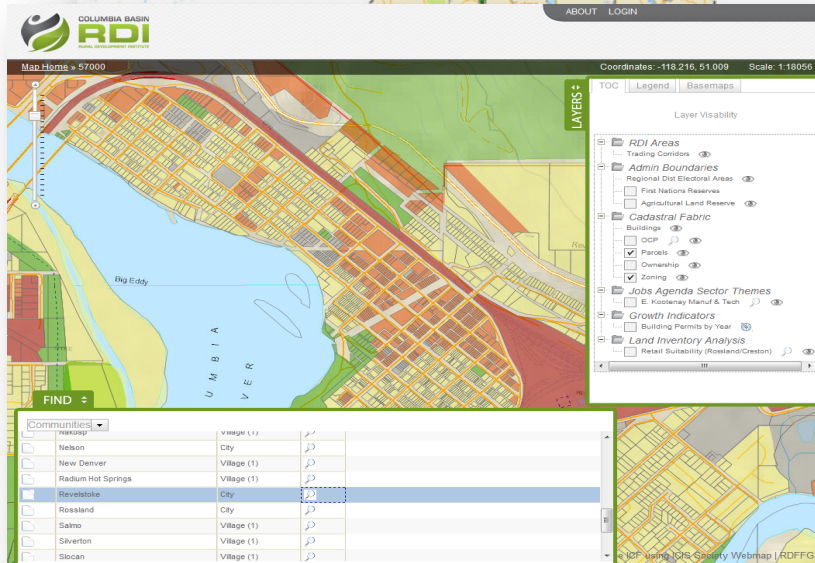


- Over 100 economic, social, cultural & environmental data layers, charts, & related analysis

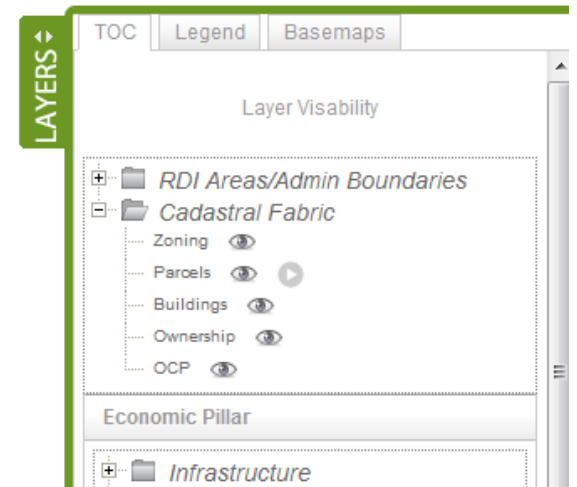
- Creation of a seamless parcel fabric at a regional level with query functionality

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

Map Tools Selection » undefined

Coordinates: -117.253, 49.509 Scale: 1:36112



RDCK Zoning

- Agricultural
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Mixed Use
- Parks and Recreation
- Residential
- Rural

LAYERS

TOC Legend Basemaps

Layer visibility

- RDI Areas/Admin Boundaries
 - Trading Corridors
 - Trading Sub-corridors
 - Regional Dist Electoral Areas
 - Communities
- RDI Analysis
 - Cadastral Fabric
 - Zoning
 - Parcels
 - Buildings
 - Ownership
 - OCP

Economic Pillar

- Infrastructure
- Business Climate & Sectors
- Workforce
- Housing

Parcels outlined in black meet the filtering criteria

Learning by Doing

Student learning is the glue that binds!



“DEVELOPING AND NURTURING PARTNERSHIPS WITH SMES TAKES TIME.”

Ian Parfitt, co-ordinator of the Selkirk Geospatial Research Centre (SGRC)

Manage expectations, engage in clear communications, state intentions up front

“WITH THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND RESOURCES, COLLEGES LIKE SELKIRK SHOULD BECOME CENTREPIECES IN THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL TOWNS ALL ACROSS CANADA.”

Colin Carew, owner and director, Valhalla Technologies

Use a collaborative learning approach

“COLLEGES ARE IN A GOOD POSITION TO SHOW LEADERSHIP IN BRINGING TOGETHER SERVICE PROVIDERS FOR THE BENEFIT OF BUSINESSES AND THE CANADIAN ECONOMY.”

Terri MacDonald, Regional Innovation Chair in Rural Economic Development, Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute

Policies, procedures and integration of administrative functions provides a critical backbone

Transitioning to the Knowledge Economy



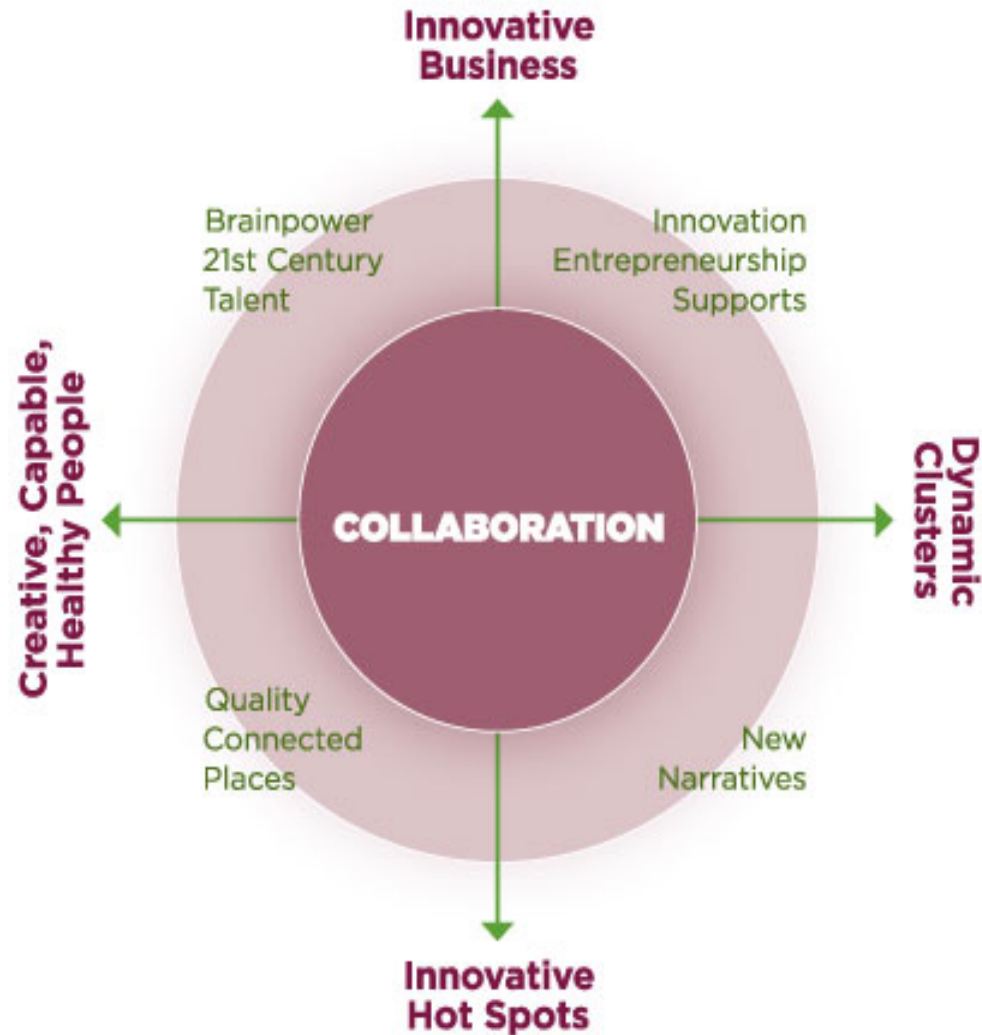
- Innovative companies and institutions are critical – colleges are uniquely positioned to be ‘anchors of innovation’
- Education and collaboration are at the heart of our transition
 - Technology to transform learning
 - Equip students with digital skills
 - Create culture of excellence for all (learning region)
 - Educate ‘skilled’ AND ‘knowledge’ workers

New Approaches are Required



Strategic Doing™

Do More Together.



Madder's Typology of Stages of Applied Research (AR) at Rural Colleges

Integrated Innovators

Integrated AR and business support systems regional/ national or international in scope.

Established Innovators

Comprehensive AR policies, including HR policies supporting retention of AR personnel, Director of Research, systems support AR and Contract Training, increased operational funding for AR, AR part of college mandate and mission.

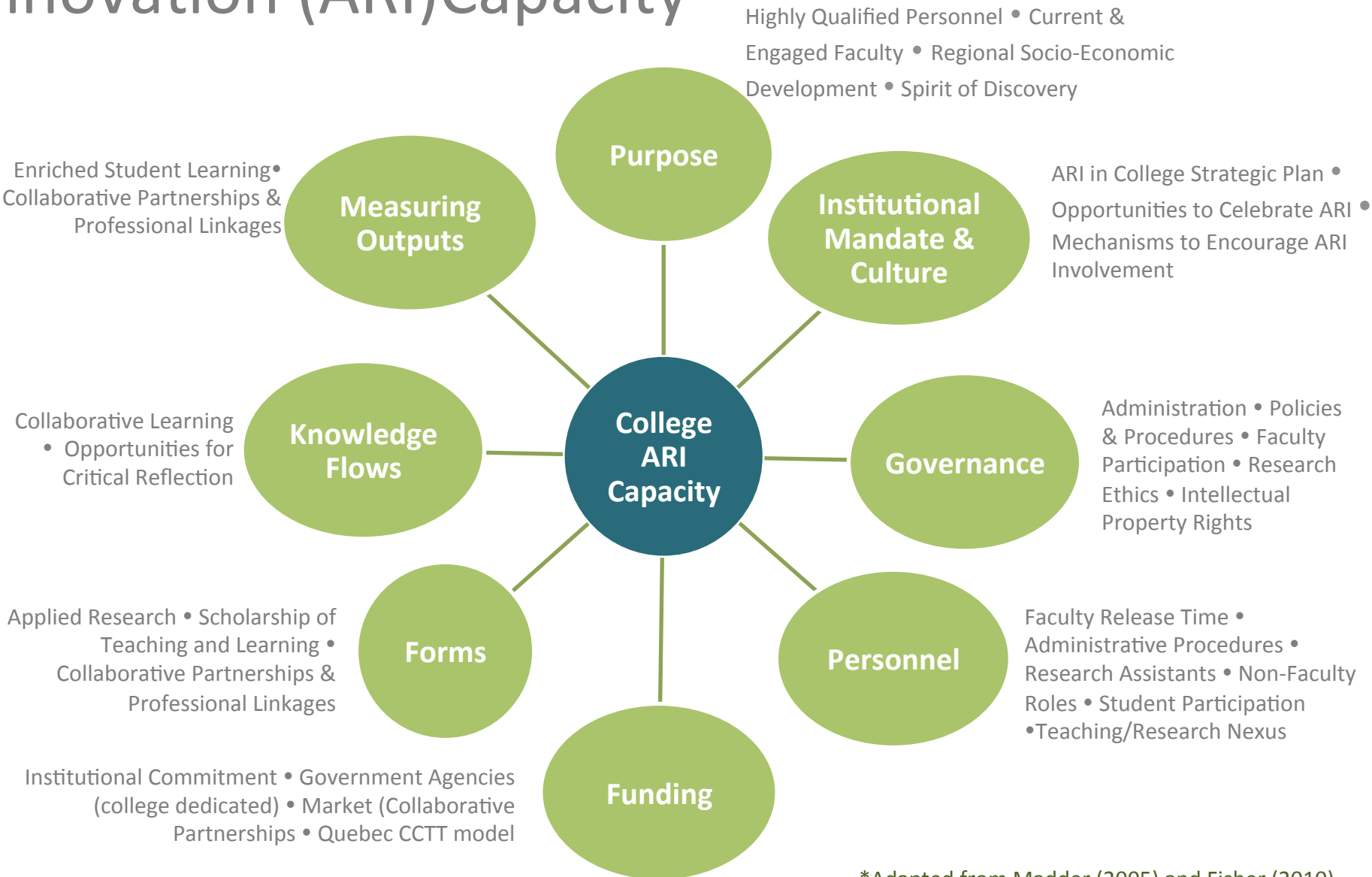
Novice Innovators

Recent launch of AR activities with support from senior admin, Director of Research, AR policies and ad hoc fiscal & HR systems, some cultural conflict on how AR is related to college mandate, some faculty release time, little senior admin support results in 3-7 year unstable, transitional stage.

Beginner Innovators

Undecided institutional AR commitment, no related AR policies, structures, no AR human resources, no active support from senior administration.

Building College Applied Research & Innovation (ARI) Capacity



*Adapted from Madder (2005) and Fisher (2010)

Lessons Learned

Build institutional capacity through continuous innovation & collaborative learning

Build trust with partners 'by doing' focused on common ground

Be flexible and demand driven, 'get things done', and answer the 'so what' questions

Engage in strategic outreach and extension and use technology to address 'fracturing geography'

Use 'context-driven' approaches and mobilize knowledge through collaborative learning networks



Monitor and measure regional knowledge flows and innovation



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