Rural Youth Migration

Rural Development Institute
Advisory Committee Meeting

January 14, 2008
Project Origins

- Rural Team Manitoba Youth Committee research initiative
- Funding partners: Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs; Manitoba Education, Citizenship & Youth; Canada Rural Secretariat
- Research partners: le Conseil de développement économique des municipalités bilingues du Manitoba (CDEM); Rural Development Institute
To develop a deeper understanding about rural youth migration in Manitoba.
Three research objectives:

1. Investigate the extent of youth migration to and from rural communities;
2. Explore reasons for youth migration; and
3. Provide data to assist communities, regions, government departments and others to identify opportunities to retain youth in Manitoba and to attract youth back to rural communities.
Project Design

- A project steering committee ensures a collaborative approach to assist in research design and implementation
- Case study approach encompassing multiple methods
  - Secondary data analysis
  - Literature review
  - Policy review
  - Semi-structured interviews
  - Focus groups
  - Participant observation
  - Content analysis
- 2 phase project
Project Activities To Date

- Interest expressed fall 2007
- Call for graduate student research assistants November 2007
- Contribution agreements and MOUs December 2007
- 2 graduate students engaged December 2007
- Literature review and secondary data analysis underway
- Interview and focus group guides/question development underway
- Project planning (community partners; support staff and translation)
- Ethics submission and approval
Study Sites

3 Manitoba Regions

- Francophone communities
  - Notre Dame; Ste. Anne; St. Laurent
- Parkland
  - TBD
- North
  - TBD
Phase 1: December 1, 2007 – March 31, 2008

Work Plan

January 2008
- Literature review and secondary data analysis
- Question development
- Translation (fact sheet, consent form, oath of confidentiality, interview and focus group guides)

February 2008
- Week 1 & 2: Interviews and focus group in CDEM communities
- Week 3: Data translation
- Week 4: Data analysis

March 2008
- Week 1: Data analysis completion
- Week 2 & 3: Report writing
- Week 4: Year 1 Report submission to Rural Secretariat and the Youth Standing Committee
Work Plan

April 2008
- Data collection
  - North

May 2008
- Data collection
  - Parkland

Summer 2008
- Data analysis

Fall 2008
- Reporting/writing
- Knowledge translation and transfer
- Population Pyramids
  - Illustrating rural youth migration between 1971 and 1996 in Manitoba
Benito; Binscarth; Bowsman; Dauphin; Ethelbert; Gilbert Plains; Grandview; Minitonas; Roblin; Rossburn; Russell; Ste. Rose du Lac; Swan River; Winnipegosis
Gambler; Valley River; Waywayseecappo; Ebb and Flow
Question & Themes (Literature)

Background
  – Age
  – Gender
  – Education Level

Opinions and Attitudes
  – Employment Opportunities
  – Education and Training Opportunities
  – Recreation and Social Activities

Knowledge
  – Ability of levels of Government to Address Rural
  – Issues Pertaining to Youth

Behaviour
  – Family Ties
  – Community Connection
Our challenge!

- Create questions that move the general to the specific
- Create questions that reveal knowledge about the big picture
- Create questions that generate information that is useful to all partners and collaborators
Contacts

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